



Pastor's Corner

Dear Friends,

Advent is fast approaching—this year it begins on November 30th. Advent is a season that reminds us that the faith journey is all about waiting: we live in the “now” but also in the “not yet;” we wait for a Savior that has already been, yet is also still to come; we find our hearts both rejoice and hurt, yet we cling to the Promises our Savior made. And this means there’s a fair amount of waiting we have to do. Specifically, waiting upon the Lord. There are many great scriptures that talk about waiting on God, such as Psalm 40:1-2, “*I waited patiently for the LORD; he inclined to me and heard my cry;*” and Isaiah 40:31, “*those who wait for the LORD shall renew their strength, they shall mount up with wings like eagles, they shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.*”

But, especially in our culture of instant gratification, we seem to have lost the ability to wait for anything: our food is fast, our communication is instantaneous (be it phone, text or email), and we can order something online and literally get it the next day (if we’re willing to pay extra for that). *So why should we have to wait on God? Surely, he knows we’re very busy and important, and have lots to do, right?!* Maybe that’s the whole point of having to wait: it’s not about us, it’s about God. And not getting the immediate satisfaction we want forces us to slow down, admit we’re not in-charge, and wait upon the One who is. Pastor David Mathis writes about this, saying, “[W]aiting is no waste in God’s economy. It is in the delays and the pauses, and in becoming aware of our lack of patience, that he works to save us from self-reliance and revitalize our faith and hope in him.”

Waiting is no waste in God’s economy. How different this is from the world around us, where busyness and decisiveness equals progress, and anything else is laziness. But we cannot deny that God tells us to wait upon him, so there it is. We’d best get comfortable. Thank goodness for Advent, a time to be still and wait in anticipation of all that God *will do* in our lives (all the while reflecting on all that He *has* done and *is* doing). So, let’s settle in...this might take a while. And that’s just fine. Be well, friends.

Pastor Kara

