

# Love Came Down ... Where is the Hope?

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## Part of the people's prayer:

You meet those who gladly do right,  
those who remember you in your ways.  
But you were angry, and we sinned;  
because you hid yourself we transgressed.  
We have all become like one who is unclean,  
and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth.  
We all fade like a leaf,  
and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.  
There is no one who calls on your name,  
or attempts to take hold of you;  
for you have hidden your face from us,  
and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. --  
Isaiah 64:5-7 (NRSV)

- Why was it easier for the people to point fingers at God instead of taking ownership for their own mistakes?
- At whom do you point fingers?

## Part of God's response:

I was ready to be sought out by those who did not ask,  
to be found by those who did not seek me.  
I said, "Here I am, here I am,"  
to a nation that did not call on my name.  
I held out my hands all day long  
to a rebellious people,  
who walk in a way that is not good,  
following their own devices -- Isaiah 65:1-2 (NRSV)

- God is waiting with open arms. How does that change the way we view the chaos in the world?
- Instead of pointing fingers, what is God calling you to do to bring hope to the world?
- What is God calling our church to do? How can you be part of that?

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### Group Life @ Middletown

If you are interested in taking part in a sermon-based discussion group or other small group, visit [middletownchristian.org](http://middletownchristian.org) or contact Tracy Spann, [tspann@middletownchristian.org](mailto:tspann@middletownchristian.org) to learn more.

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