The Best Christmas Ever Christ Our Hope Romans 15:7-13

Every generation has had its "where were you when" moment with regard to some natural or cultural seismic event. We remember it like yesterday where we were when we heard the news of the moon landing, the day JFK was shot, the day Elvis died, the space shuttle Challenger explosion, hurricanes and tsunamis, 9/11. Moments like these are big. Often they render us helpless while at the same time hoping for the best.

- 1. Hope is strengthened in community.
- 2. Hope is offered to the nations.
- 3. Hope is preserved by the Holy Spirit.

It can seem impossible to take that first step toward hope when we are weighted down by our burdens. But when we receive the promise of hope in God's Word, we find assurance. When we accept the power of hope granted to us in God's Spirit, we find inspiration. When we focus on the presence of hope embodied in the birth, life, death, resurrection and return of Jesus, we find strength. We discover that we can take that first step and the second.