



## HOPE *in* CHRIST

### **Scripture:**

*"We have this hope as an anchor for the soul, firm and secure."*

— Hebrews 6:19a (NIV)

### **Reflection:**

In the early 19th century, Rev. George Dana Boardman left the comforts of his home and community in this beautiful state to serve as one of the first American Baptist missionaries in Burma. His life was marked by hardship—illness, isolation, and the death of his young son—but also by unwavering hope. Rev. Boardman believed that the gospel could take root even in the most resistant soil. His ministry among the Karen people bore fruit that would outlive him, as thousands came to know Christ through the seeds he planted.

Advent invites us into that same kind of hope—not wishful thinking, but a confident expectation rooted in God's promises. Just as Boardman trusted that light would break through in Burma, we trust that Christ, the Light of the World, is coming again. In a world weary with war, injustice, and difficulty, we hold fast to the anchor of hope—Jesus, who came, who is with us, and who will come again.

### **Prayer:**

God of Hope, anchor our hearts in You this Advent season. Like Rev. George Dana Boardman, may we live with courage and conviction, trusting that Your promises are true. Help us to be bearers of hope in our communities and in the world. Amen.

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