

BULLETIN TEMPLATE:

Minnesota Valley Church

Date: Sunday, November 27, 2022

Church Year Date: First Sunday in Advent

THEME: This is a time of preparation, for Christmas and for the return of Christ. The best way to prepare is to buffet our bodies, keep the flesh in line and draw close in a living relationship with the Lord.

Prelude: Rebekah Olson

HYMN #149 "Thanks to God for My Redeemer"

Responsive Reading: Psalm 122

**LEADER: I rejoiced with those who said to me,
"Let us go to the house of the LORD."**

**ALL: Our feet are standing
in your gates, O Jerusalem.**

**LEADER: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:
"May those who love you be secure.**

**ALL: May there be peace within your walls
and security within your citadels."**

**LEADER: For the sake of my brothers and
friends, I will say, "Peace be within you."**

**ALL: For the sake of the house of the LORD
our God, I will seek your prosperity.**

**CHILDREN'S MESSAGE: ADVENT CANDLE
#1 "PROPHECY & HOPE"**

Reader: Glenn Gustafson

Old Testament Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5 This is what Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem: 2 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. 3 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. 4 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. 5 Come, O house of Jacob, let us walk in the light of the LORD.

Epistle Lesson: Romans 13:11-14 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. 12 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. 13 Let us behave decently, as in the daytime, not in orgies and drunkenness, not in sexual immorality and debauchery, not in dissension and jealousy. 14 Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

READER: Here ends the reading of God's Word.

**CONGREGATION SINGS: God be praised,
for His glad Tidings!**

CONFESSION OF FAITH: Apostles' Creed- *I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ, His only son, our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit; born of the virgin Mary; Suffered under Pontius Pilate; Was crucified, dead and buried; He descended into hell; The third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven; And is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From where He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit; The holy Christian Church; the Communion of Saints; the Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen*

Gloria Patri: Ambassador Hymnal p. 4 *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

Announcements and Receive Offering

PRAISE AND WORSHIP: Songs to be chosen by Hannah

SERMON: A PROPHECY OF HOPE Matthew 24:36-44 Pastor Tom Olson *Grace be to you and peace from God our Father and our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen*

Help is on the way!

I. HOPE THROUGH SURPRISE: THE DAYS OF NOAH

Matthew 24:36-39 "No one knows about that day or hour, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. 37 As it was in the days of Noah, so it will be at the coming of the Son of Man. 38 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; 39 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.

God will rescue us at just the right time.

II. HOPE THROUGH JUDGEMENT: A TIME OF SIFTING

Matthew 24:40-41 Two men will be in the field; one will be taken and the other left. 41 Two women will be grinding with a hand mill; one will be taken and the other left.

God will deal with evil people. We don't have to worry about it.

Parable of the wheat and the tares.

III. HOPE THROUGH VIGILANCE: KEEP WATCH

Matthew 24:42-44 "Therefore keep watch, because you do not know on what day your Lord will come. 43 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. 44 So you also must be ready, because the Son of Man will come at an hour when you do not expect him.

It could be today, So keep your "house" clean for a visitor.

HOW TO PREPARE—Just like preparing for winter...you put on the right clothing.

Romans 13:14 Rather, clothe yourselves with the Lord Jesus Christ, and do not think about how to gratify the desires of the sinful nature.

May the peace of God that surpasses all human comprehension, guard your hearts and minds through faith in Christ Jesus. Amen

Hymn #1 ""
Lord's Prayer
Benediction

Praise God from whom all blessings flow, Praise Him all creatures here below, Praise Him above, ye heavenly host, Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men. A-men. A---men.

Postlude: Rebekah Olson