

Our Hopes and Fears

12.16.18

Welcome to the third Sunday of Advent. This is a season of anticipation and celebration. The music rings out because the message is so amazing. Here is one line to a very familiar Christmas Carol: “Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hope and fear of all the years are met in thee tonight.”

Today = Less fear More hope!

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Everyone can overcome fear and experience hope by receiving Zephaniah’s promise of . . .

* God’s affection

The people are called daughter (v.14)

NLT, verse 17: “With his love, he will calm all your fears.”

God says, “(I) will rejoice over you with singing.” (v.17b)

* God’s Presence

Advent—God with us!

“The LORD, the king of Israel, is with you.” (v.15)

The LORD your God is with you, the Mighty Warrior who saves.” (v.17)

* God’s Reliability

The seven “I wills”

Who for? shame, oppressed, lame, exiles, etc.

NLT, verse 20: “I will give you a good name, a name of distinction, among all the nations of the earth.”

Isaiah 62:11-12

Reflective Questions:

- 1) What is your favorite Christmas song? Why?
- 2) Read through Zephaniah 3:14-20 and summarize it in one sentence. What does it say about fear? Why does it give us hope?
- 3) Which promise of Zephaniah helps you the most? What does it mean to have less fear and more hope?

A Birthday To Remember

Family Christmas Eve Candlelight Gathering
Monday, December 24th—5:00pm

Ministry to children, nursery — 5 years old will be available

