



EQUIPPING STUDENTS IN TANZANIA TO SUCCEED

BY MELANIE GIBBONS

MATTHEW 1:18-25 | EMMANUEL, GOD WITH US

ADVENT WEEK 4 | CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, 2022

God of Hope, we are grateful for the gift of belonging. We are in awe of your love, so deep that you came to dwell with us in Christ. In this season of waiting and watching in the wilderness, remind us that love often shows up in ways we least expect. Give us the wisdom to pay attention. God of the wilderness:

EMBOLDEN US TO SHINE YOUR HOPE INTO ALL THE WORLD.

God of Hope, as we light this fourth candle, we remember the uncertainty and discomfort into which Joseph stepped with faith and trust. As we sit in uncomfortable places of our own, give us the strength and discernment to know when to stay, and when to move on. Guide us to be a sign of your presence in the lives of our neighbors experiencing difficult times. God of the wilderness:

EMBOLDEN US TO SHINE YOUR HOPE INTO ALL THE WORLD.

God of Hope, today we remember our neighbors in Tanzania who are working so hard to break the chains of poverty in which they are ensnared. Be with Maria, her fellow teachers, and all students who put their heads down to study and look up to a bright future. Give them creativity and determination. From their example, may we have the wisdom to recognize your grace in our lives in things big and small. God of the wilderness:

EMBOLDEN US TO SHINE YOUR HOPE INTO ALL THE WORLD.

God of Hope, thank you for the gift of being part of your global family. May we be strengthened by our connection to you and to one another, trusting that in your abundance there is always more than enough. We pray all this in the name of Jesus, the One we long for in this season of hope.

AMEN.



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