Open Before Christmas

Joy That Lasts

Hebrews 12:1-3

Kendall Root

Aldersgate UMC December 24, 2017

1. Joy **MOTIVATES**

Let us run with endurance the race that lies before us, keeping our eyes on Jesus, the sources and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy that lay before Him endured the cross and despised the shame and has sat down at the right hand of God's throne.

(Hebrews 12:1b-2 HCSB)

2. Joy **INSPIRES HOPE**

And again, Isaiah says: "The root of Jesse will appear, the One who rises to rule the Gentiles; the Gentiles will hope in Him." Now may the God of hope fill you will all joy and peace as you believe in Him so that you may overflow with hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

(Romans 15:12-13 HCSB)

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3. **EMBRACE** Joy

Rejoice in the Lord always. I will say it again: Rejoice!
(Philippians 4:4 HCSB)

Rejoice in the Lord and be glad, you righteous; sing, all you who are upright in heart!
(Psalm 32:11)

This week I will respond to God by :

- ☐ Worship God in light of the incarnation
- ☐ Endure hardships joyfully
- ☐ Praise God for hope
- ☐ Ask God to give me a sense of joy and hope
- ☐ Embrace joy by _____
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