

**The Lord's Day Worship
Wayne Presbyterian Church
November 29, 2020**

GATHERING

PRELUDE

LIGHTING THE FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

Reader: *O that You would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at Your presence— as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil— to make Your name known to Your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at Your presence! When You did awesome deeds that we did not expect, You came down, the mountains quaked at Your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides You, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember You in Your ways.*

Reader: *O Lord, You are our Father; we are the clay, and You are our potter; we are all the work of Your hand. Now consider, we are all Your people. Isaiah 64:1-9*

Reader: If ever there was a year we needed Advent, this is the year. We hardly know how to describe the year we have lived through. We hesitate to reflect on all the mess around us in 2020. All we know is that nothing seems right, nothing seems like it used to be, nothing. We need Advent!

Reader: The prophet Isaiah cried out for us, "O that You would tear open the heavens and come down ... To make Your name known ... so that nations might tremble at Your presence." So tear through the mess, O Lord, and come down to us again. We long to be Your people, a people of hope.

Reader: We light this first candle as a sign of our hope. Hope that You can meet us, even in the mess of our world. Hope that You still see us, though we feel we are lost in the rubble. Let this light be the guide that brings us to Emmanuel once more.

Reader: O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

SONG

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear.

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!**

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight. (chorus)

O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
(chorus)

HEARING GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE

Mark 13:24-37

"But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

"From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

*"But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: **Keep awake.**"*

MESSAGE

"For the Time Being: Keep Awake"

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

SONG

"Days of Elijah"

These are the days of Elijah,
declaring the Word of the Lord.
And these are the days of Your servant, Moses;
righteousness being restored.
And though these are days of great trials,
of famine and darkness and sword,
Still we are the voice in the desert crying,
"Prepare ye the way of the Lord."

Behold He comes riding on the clouds,
shining like the sun, at the trumpet call.
So lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee,
And out of Zion's hill Salvation comes.

These are the days of Ezekiel,
the dry bones becoming as flesh.
And these are the days of Your servant, David,
rebuilding the temple of praise.
And these are the days of the harvest;
the fields are as white in the world.
And we are the laborers in Your vineyard
declaring the Word of the Lord!

Behold He comes riding on the clouds,
shining like the sun, at the trumpet call.
So lift your voice, it's the year of Jubilee,
And out of Zion's hill Salvation comes.

OFFERING OURSELVES TO GOD

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

During this season of waiting and anticipation, we are reminded to stay awake for the coming of Your Son. Jesus' love often comes into our lives in quiet, unexpected ways. Today, we generously respond to this compassion and commit ourselves to living in a manner worthy of Your love. In anticipation of the coming of Jesus, the Savior, we pray. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE PEOPLE AND LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy Name
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors,
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil,
For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever! Amen.

CHARGE AND BLESSING

And now go out into the world in peace.
Beware, keep alert, for we do not know the hour when we will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory.
Be faithful in service and persistent in prayer;
be Advent people, loving and serving the Lord. Amen.

POSTLUDE

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The Advent Candle Lighting Service is by Derek Weber
The Prayer of Dedication is from Davidsbell.org
The Benediction is from reworship.com