

Good morning and Malo elei lei,

This week's article is an excerpt from *Hope is Found*. I pray these daily devotions are enriching your experience of this Advent season!

-Pastor Daniel

"The angel said, "Don't be afraid! Look! I bring good news to you—wonderful, joyous news for all people. Your savior is born today in David's city. He is Christ the Lord." Luke 2:10-11

It happens every year. I just can't help it. My throat catches. My eyes fill. I don't think I can speak, and yet somehow I can sing like there is no tomorrow.

As the lights dim, the giant Christmas tree twinkles in the background, the sounds of "Silent Night" echo off the walls of the church, and the taste of Holy Communion still lingers in my mouth, I light my candle, share it with my neighbor and I raise my candle high. The light of Christ shines forth in the darkness. In this moment, I can hardly speak, but I can't help but sing. In this moment, my eyes fill and yet I see the truth clearly. In this moment, the hope of Christmas is real. The light has come, and it will outshine any darkness.

This moment... it is beautiful. It is holy. It is overwhelming.

This moment is the embodiment of the life I am called to live: filled with Christ, living in community, my soul singing, receiving the light of Christ, sharing the light with my neighbor, then pressing forth into the darkness allowing the light of Christ to lead the way.

Every Christmas Eve, I hope and pray that more and more people get to experience this moment because when we experience this moment all of the other moments of our lives are different.

Today's question is simple. How are you making sure you have this moment? Who are you bringing with you?



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