

Sermon Notes – September 27, 2026

Title: When God Feels Absent

Series: Hope In the Promises #2

Bible Texts: Ezek. 10:18-19; 11:22-23;

Hag. 2:3-9; John 1:9-14; Matt. 1:20-23

Speaker: Pastor Mike Kleven



Your search is not for something, but for _____

Who you are looking for has _____ for you.

The ache of emptiness may be a signpost pointing to God.

Ezekiel 10–11 — Presence Departs

Haggai 2 — A Smaller Temple

John 1:9-14 & Matthew 1 — God Has Come Home

The Word became flesh and made His _____ among us (John 1:14)

They will call Him Immanuel—“_____.”
(Matthew 1:23)

Three Truths for the Longing

1. God’s Presence left because His people left _____
2. A new temple is not the same as Presence come _____
3. The Presence that ends every exile has a name:

Next Steps / Application

- Name your ache.
What if emptiness signals your need for God’s presence?
- Look at the One who has already come.
Read John 1:9-14 this week.
- Receive what is already available.
John 1:12 makes it clear.

Key Bible Memory Verse

John 1:12 (NIV)

Yet to all who did receive him, to those who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God—