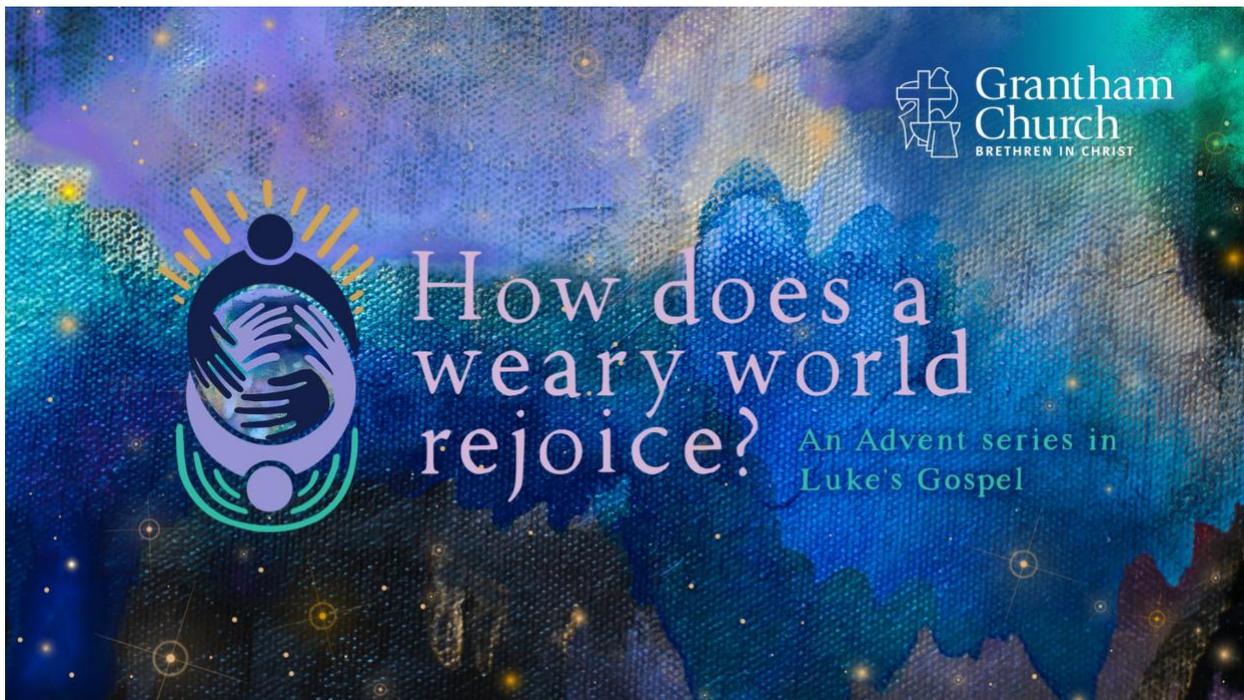


We Allow Ourselves to Be Amazed
Small Group Discussion Questions

Join our congregation for worship in-person or online at 10:30 am each Sunday via our [Grantham Church YouTube Channel](#). If you ever miss a message, the sermons are always posted to the [recent sermons page](#) at our website and at the [Grantham Church Podcast](#) the following day, along with the sermon slides and small group discussion questions under Worship Resources. Thank you for staying connected with us!

Sunday, December 17th, 2023



Sermon Title: We Allow Ourselves to Be Amazed

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:57-66; Psalm 126

Sermon Focus: As we get older, we tend to lose our sense of awe. But the Christmas story is sprinkled with experiences of wonder, which lead to praise and joy. How do we cultivate this sense of amazement in our lives? We look back at God's faithfulness in the past and look ahead with hope to his future promises. In the third message of our series, Pastor Melissa encourages us to pay attention, create space, and allow ourselves to sit in wonder at who God is and what he is doing.

Thank you for going deeper in conversation with your small group in person or by video call. Use the following questions to help *guide* your small group discussion:

1. Recall a time (recent, if possible) that you were amazed by something. What was the situation? Why was it so amazing? What were your emotions surrounding and after that experience of awe? If it's challenging to remember a time when you were amazed, what do you think might be getting in the way of your sense of wonder?
2. Read Luke 1:57-66 together. What does the crowd (neighbors and relatives) help us to notice or experience in this part of the Christmas story? Why are they filled with awe? What do we know now about who John (the Baptist) would become?
3. Read Psalm 126. Pastor Melissa highlighted a progression of the tenses in the Psalm with the first two verses reflecting on the past, verse 3 relating the current joy of God's people, and verses 4-6 looking to the future. What is fueling their current joy? Are you someone who tends to emphasize the past, present, or future?
4. How does remembering God's goodness in the past help us to have joy in the present? Share a time when you experienced God's faithfulness in the past.
5. When we feel weary or are in the midst of hardship it can be difficult to look for God at work and have hope for the future. When is it hardest for you to believe God will do what he says he'll do? What might it look like to sow your tears in God in that area?
6. As you pray together, reflect on the things that amaze you about God and thank him for them. Then offer to the Lord the things that are weighing you down today. Allow the Spirit to meet you in your weariness and show you the wonder of Jesus.