

“But in those days, after that tribulation, 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. And then they will see the Son of man coming in clouds with great power and glory. And 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.

“But of that day or that hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Take heed, watch; for you do not know when the time will come.

“And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch.”

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON ~ 2 Peter 3: 1-4, 8-10, 15a ~ pp. 1063-1064 in pew Bible

This is now the second letter that I have written to you, beloved, and in both of them I have aroused your sincere mind by way of reminder; that you should remember the predictions of the holy prophets and the commandment of the Lord and Savior through your apostles. First of all you must understand this, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own passions and saying, “Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the first of his followers fell asleep, all things have continued as they were from the beginning of creation.”

But do not ignore this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. The Lord is not slow about God’s promise as some count slowness, but is forbearing toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a loud noise, and the elements will be dissolved with fire, and the earth and the works that are upon it will be burned up.

And count the forbearance of our Lord as salvation.

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

SERMON “The Second Coming” 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

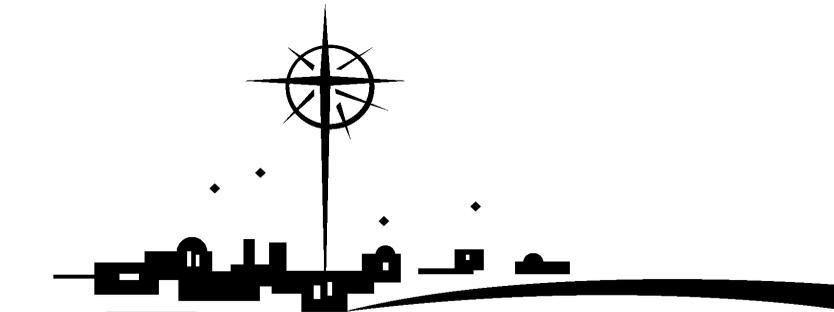
MORNING PRAYER AND THE LORD’S PRAYER (... *debts / debtors* ...)

\*HYMN *Love Divine, All Loves Excelling* #648

\*BENEDICTION

CHORAL CLOSE *Peace on Earth, Good Will to Men* Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE Adam Kelly, Accompanist



**“HE WILL REIGN...  
AND OF HIS  
KINGDOM  
THERE WILL BE  
NO END.”**

**LUKE 1:33, NRSV**  
**Hebron Presbyterian Church**

**423 Hebron Road**

**Staunton, VA 24401**

**Telephone: 540-885-1648**

**Email: myhebronpc@gmail.com**

**December 2, 2018 ~ 1st Sunday of Advent**

# HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 2, 2018

1st Sunday of Advent

11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

Adam Kelly, Accompanist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

*Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence*

Hebron Handbells

**\*RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP** ~ Luke 1: 28-33

L: [God sent the angel Gabriel to Mary.] And he came to her and said, "Hail, O favored one, the Lord is with you!"

**P: But she was greatly troubled at these words, and considered in her mind what sort of greeting this might be.**

L: And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God.

**P: "And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.**

L: "He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High; and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David,

**P: "And he will reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of his kingdom there will be no end."**

**\*UNISON OPENING PRAYER** ~ From the PCUSA *Book of Common Worship*

**Eternal Father, through long generations you prepared a way for the coming of your Son, the light of the world. By the Holy Spirit, you still bring light to illumine our paths. Renew us in faith and hope, that we may be awake and alert, watching and living in preparation for the glorious return of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with you, and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.**

**\*HYMN**

*Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus*

#244

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH ~ *The Candle of Light*

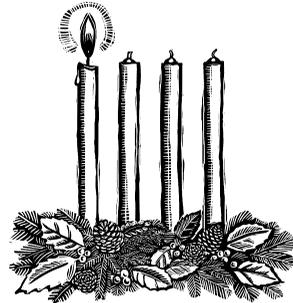
L: Today we light the Candle of Light. John 1:4-5 says of Jesus, "In him was life, and the life was the light of humanity. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it."

**P: In John 8:12, Jesus said, "I am the light of the world; whoever follows me will not walk in darkness, but will have the light of life."**

L: In one of the prophecies of the Messiah to come, Isaiah said (9:2), "The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, on them has light shined."

**P: Through Christ, as Ephesians tells us, "once you were darkness, but now you are light in the Lord; walk as children of light, for the fruit of light is found in all that is good and right and true." [5:8-9]**

L: Revelation [22:5] tells us that when Christ returns and establishes his kingdom, "night



First Sunday in Advent

shall be no more; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they shall reign for ever and ever."

**P: Revelation also promises us, "'Surely I am coming soon.' Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!" [22:20]**

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 the 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

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

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

**\*GLORIA PATRI**

#813

ANTHEM

*Let the Christ Child In*

Chancel Choir

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON ~ Habakkuk 1: 2-4; 2:2-4 ~ Page 811 in the pew Bible

O LORD, how long shall I cry for help, and you will not hear? Or cry to you "Violence!" and you will not save? Why do you make me see wrongs and look upon trouble? Destruction and violence are before me; strife and contention arise. So the law is slacked and justice never goes forth; for the wicked surround the righteous, so justice goes forth perverted.

And the LORD answered me: "Write the vision; make it plain upon tablets, so that one running past will be able to see it, for still the vision awaits its time; it hastens to the end – it will not lie. If it seems slow, wait for it; it will surely come, it will not delay. Behold, those whose soul is not upright within them shall fail, but the righteous shall live by their faith.

1st GOSPEL LESSON ~ Mark 13: 5-7, 19-20, 24-27, 32-33, 37 ~ pp. 881-882 in pew Bible

[When the disciples asked Jesus when the Temple and Jerusalem would be destroyed,] Jesus said to them, "Take heed that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. And when you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is not yet.

"For in those days there will be such tribulation as has not been from the beginning of the creation which God created until now, and never will be. And if the Lord had not shortened the days, no human being would be saved; but for the sake of the elect, whom God has chosen, God shortened the days.