

On Eagle's Wings



Dear Friends,

I am excited to be able to share with you our 2017 Advent Reflections devotional. Advent is short this year—only 22 days! You may be surprised to learn that this made it difficult to decide whom we should ask to write, because it means that we omit some beloved writers and their stories. Yet, after many prayers and conversations, I think that we have struck a balance between longtime beloved voices and some that are brand new to us this year. I hope you will agree! We all have a story to tell about Jesus and His love and our experience of sharing it.

Our stories convey familiar themes of waiting, anticipation, darkness and light, longing and fulfillment, disappointments and triumphs, stillness and action. These are stories borne out of the experiences of our life and ministry together in the North. For it is in this ordinary, everyday stuff that we find God's presence breaking in to transform, heal, encourage, and bring growth. And all the time, we look forward to the joy of celebrating Jesus' arrival among us, as one of us, bringing salvation and wholeness. Our deepest hopes and longings have been satisfied—let's celebrate!

I pray that the Holy Spirit will speak to you through these stories as we walk through Advent together, waiting and anticipating the appearance of Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us.