



Sunday 3rd of December

Welcome: At the start of the count down to Christmas what are you excited about and what are you not so excited about?

Select what order you choose to do the worship and word section.

Worship:

Have each person read silently through the poem below then read it out aloud together.

Word: ReGift Hope!

Q. Mark mentioned several different things that can cause us to lose hope, can you relate to any of these if so how? The things were circumstances, doubt, tiredness and negative voices speaking into our lives.

Q. What hopes do you think the shepherds carried through their lives having seen the angels and met Jesus? Luke 2 (remember Shepherds were seen as outcasts in their society)

Q. What does it mean to you to have Jesus as an "anchor" in your life? Hebrews 6:18-19

Q. Psalm 33:16-22 What sort of things do we put our hope in other than Jesus? How do you understand what Mark was saying about activating Hope in our lives?

Q. How does your future perspective (Col 3:1-2) impact your present Hope?

Mission: (re)Gift HOPE

Who and how can you speak Hope and bring Hope into someone's life this coming Christmas?

ADVENT CREED

We believe in God the Father, creator of heaven and earth.
The one who is full of patience,
who is not afraid of silence,
who does not need to fill each moment with activity and noise.
The one who is beyond bluster and flurry,
and who does not jostle for attention.

We believe in God the Son, Saviour of creation,
who slipped into Bethlehem one night, mostly unnoticed,
who lived thirty years without headlines or hurry,
who frequently took time alone with his patient Father,
who waited for the right time to become the suffering servant,
who stood quietly before the noise of his accusers,
whose silence overpowered their words,
who died, then rose again on a quiet Sunday morning.

We believe in God the Holy Spirit,
who strengthens, empowers, renews and refreshes,
sometimes arriving with obvious power,
sometimes with the quiet breath of a whisper.

We believe in one God
who patiently waits for us,
and who longs for us to do the same.