

# Now, But Not Yet

1. A Hopeful View
2. Rooted In Peace
3. Crowned With Joy
4. Love Made Present

The First Sunday Of Advent - November 27, 2022 – 11:00 AM

## AS WE GATHER

Advent is intended to be a time for us to focus on God's promises of His coming Kingdom. The beauty of the everlasting Kingdom begins to take shape in our faith's vision, yet remains so elusive for our eyes to fully see through the clouds and other obstacles that still clutter the way.

Dear God – Holy Spirit – sharpen our vision by Your gracious Word!

## WE SING

*"His Banner Over Me"*

Cheri Keaggy

## REMINDER OF OUR BAPTISM *(Romans 6:3-4; Gal. 3:27)*

P: All of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into His death.

**C: We were therefore buried with Him through Baptism into death in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too may live a new life.**

P: All of you who were baptized into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ.

**C: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

## HOLY BAPTISM

*Collins Nadine Miller*

## PLEDGE OF PARENTS & SPONSORS - SIGN OF THE CROSS

## CONFESSION OF FAITH – APOSTLES' CREED

## BAPTISM & BLESSING

## CONGREGATIONAL COMMITMENT TO PARENTS

## PRESENTATION OF THE LIGHTED CANDLE

## DECLARATION OF WELCOME

## LET YOUR EYES AND HEARTS BE OPENED TO OUR LORD'S HOPE!

P: Open your eyes of faith! May your hearts be filled with hope that you may see the beauty of the Kingdom of God.

**C: We hear the promises of the Lord. But it's so hard to grasp the full vision when there's so much that clutters our view!**

P: Look and see the beauty of our coming Savior Jesus!

## WE SING

*"I'm So Blessed"*

J Smith/L Cain/M Cain/M West/T Cain

## OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

**Isaiah 2:1-5**

*Come, people of God, let us walk in the light of the Lord.*

<sup>1</sup>This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: <sup>2</sup>In the last days the mountain of the LORD's temple will be established as chief among the mountains; it will be raised above the hills, and all nations will stream to it. <sup>3</sup>Many peoples will come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob. He will teach us His ways, so that we may walk in His paths." The law will go out from Zion, the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. <sup>4</sup>He will judge between the nations and will settle disputes for many peoples. They will beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks. Nation will not take up sword against nation, nor will they train for war anymore. <sup>5</sup>Come, O house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

## EPISTLE LESSON

**Romans 13:8-14**

*Paul reminds us of how readiness for Jesus will affect the way we live our life.*

<sup>8</sup>Let no debt remain outstanding, except the continuing debt to love one another, for he who loves his fellowman has fulfilled the law. <sup>9</sup>The commandments, "Do not commit adultery," "Do not murder," "Do not steal," "Do not covet," and whatever other commandment there may be, are summed up in this one rule: "Love your neighbor as yourself." <sup>10</sup>Love does no harm to its neighbor. Therefore love is the fulfillment of the law.

<sup>11</sup>And do this, understanding the present time. The hour has come for you to wake up from your slumber, because our salvation is nearer now than when we first believed. <sup>12</sup>The night is nearly over; the day is almost here. So let us put aside the deeds of darkness and put on the armor of light. <sup>13</sup>Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. <sup>14</sup>Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

## THE GOSPEL LESSON

**Matthew 24:37-44**

*Jesus urges watchfulness and readiness in anticipation of His coming again.*

<sup>37</sup>As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>38</sup>For in the days before the flood, people were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, up to the day Noah entered the ark; <sup>39</sup>and they knew nothing about what would happen until the flood came and took them all away. That is how it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. <sup>40</sup>Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. <sup>41</sup>Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

<sup>42</sup>"Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. <sup>43</sup>But understand this: If the owner of the house had known at what time of night the thief was coming, he would have kept watch and would not have let his house be broken into. <sup>44</sup>So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect Him.

## KIDS' TIME

*DCE Liz Peters*

## MESSAGE

***"Is Not The View Compelling?"*** *Pastor Aaron Asmus*

*(Today's Scripture readings)*

## **HEART PREPARATION & CONFESSION OF SINS**

P: We long to greet You, Lord, with lives that please You:

**C: Yet we daily struggle with the temptation to please ourselves only.**

P: We desire to greet Your coming with hearts and lips that praise Your name:

**C: But we often find our hearts and lips preoccupied with matters that are tied only to this world.**

P: We hear the Scriptures encourage us to “wake up from our slumber” and “live as in the day,”

**C: But the darkness of sin lures our souls toward spiritual laziness.**

P: Beloved in the Lord, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

## **WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

# **WE SHARE IN OUR LORD’S SUPPER**

## **PREPARATION & WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **THE SHARING OF OUR LORD’S TRUE BODY AND BLOOD**

**WE SING**

*"Good Good Father"*

*Barrett/Brown*

*"Better Is One Day"*

*Matt Redman*

## **COMMUNION BLESSING**

## **PRAYERS**

## **LORD’S PRAYER**

**WE SING**

*"Days Of Elijah"*

*Robin Mark*

## **CLOSING BLESSING**