

# Christmas Hope

Merry Christmas! Welcome to our Christmas \_\_\_\_\_



Christmas is one of the most sacred holidays of the church. Like other church holidays, it's a time when we come together to celebrate and rejoice in our love for God and Jesus. Unlike other church holidays, Christmas marks the beginning of hope for the world.

Now, there are all kinds of hope, such as "I hope I win the lottery tonight," or "I hope Aunt Mae doesn't make her famous chocolate cake for the family Christmas dinner". Everyone who knows Aunt Mae is probably hoping the same thing. But those examples aren't really about hope. Are they? They're more like wishing. Not real hope.

Hope is defined as a positive or optimistic expectation. And, this expectation is often about a circumstance or an event that usually has some kind of impact on your life. That definition fits nicely with the birth of Jesus.

Jesus is the hope for the world. That hope is that we continue to exist after death. Through Christ, God has given us hope of an eternal life. Without Jesus's birth, that hope simply would not exist for us Christians today.

Imagine what the world would be like without hope. But today, we have great hope! This is the day Jesus was born. It's the day God gave his only begotten son, Jesus, the Christ, to wash away your sins.

Jesus's birth signifies our journey back to God, our creator. Jesus restores hope to the world. He paved the way for us. When we believe in Christ, we accept that message of hope proclaimed on Christmas morning that the Christ child was born.

This birth of hope makes Christmas so much more than hymns, Christmas trees, presents, and turkey dinners. It is this sacrifice by God and then his son, Jesus, that delivered hope to the world. The hope of eternal life for all who believe.

So, this Christmas, let's make a joyful noise unto the Lord! Let us give to others in the same spirit of the Christ child. Let us love one another. And, most importantly, let us give thanks for the birth of our savior, Jesus Christ and the Christmas hope he gifted to us.

