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Liturgical Date: Year C, Advent 3, 12th December 2021

****There is an Advent Welcome (in Song List 2 of DVD and in a "Seasonal" file on the website) that can be used to open the worship today.**

Presenter **Elliot Burns**

Focus Readings Luke 3: 7-18

Message 7 minutes 55 seconds

"Tis the Season to be Hopeful?"

Discussion Starters

- 1** What is hope?
- 2** What brings hope to your life?
- 3** How can your church bring hope to the wider community?
- 4** What signs of hope have you seen in your community recently?

Lectionary readings for the day

Zephaniah 3:14-20 The prophet summons Israel to praise God. The day will come when the people need fear no disaster, for God is in their midst. The passage concludes with a series of promises from God, who will bring the exiles home.

Isaiah 12:2-6 The prophet anticipates the Joy and praise of the people on the promised day of salvation. The grounds for this joy are the mighty deeds that God, who is in the midst of the people, will do.

Philippians 4:4-7 Paul urges the church to rejoice in the Lord. The Lord is near, so we need not worry but can make our needs known to God. God's peace will keep us in Christ Jesus.

(Excerpted from Abingdon's Theological Companion to the Lectionary, Year C. Copyright c2012 by Abingdon Press, an imprint of the United Methodist Publishing House. Used by permission. All rights reserved.)

All Age Message Sue Pepper **"What Is It All About?"**

Length 4 Minutes 5 seconds

Precis of AAM

Gifts are a part of our Christmas traditions. Gifts come in all shapes and sizes and probably the most interesting ones are those with our own name on them! Is that really what Christmas is about? John mentioned giving away a coat if you have two and sharing food. Sharing with others is the true Spirit of Christmas. God shared his son, Jesus at this time. How special is that!

Resources **Uniting in Worship (Blue Book).** No Psalm listed for today's readings.

Elliot Burns

I am married with two adult sons. I attend Jesmond Park Uniting Church. I work as a WHS trainer. My interests including sport: playing soccer & riding my push bike. I like to restore old motor vehicles. I'm currently working on an old MG.