

Watch, Wait, Wonder & Worship

Healing Waters Parish
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FIRST SUNDAY
OF
Advent

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Gather

The first candle symbolizes expectation and hope. Purple is a royal color used in anticipation of the King's birth. We light this candle each week of Advent.

The Lighting of the Advent Wreath

We praise you, O God,
for this evergreen crown
that marks our days of preparation
for Christ's advent.
As we light the first candle on this wreath,
rouse us from sleep,
that we may be ready
to greet our Lord
when he comes with all the saints and angels.
Enlighten us with your grace,
and prepare our hearts to welcome him with joy.
Grant this through Christ our Lord,
whose coming is certain
and whose day draws near.

Amen.

It is now time for you to wake from sleep;
the night is far spent; the light draws near.

Hymn *Lost in the night* - ELW 243

Lost in the night do the people yet languish,
longing for morning the darkness to Vanquish,
plaintively sighing with hearts full of anguish.
Will not day come soon? Will not day come

Must we be vainly awaiting the morrow?
Shall those who have light no light let us
borrow,
giving no heed to our burden of sorrow?
Will you help us soon? Will you help us soon?

Sorrowing wanders in darkness yet dwelling,
drawn has the day of a radiance exceling,
death's deepest shadows forever dispelling.
Christ is coming soon! Christ is coming soon!

Light or the land of the needy is
beaming;
rivers of life through its deserts
are streaming,
bringing all peoples a Save your
redeeming.
Come and save us soon!
Come and save us soon!

Prayer

Stir up your power, Lord Christ, and come.
As darkness falls, may we watch for your light.
Keep us awake and alert to your coming
and strengthen us to the end,
that we may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Amen.

Psalm 130

Silence

¹Out of the depths I cry to you,
O LORD.

²**LORD, hear my voice!**

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplications!

³If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities,
LORD, who could stand?

⁴**But there is forgiveness with you,
so that you may be revered.**

⁵I wait for the LORD, my soul waits,
and in his word I hope;

Silence

⁶my soul waits for the LORD
**more than those who watch for the morning,
more than those who watch for the morning.**

Silence

⁷O Israel, hope in the LORD!
For with the LORD there is steadfast love,
and with him is great power to redeem.

⁸**It is he who will redeem Israel
from all its iniquities.**

Word

Mark 13:33-37

³³Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come.

³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. ³⁵Therefore, keep awake — for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, ³⁶or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

Message & Reflection

What will you watch and pray about this Advent?

What will help you stay awake?

Hymn Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying ELW 436

1 Wake, awake, for night is flying,
the watchmen on the heights are crying;
awake, Jerusalem, at last.
Midnight hears the welcome voices,
and at the thrilling cry rejoices:
"Come forth, you maidens! Night is past.
The bridegroom comes! Awake;
your lamps with gladness take!"
Alleluia!
Rise and prepare the feast to share;
go, meet the bridegroom, who draws near.

2 Zion hears the watchmen singing,
and all her heart with joy is springing.
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.
Her dear friend comes down,
all glorious,
the strong in grace, in truth victorious:
her star is ris'n; her light is come.
Now come, O Blessed One,
Lord Jesus, God's own Son.
Sing hosanna!
Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
and follow to the banquet hall.

3 Gloria! Let heav'n adore you!
Let saints and angels sing before you,
with harp and cymbal's clearest tone.
Gates of pearl, twelve portals
gleaming,
lead us to bliss beyond all dreaming,
with angel choirs around your throne.
No eye has caught the light,
no ear the thund'ring might
of such glory.
There we will go: what joy we'll know!

Offering their talents today – Karl & Lara Krueger - Bergen

Offering Prayer

Let us pray.

God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need as we watch for the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Prayers of the Church

God of power and might, tear open the heavens and come quickly to this weary world. Hear our prayers for everyone in need.

Petition Response

... Help us stay awake, O God.

We watch for your great mercy.

Guide us waking, O Lord,
and guard us sleeping;
that awake we may watch with Christ
and asleep we may rest in peace.

Draw near to us, O God,
and receive our prayers for the sake of your Son,
Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Blessing

Even as we wait, watch, wonder, and worship.
God is with us.

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Gathered in Faith ~ Sent to Serve

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