



LENT 2026

Week 3: Hope

As you read or listen to Isaiah 52:13-53:12 watch for:

- a. Images of pain?
- b. Images of redemption?
- c. Images of hope?

What else stuck out to you?

For Discussion:

1. Recalling how we ended our discussion last week, what hope is realized through the restoration of our relationship with God?
2. As you read through this passage again, mark out all the moments of actually really good news (even if it doesn't feel like it at first)?

3. In verse 5, what does it mean for God to give us healing (and hope) through taking on our punishment?
4. Why is all of this scary stuff important to get to real hope?
 - a. What happens to our hope when we ignore or refuse to face what is wrong in our hearts and in the world?
5. Read through Isaiah 11:1-10. This passage may be familiar as it is a common reading in Advent that speaks to the birth of Jesus. What hope do you find in this passage?
 - a. How does this relate to the suffering servant passage?
 - b. What needs to happen for us to live in such peace and harmony? Are these little or big changes?
 - c. How does the Suffering Servant/Jesus lead us to true peace and harmony?

6. Righteousness means being in a good relationship with God (and also many other things). Verse 11 says, God's righteous servant would justify many. What could it mean for a truly righteous person to justify us? In our human experience, how can a broken relationship, be restored by someone who has a good relationship with us and the other party (helping us to come back together)? How (then) is Jesus, our great hope for reconciliation with God?
7. How can we know what we need, so that our hope can be pointed in the right direction?
 - a. How does the Suffering Servant show us what we need and give us hope at the same time?
8. What great news have you come to realize through studying this passage? How is this good news for everyone and something worth sharing?

Reflective Prayer Time:

- Take some time to reflect on what it means for someone to take on your suffering or pay off a huge debt.
- Reflect on how Jesus has already done this for you.
- Reflect on how God has been shaping your heart for hope and what hope have you already realized.
- What is your Christian hope that guides your way forward.
- Remember God's hope is powerful and faithful. He is consistent in his loving work and he is bigger than any wrong.

Some questions for Ongoing Reflection

- How do you think a shepherd cares for those that continually go astray?
- Think about what it means that Jesus suffered to give us hope
- What could it mean for Jesus to share his 'portion'?
- What hope does the suffering servant speak into the problems of the world? Particularly to the human proficiency towards fear and retaliation
- How do we open the eyes of the world to actually see the light of Christ?