Miracle of the Glove

By: Mary McDonald

Read: Lamentations 3:25

*The Lord is good to those who wait (hope) for him,*

*to the soul who seeks Him.*

My husband and I are the proud two-legged parents of a very energetic 3-year-old German shepherd named Dritte. Dritte seems to believe that everything is fair game to be eaten. One cool Monday evening I had just come inside from feeding the critters who share our land. My gloves, which smelled like food, were “safely” in my pockets. In an instant Dritte reached inside and grabbed one glove. And before I could get it back, it was GONE. What to do? I called her regular vet but he was gone for the day. The emergency room vet said I could bring her in and they could do x-rays and induce vomiting if needed. My husband and I discussed it and decided to wait and watch; and hope she passed a small, pink cotton glove like she had all the pieces of towels, bedding, and toys in the past. I said many prayers that God would take care of her. I also watched her closely and prepared for the worst in case a fast trip to the vet was needed. Although I admit there were times of acute fear, I mostly felt a sense of peace and the gut-feeling it would be OK. So we waited .... and waited.

Five long days later, I was waked up by the sound of Dritte about to vomit. She tried several times and then out came a round, pink object. It was the missing glove—minus one finger! Dritte acted like nothing had happened and was ready to eat. I said a fervent prayer of thanks to God. And saved the glove to remind and teach me.

You are probably wondering what this story has to do with Advent. Advent is also a time of **waiting**. And preparing for the birth of Jesus as well as his second coming. According to Pastor Eldon Peterson, for most of us waiting is not something we like to do but is part of life and gives us the opportunity to prepare (like waiting for the birth of a baby). “Our waiting for the first Advent, Christmas, prepares us in our waiting for his second Advent. Waiting also helps us discern what is important.” As we prepare for the coming Advent season and Christmas in these very different times, help us to focus on this.

*Prayer*: Loving Father, thank you for this Advent season, a steady rock in a sea of changes. Help us to wait patiently for our hope and trust in Jesus' birth. Amen.