



## November 26, 2023 – Heaven and nature sing

Heaven – white clouds, cherubic angels with wings floating around while singing...sound familiar? Heaven is that place you go (or hope to go) when you die, right? But what if heaven is way more than that? What does it mean to be a people that Heaven comes to earth for? Join us this weekend as we take a look at just what it means to be waiting for heaven and having heaven with us now!

### Scripture:

#### Isaiah 9:2, 6-7 NLT

The people who walk in darkness will see a great light. For those who live in a land of deep darkness, a light will shine. For a child is born to us, a son is given to us. The government will rest on his shoulders. And he will be called: Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. 7 His government and its peace will never end. He will rule with fairness and justice from the throne of his ancestor David for all eternity. The passionate commitment of the Lord of Heaven's Armies will make this happen!

#### Luke 1:68-79 NLT

"Praise the Lord, the God of Israel, because he has visited and redeemed his people. 69 He has sent us a mighty Savior from the royal line of his servant David, 70 just as he promised through his holy prophets long ago. 71 Now we will be saved from our enemies and from all who hate us. 72 He has been merciful to our ancestors by remembering his sacred covenant—73 the covenant he swore with an oath to our ancestor Abraham. 74 We have been rescued from our enemies so we can serve God without fear, 75 in holiness and righteousness for as long as we live. 76 "And you, my little son, will be called the prophet of the Most High, because you will prepare the way for the Lord. 77 You will tell his people how to find salvation through forgiveness of their sins. 78 Because of God's tender mercy, the morning light from heaven is about to break upon us, 79 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide us to the path of peace."

### Questions:

- What image comes to mind when you think of heaven? Where do you think those images came from? How did they develop? Do you believe heaven is better than here? If yes, what makes it so?
- This time of year, we tend to fill our lives to overflowing with festivities, gifts, celebrations, and more. As you begin this Advent season ask yourself: How will I treasure the Gift of Heaven in this season?
- Sometime this week, go outside at night, stare up into the heavens and be quiet, be still. Allow your heart to dwell in the vastness of the skies and then say a prayer.

### Reading for the Week:

**Monday:** Isaiah 19:20

**Tuesday:** 1 Chronicles 16:31-36

**Wednesday:** Luke 2:10-17

**Thursday:** Psalm 148

**Friday:** Hebrew 13:15-16