



| **Sunday, December 2**

## Faith, Hope, and Love

*And now these three remain: faith, hope and love. But the greatest of these is love.*

*1 Corinthians 13:13*

I am a mother of three. You see Wesley full of joy at church, but many may not know he has an older brother and sister in Heaven, Jacob and Eleanor. All three are a story of faith, hope, and love.

Our twins, Jake and Ellie, were born at just under 24 weeks at just over a pound each. We soon knew that God was calling them to Heaven; that Heaven was better for them than earth. A decision of faith and love. The toughest decision a parent will ever have to make.

They shouldn't have made it to Earth alive. I shouldn't be alive. My water broke at 17 weeks and we should have said our goodbyes then, but we prayed, we loved, and we had hope that we would meet them, and we did.

One week later I was diagnosed with cancer. Our hearts and hands were empty, and now this. What next?

Lots happened in the next few years, but the short story is that in 2014 my friend felt the calling to carry our baby, so she did, and now we have Wesley. An embryo that was frozen for 4 years, was grown healthy by my friend. Our family—broken and complete. A family of five. Faith, hope, and love. It is what gave me the strength to accept and handle the challenges I have faced, and continue to face (after all, I have a toddler!).

*Dear God, thank you for giving me the strength to make it through the challenges of life. Thank you for the time you have given us with our children, even if just for a few hours. Thank you for giving us the opportunity to baptize all three of our children and to know we will see them again soon.*

- Kerry Olson