Come Together: Advent Joy Life Group Questions, Sunday December 5, 2021 Hope Community Church

Discussion Starter: When was the last time you experienced deep and moving joy? What was happening and what was it like?

Digging Deeper

- 1. The Christmas story is filled with the surprising presence of joy. Where?
- 2. God is rather strong on his insistence that we experience joy. In fact, he commands it (consider Psalm 37:4 and Philippians 4:4). Why?

Sharing Our Lives

- 3. Would you consider yourself to be a joyful person? Does this tell you anything about your walk with Christ?
- 4. What are the key things (habits/emotions/circumstances) that steal your joy?
- 5. How might you "put your joy out of reach of your enemies"? (to use a line attributed to Jonathan Edwards' life). What can you do to cultivate joy in Christ?

Praying and Going

- 6. Light a candle of joy, and as you do so, express your unity in Jesus. Consider the various ways people are being impacted by the current changes in our community and lives, and pray for God's Spirit to give us love and unity as we flex.
- 7. Ensure your group knows about the changes to our services, and the Christmas services planned. Details are on our website.