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Editor's note: Paul and Joan Vogel forwarded this meditation from the Henri Nouwen Society and it offers us Hope. Thanks Paul and Joan. Please consider sharing your own Letter of Hope by emailing it to Hyatt.le.rc@gmail.com. R&L

Expect God's Secret

"The Lord is good to those whose hope is in him, to the one who seeks him; it is good to wait quietly..." Lamentations 3:25, 26a

Deep silence leads us to realize that prayer is, above all, acceptance. When we pray, we are standing with our hands open to the world. We know that God will become known to us in the nature around us, in people we meet, and in situations we run into. We trust that the world holds God's secret within and we expect that secret to be shown to us. Prayer creates that openness in which God is given to us. Indeed, God wants to be admitted into the human heart, received with open hands, and loved with the same love with which we have been created.

Henri J. M. Nouwen

*"Our relationship with God and each other strengthens us, and helps make the world a better place.
We welcome and include **everyone** into congregational life."*

