

**Sunday – December 7, 2025 – Second Sunday of Advent**  
**New Series: “A Christmas Journey”**



***“Waiting for Christmas or ‘Unstumped’”***  
***Isaiah 11:1-10; Matthew 3:1-12***

Who likes to wait?

We live in a rushed society. Microwaves, Instagram, ‘two-day rush shipping.’ We consider waiting an inconvenience. What if waiting is the best thing I can do for my life, especially this time of year. What does waiting look like for me? How do I know if the waiting I am doing is healthy for my soul or draining for my life?

***Key Verse. “In those days John the Baptist came preaching in the wilderness of Judea, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand.” For this is he who was spoken of by the prophet Isaiah when he said, “The voice of one crying in the wilderness: Prepare the way of the Lord; make his paths straight” (Matthew 3:1-3).***

When you are forced to wait for anything, what thoughts, emotions do you experience? Is it a pleasant experience for you?

Typically, in our culture we do not wait well. But that does not apply just to us. Seven hundred years before Jesus, God’s people were in a place of waiting- waiting for God and his promises to come true- and they were waiting just as well as we do.

**I wait for impossible \_\_\_\_\_.**

Read *Isaiah 2:1-10*.

For what were God’s people waiting? Why would God’s call to wait seem impossible for them?

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God’s promise included a king. Read vs2-4 and describe him. How does that compare to Jesus?

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**I \_\_\_\_\_ while I wait.**

Read *Matthew 3:1-12*.

Jesus’ cousin John the Baptist marks the path leading to Jesus. What were some of the things John tells people to do in preparation for Jesus’ coming?

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John said, “prepare the way of the Lord.” What does that look like for me today? \_\_\_\_\_

John’s warning. “Don’t miss the \_\_\_\_\_.”

How do I wait for Jesus’ coming?

I wait with \_\_\_\_\_

I wait with \_\_\_\_\_

I wait with \_\_\_\_\_

Read *Isaiah 11* again.

Which promise of hope is most need today?

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Christmas is not for the distracted, it’s for the \_\_\_\_\_.

**This time tomorrow:**

- Where can I see a “new sprout” coming from the stump I may be living in today?
- How can I wait with expectation and hope today?