

Rolling Hills Community Church
Christmas '07
"Advent"
December 2, 2007

Advent '07
December 2 – Hope
December 9 – Peace
December 16 – Joy
December 23 – Love
December 24 – Christ

Hope (Expectation)
Advent means "the arrival"

The prophets of old foretold of "the arrival" that was to come:
Isaiah 2:1-5

"This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: In the last days the mountain of the Lord's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised up above the hills and all nations will stream to it. Many people will come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of God of Jacob. He will teach us His ways, so that we may walk in His paths.' The law will go out from Zion, the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. Come, O house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the Lord."

There were many looking forward to and expecting "the arrival."
Luke 1:41

"When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit."

Are we, today, hoping and expecting "the arrival" that came and that is to come?
Matthew 25:13

"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come."

Christmas reminds us of Christ's birth, and even accentuates His promised return; and therefore, we wait in great hope and expectation.

Expectation and Hope call us to:

Patience, Confidence, Being active and Faith

“Waiting patiently in expectation is the foundation of the spiritual life.”
Simeon Weil, a Jewish writer