

GOSPEL LESSON ~ Mark 13: 24-37 ~ Page 882 in the pew Bible

[Jesus said] “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. 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 say to you, this generation will not pass away before all these things take place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 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. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Watch therefore – for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or in the morning – lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch.”

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

SERMON “Christ Will Come Again” 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 *O Come, O Come, Emmanuel* #245

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL RESPONSE *O God of Love, O King of Peace* Chancel Choir

POSTLUDE Carolyn Wallace

*Those who are able may stand.

BOLDFACE TYPE indicates words spoken or sung by the congregation.



***O that you would
tear open the heavens
and come down!***

~Isaiah 64:1

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December 3, 2017 ~ 1st Sunday of Advent

HEBRON PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

December 3, 2017

1st Sunday in Advent

11:00 A.M.

PRELUDE

Carolyn Wallace

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP *Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence* Chancel Choir

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP ~ Psalm 53: 1-3, 6

L: Fools say in their heart, "There is no God." They are corrupt, doing abominable iniquity; there is no one who does good.

P: God looks down from heaven upon the children of humanity to see whether there are any who are wise, who seek after God.

L: They have all fallen away; they are all alike depraved; there is no one who does good, no, not one.

P: O that deliverance for Israel would come from Zion! When God restores the fortunes of his people, Jacob will rejoice, and Israel be glad.

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

Almighty God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit – we pray your presence among us as we are gathered in worship, praise, and thanksgiving. Eternal Father, draw near to us today, and be with us throughout this Advent season. Holy Jesus, God the Son, you who are “the reason for the season,” deepen our discipleship. Holy Spirit, increase our faith, and open our hearts and minds to your guidance, for we pray all these things in the precious name of Christ our Savior. Amen.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

~The Candle of Hope

L: Today is the first Sunday of Advent. Today we light the Candle of Hope. For Christians, our hope is not what we wish for, hoping it will come to pass.

P: Christians have a “sure hope,” meaning we have the confidence that comes from *knowing* what *will* come to pass!

L: As we say during the Lord’s Supper, “Christ has come; Christ has died; Christ *is* risen; Christ *will* come again.”

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

*HYMN

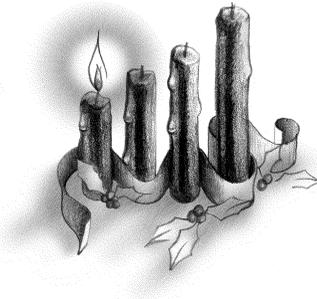
Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

#244

RESPONSIVE CALL TO CONFESSION ~ 1 John 2:1b-2, 28

L: If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; and he is the expiation for our sins, and not for ours only, but also for the sins of the whole world.

P: And now, little children, abide in him, so that when he appears we may have confidence and not shrink from him in shame at his coming.



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)*

RESPONSIVE ASSURANCE OF PARDON ~ 1 Timothy 1:15; John 1:17

L: The saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

P: For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ.

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

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

*GLORIA PATRI

#813

ANTHEM

Every Valley

Chancel Choir

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

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

1st OLD TESTAMENT LESSON ~ Isaiah 64: 1-8 ~ Page 643 in the pew Bible

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence – as when fire ignites brushwood and the fire makes water boil – to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awe-inspiring deeds which we had not looked for, you came down, and the mountains quaked at your presence. From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who works for those who wait for you. You joyfully meet those who work righteousness, those who remember you and your ways. Behold, you were angry when we sinned; we have long been in sin, and shall we be saved? We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There are none who call upon your name, who make the effort to reach out for you; for you have hidden your face from us, and you have delivered us into the hand of our iniquities. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand.

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

I will take my stand to watch, and station myself on the tower, and look forth to see what he will say to me, and what I will answer concerning my complaint. And the LORD answered me: “Write the vision; make it plain upon tablets, so that even those running by quickly may read 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 souls are not up-right within them shall fail, but the righteous shall live by their faith.