

We Believe In A Hope That Breaks The Dark

Luke 1; Romans 15:4-13 NLT | November 29, 2026

"Because of God's tender mercy, the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace."

Luke 1:78-79

A question to consider: Could hopelessness be creeping in to your heart this Christmas season?

We are called to be a people of hope.

So as people of hope...

- **We Endure.** (Romans 15:4)
- **We are Unified.** (Romans 15:7)
- **We Rely on God.** (Romans 15:13)

NOTES: _____

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Favorite Things | Women's Christmas Brunch: December 5 at 10:00 AM
Kids Christmas Program: December 13 at 4:00 PM
WCC Moms | December Gathering: December 16 at 6:00 PM

Download our WCChurch app or scan the QR code for more info or to sign up!

STUDY QUESTIONS

GETTING STARTED:

What is one Christmas memory that stuck with you, whether for a good reason or a painful one? What made it memorable?

A DEEPER DIVE:

» Zechariah and Elizabeth continued to pray for a child even as hope seemed unreasonable given their age and circumstances. What area of your life have you been tempted to stop praying about, and what would it look like to keep bringing that to God?

» How do you personally distinguish between grief and hopelessness, and how does your faith shape that distinction?

» Romans 15:4 suggests that scripture builds endurance and encouragement that leads to hope Which biblical story or promise has most anchored your hope during a difficult season, and why?

» Hope does not necessarily change our present circumstances but does change our present behavior. What is one concrete way that living with genuine hope in Jesus should look different from how you are currently living?

» Fear about the state of the world can divide believers from one another along political or ideological lines. How do you guard your heart against letting fear shape your view of fellow Christians who see things differently than you do?

» The 'now and not yet' nature of God's kingdom means we live in an unfinished story. How does knowing the ending of that story change the way you face uncertainty or suffering in the middle of it?

» Romans 15:13 describes hope as something that overflows from a person filled by the Holy Spirit. What spiritual practices or habits help you draw on the power of the Holy Spirit so that hope becomes something others around you can actually see and feel?

NEXT STEPS:

» Reach toward someone in the dark. Think of one person in your life who may be dreading the holidays rather than celebrating them. Reach out in a specific and intentional way, not with answers, but with presence.