

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON ~ 1 Thessalonians 4:16-17; 5:1-2 ~ pp. 1030-31 in pew Bible

For the Lord [Jesus] himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the archangel's call, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first; then we who are alive, who are left, shall be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air; and so we shall always be with the Lord.

But as to the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night.

L: This is the word of the Lord; **P: Thanks be to God!**

SERMON "The Generation of Watching and Waiting" Rev. Frank Wyche

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *The Apostles' Creed* Inside front cover of hymnal

*HYMN *Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending* #754

OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY #815

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (... debts/debtors ...)

*HYMN *The King Is Coming* Bulletin Insert

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL CLOSE *Emmanuel* Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE Alessio Giacobone

*Those who are able may stand

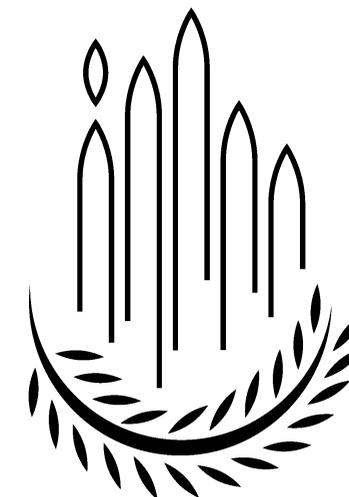
BOLDFACE TYPE indicates words spoken or sung by the congregation.

HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Church Secretary: Trudi Van Dyke-Simms
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Thurs 8:30-10; Fri 8:30-1
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FIRST SUNDAY OF
ADVENT



Hebron Presbyterian Church

423 Hebron Road

Staunton, VA 24401

Telephone: 540-885-1648

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November 29, 2015 ~ 1st Sunday of Advent

HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

November 29, 2015

1st Sunday of Advent

11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

Alessio Giacobone

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*UNISON SUNG CALL TO WORSHIP

O Come, O Come Emmanuel, verse 2 #245

*LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

~ Candle of Glory

L: Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Today we light the Candle of Glory. This candle will be lit first every week.

P: We will light this candle first every week, always reminding us that our Risen Lord and Savior rules in glory, and one day he will return in glory.

L: He will heal and restore all creation, establishing a new heaven and a new earth, where sin and death, and sorrow and tears, will be no more.

P: We look forward in joy to the celebration of Christ's coming into the world, and we look forward in faith for the return of Jesus in glory.

*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP ~ Psalm 24: 7-10

L: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

P: Who is the King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

L: Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors! that the King of glory may come in.

P: Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory!

*UNISON OPENING PRAYER

Eternal Father, we rejoice in your goodness and in your love. In this Advent season, we pray the Holy Spirit will open our hearts and minds to Christ's true presence with us, and our renewed commitment to welcoming him as Lord of our lives. Amen.

*HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

Bulletin Insert

CALL TO CONFESSION

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION ~ From the PCUSA *Book of Common Worship*

Eternal Lord, you are God of the future, as well as the past and present, and you are coming in power to bring all nations under your rule. We confess that we have not expected or prepared for your kingdom, for we live casual lives, ignoring your promised judgment. We accept lies as truth, hold grudges, exploit neighbors, abuse the



earth, and refuse your justice and peace. In your mercy, forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your way, and to seek things that will endure when Christ returns to judge the world. *(Silent prayer and personal confession)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON ~ Matthew 20:28; Luke 19:10; 1 Peter 2:24

L: [Jesus said] "The Son of man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life as a ransom for many"; and, "the Son of man came to seek and to save the lost."

P: "He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds [we] have been healed."

L: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel:

P: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

*GLORIA PATRI

#813

ANTHEM

Sing to the Lord

Chancel Choir

CHILDREN'S LESSON ~ *Children through 5th grade may go to Junior Church afterward*

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON ~ Jeremiah 33: 14-17 ~ Page 683 in the pew Bible

"Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and to the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring forth for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved, and Jerusalem will dwell securely. And this is the name by which it will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.' For thus says the LORD: David shall never lack a descendant to sit on the throne of the house of Israel."

GOSPEL LESSON ~ Luke 21: 25-36 ~ Pages 915-916 in the pew Bible

[Jesus said] "And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and upon the earth distress of nations in perplexity at the roaring of the sea and the waves, people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world; for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. And then they will see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." And he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree, and all the trees; as soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away till all has taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. But take heed to yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a snare; for it will come upon all who dwell upon the face of the whole earth. But watch at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of man."