

Hope Presbyterian Church
Sermon-Based Bible Study

July 19, 2026

"Patience"

#4 in the series *Divine Disruptions*

Scripture Texts (CEB)

John 11:1-7, 17-27, 38-44; Galatians 5:22-23



1. Consider what it means to have *patience* - *the capacity to accept or tolerate delay, trouble, or suffering without getting angry or upset*.
 - Have you ever been in a situation that tested your patience? What happened?
 - What interferes with our ability to be patient?
2. **Read John 11:1-7.**
 - What important details do we learn about Jesus' relationship with Lazarus and his sisters, Mary and Martha?
 - Why do you think Jesus chose to wait before returning to Bethany?
3. **Read John 11:17-27.**
 - What do Mary and Martha's responses to Jesus' arrival tell us about their state of mind?
 - When Jesus asked Martha if she believed what he had said about resurrection, how do you interpret her response?
4. **Read John 11: 38-44.**

When Jesus makes his way to the tomb where Lazarus is buried, he is "deeply disturbed again."

 - What might have been the cause(s) of his feeling disturbed?
 - What clue do we have about Martha's state of mind at this moment?
5. Consider how the news of Lazarus' illness was a disruption in Jesus' travel plans.
 - How did this "divine" disruption become another moment in Jesus' ministry?
 - How does this example of disruption teach us about patience - waiting for God to respond when our need is urgent?
 - How might raising Lazarus from the grave have been the most important lesson Jesus would teach - the true meaning of resurrection?
6. **Read Galatians 5:22-23.**

Paul lists patience among the fruits of the Spirit.

 - How do you deal with your impatience? The impatience of others?
 - How do you respond to the idea of urgency bias - whatever is most immediate is most important?
 - How can we learn to be more patient?
 - What is the connection between patience and faith?
7. How can we pray for you?