



***Thoughts and Smiles – Dec. 6, 2021 – The Week of Advent 2***

"A man walked in today holding something in his arms. 'I have a request,' he said, turning around this picture frame. He took a moment. 'My son passed away last year.' He choked up and couldn't finish his sentence. The entire photo set was silent. I said, 'Absolutely.' Without anyone saying anything, he handed me the frame, and I placed it on my knee. I could see that his first name was Hayden on the little boy's armband in the photo. I didn't ask any

questions, but I guess this is his first photo with Santa. The camera snap was the only sound I could hear through the entire mall. Normally, I hear all kinds of music and sounds, but it is absolutely silent. After a handful of clicks, we walked over to the screen, and he pointed, saying, 'That's the one.'

The girl working the computer printed him a full photo package, and he pulled out his wallet, saying that this would be his gift to his wife. We gave him the printed package, telling him that it was a gift and that we would be praying for his family this Christmas. He grabbed my hand and pulled me in and hugged me, then turned around and left. As he walked out, we all had tears in our eyes.

I'm sharing this to remind us all that Christmastime is unbelievably hard for some families.

Pray for the brokenhearted.

Smile at people.

Just be kind.

Love one another."



*Photo courtesy of Caleb Ryan Sigmon*



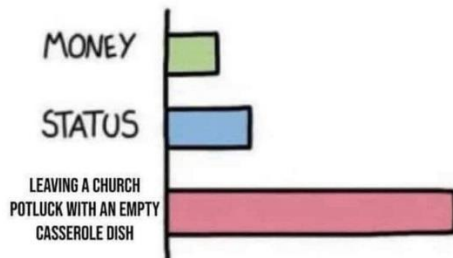
The bleak mid-winter  
A humble stable  
The quiet  
and the cold

It is still  
But know that everything is happening.  
Listen - hear the angels  
Look - see the darkness broken by Light

Be still and welcome Grace  
This is the beginning and the end of the journey  
It is Love in disguise  
that only the heart can know.

-DJ

## WHAT GIVES PEOPLE FEELINGS OF POWER



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Have a terrific week!  
Blessings to you all!

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Check out "David's Blog" on the Sauble Beach United Church website.

<https://saubleunitedchurch.ca/category/davids-blog/>

And if you want the virtual experience of church, just follow the link here below...

[www.saubleunitedchurch.ca](http://www.saubleunitedchurch.ca) and click: "Watch"

Or This link for the December 5 service: <https://youtu.be/HNnjo9DC5JY>