“Waiting in Divine Drama”
2 Peter 3:8-14
The Joy of Reunions!

Hannah Myer’s surprise “guest” on her last day of 4th grade
Randolph Elementary
San Antonio, TX
Elements That Set The Stage

1. Family separated by time and space
2. Great longing, desire for reunion
3. Surprise arrival

“But the day of the Lord will come like a thief…” (2 Peter 3:10).
Advent Theme: The 2\textsuperscript{nd} Coming!

“Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus!”
“Dear Desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart...”

“We are waiting, we have not forgotten...”

TSO, “Christmas Canon”
Backdrop to the Reading
In 2 Peter 3

A. Church was effective in teaching the return of Jesus Christ (vss. 3-4)

B. But their teaching was met with doubt and mockery (vss. 3-4)

C. Peter’s encouragement: Patience! Vss. 8-10; esp. vs 15
Question: Are You **Longing** For Him? Vss. 12,13,14

Is Jesus “the **reason** for **your** season?”

Even “The Grinch” figured it out:
“Maybe Christmas, he thought, doesn't come from a store. Maybe Christmas, perhaps, means a little bit more!”
Prompters to “Hasten” His Return

* Weariness of your personal battle
* Rampant sin around us
e.g. revelations of sexual indiscretions
* Creation groans
(Romans 8:22)
How To Express Your Longing For The Lord and His Kingdom...Verse 11

**Holy Conduct** – John 14:21; Heb. 4:13

**Godliness** (character) – John 3:3

In the meantime, we “hasten” His return (vs. 12) with evangelism

Kingdom hope (vs. 13)
Vs. 14 – “Be Diligent” To Love What Jesus Loves!

1. **Study the Word / Prophecy**
   “For the testimony of Jesus is the spirit of prophecy” (Revelation 19:10b).

2. **Purpose to grow in discipleship**
   “...that He might present to Himself the church in all her glory, having no spot or wrinkle or any such thing; but that she would be holy and blameless” (Ephesians 5:27).