

Wednesday, December 13

The Humble Wait

I wait for the Lord, my whole being waits... Psalm 130:5a
(NIV)

Our congregation in Yellowknife has a strange quirk (ok, maybe more than just one). I am reminded of it every time we have visitors join us for worship on Sunday mornings. The visitors arrive around 15 minutes before worship begins at 11am. Typically, I am the only one there. They assume that they are either in the wrong place, or got the service time wrong. I assure them that they are on time and right where they are supposed to be. “We have to wait and be patient” I say. Meanwhile, inside I’m freaking out wondering if anyone is actually going to show up! And yet, like clockwork the people begin to trickle in around 10:56 am. By 11 am, a crowd has assembled and worship begins. Each time this happens, I am reminded that in the waiting, I am forced to give up an element of control. The people will come when they come.

In Advent, we practice the discipline of waiting for the coming of the Christ to make all things new. As we prepare our hearts to receive Him, a part of that preparation is learning to be patient and to know that we are not in control of this. And this is a good thing, because we know that God is in control! The psalmist reminds us to put our trust in that. *“Our hope is in the Lord, for with the Lord is unfailing love, and with him is full redemption”* (v.7).

Faithful God, your promises are sure and your love for all of creation is steadfast. Thank you for the gift of your Son Jesus. As we enter this season of Advent, teach us to be patient and humble in our waiting. Amen.

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