



Anticipation...Times 2

Mt. Vernon Christian Church

Anticipation...looking forward to something in the future with a sense of expectation and excitement

The children were filled with so much anticipation that they were unable to fall asleep on Christmas eve.

The change of weather filled them with anticipation as they considered their skiing trip.



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Why is anticipation a part of our lives? What benefit is there to living with anticipation?

Anticipation provides focus.

Anticipation empowers us to consider the long-term over the short-term.

Anticipation may even begin to define us.



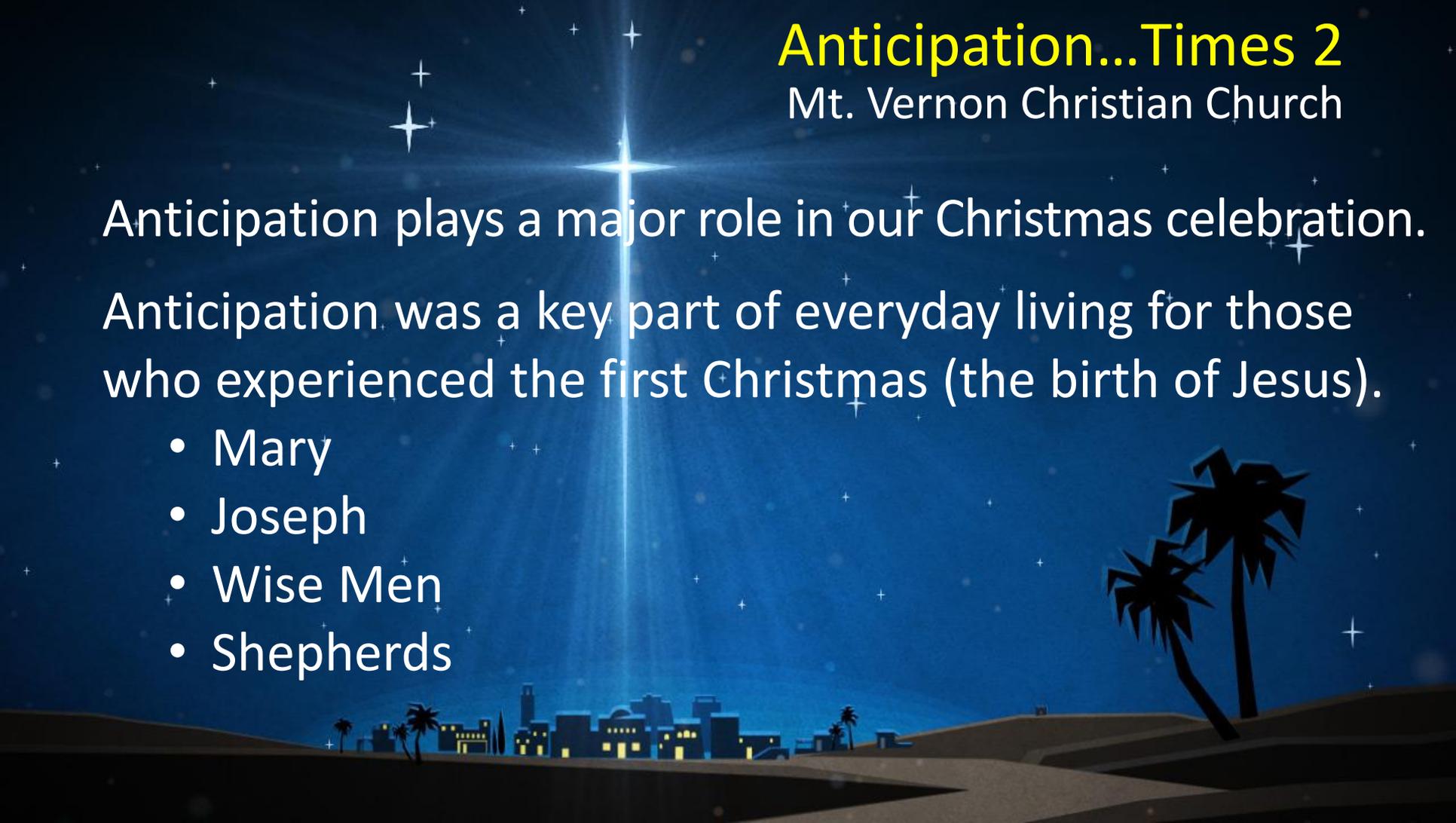
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Anticipation plays a major role in our Christmas celebration.

Anticipation was a key part of everyday living for those who experienced the first Christmas (the birth of Jesus).

- Mary
- Joseph
- Wise Men
- Shepherds



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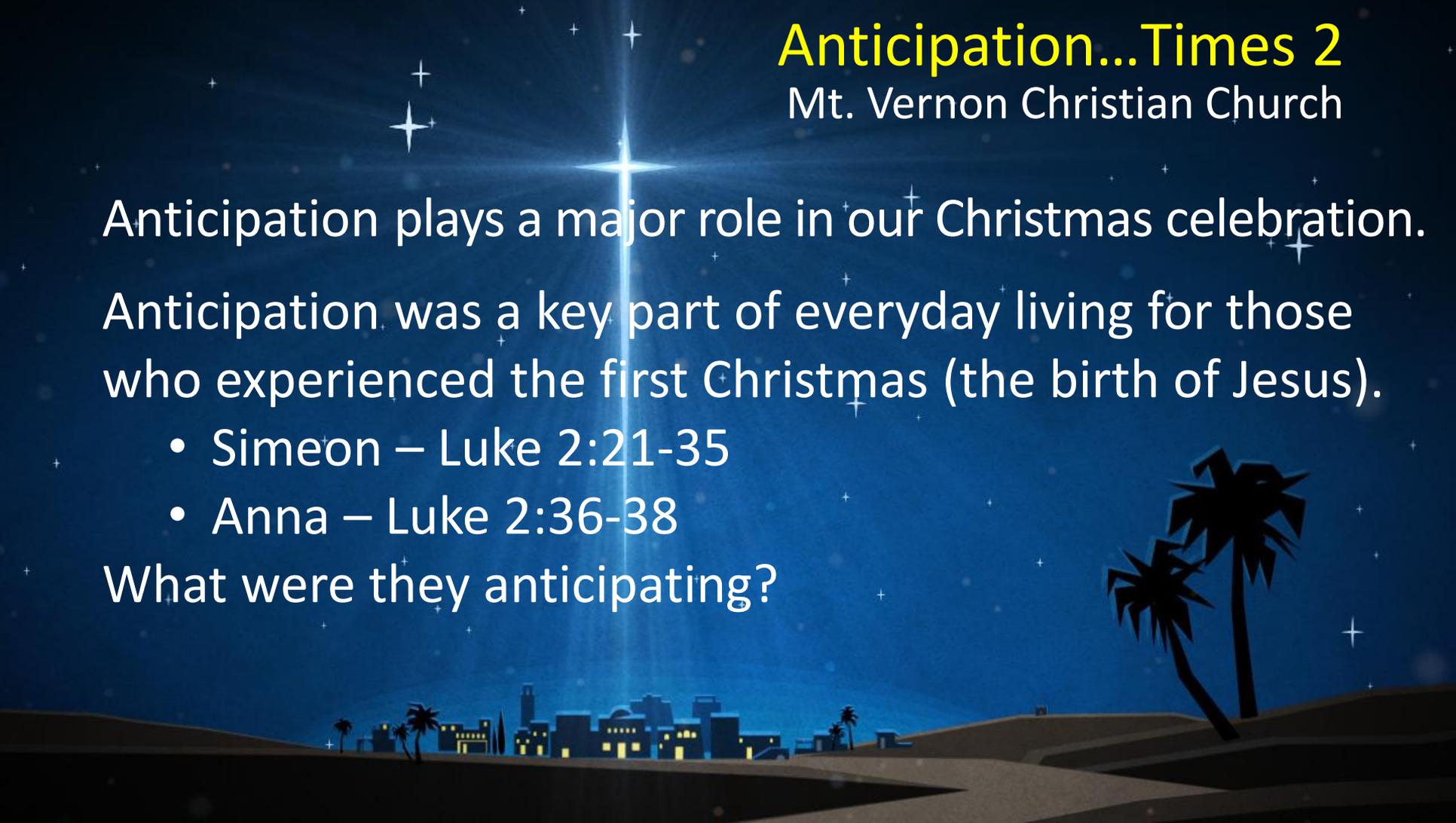
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- Simeon – Luke 2:21-35
- Anna – Luke 2:36-38

What were they anticipating?



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- Mary – Luke 2:46-55
- Zechariah – Luke 2:67-79

What were they anticipating?

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They were anticipating a Savior, one who would change not only their world, but change them, and their entire future.

This anticipation changed their lives, brought focus and identity, as well as strength to face the challenges that had to overcome.

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That first coming of Christ was filled with anticipation. But the anticipation did not end with the first coming of Christ, which we celebrate at this Christmas season.

A new promise filled the disciples with a fresh anticipation. There was something even greater about to take place!

There is a second coming...Anticipation Times 2!

Acts 2:6-11

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Even as Mary anticipated the birth of Jesus, we anticipate today his return in victory and power to transform all that is into the plan God has for us all!