



Dear Friends,

On Sunday we were reminded that God takes initiative in our lives. In our Christmas story, Luke 1:23-38, we find that God begins the conversation with Mary, as God does with us, breaking into our lives in unexpected ways. That is God taking initiative.

God takes initiative in our lives through varied and creative means; possibly the initiative comes through a passage of scripture or a prayer that someone shares with us. The words suddenly become profound and we sense God speaking into our lives. Or perhaps we are inspired with gratitude from a friend's comforting words that helped us through a very difficult decision.

How about for you? Maybe you have been struggling with a long standing problem when suddenly there is a breakthrough, you come to peace and there is a clear path forward. A relationship has been restored, a job secured, a life ring tossed your way from an unexpected source.

Friends, these are not random, chance happenings. This is God taking initiative and speaking to you, inviting you to deeper faith and trust. Reminding you that he is near.

This is my prayer for you this week that you will sense God taking initiative in your life, that you sense God drawing near, guiding you through the challenges you face.

In Advent Hope,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'John', with a stylized flourish above the letters.

Pastor John

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Rev. Dr. John McKeague

Trabuco Presbyterian Church