

Sorrow and Rejoicing

Description

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Proverbs 8:12-30

Christmas is a time of memories. Each decoration taken out of storage, each family tradition, carries with it a story.

Recently, extended family gathered around a dining room table and the conversation turned to favorite Christmas memories. We laughed a lot that evening. But we cried as well. Many of the people in those stories were no longer among us and we grieved.

Some people may approach the Christmas season with fear. Every memory of "what was" sparks renewed grief over what has been lost. They avoid celebrations because they have tired of wearing "happy masks" to cover their pain.

But Jesus who came to us at Christmas is the same Jesus who went to the cross. He understands that lament and rejoicing can co-exist. Isaiah foretold that Jesus would be "a man of suffering, and familiar with pain" (53:3). We can rejoice in His coming, knowing He understands our sadness and came to restore us to a Kingdom where there will be no more sorrows.

Author: Judith A. Schwanz

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