



HOPE: The first Sunday of Advent – November 28, 2021

Light one purple candle today

ADVENT LITANY

Leader: Why light a candle that will burn out?

People: The message of this candle cannot be quenched. It speaks of hope:

hope greater than fear; hope larger than despair; hope stronger than death.

Leader: We await the prophesied hope of the world, wrapped in swaddling clothes, lying in a manger.

People: We light this candle in faith.

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE OF HOPE

All: Prepare the way of the Lord, the Giver of Hope.

Suggested Hymn: Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending (#6 in The Presbyterian Hymnal)

The Gospel reading for November 28, 2021:

Luke 21:25-36

²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. ²⁶ People will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. ²⁷ At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." ²⁹ He told them this parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees. ³⁰ When they sprout leaves, you can see for yourselves and know that summer is near. ³¹ Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will never pass away. ³⁴ "Be careful, or your hearts will be weighed down with carousing, drunkenness and the anxieties of life, and that day will close on you suddenly like a trap. ³⁵ For it will come on all those who live on the face of the whole earth. ³⁶ Be always on the watch, and pray that you may be able to escape all that is about to happen, and that you may be able to stand before the Son of Man."

Prayer for the First Sunday in Advent:

Thank You, Lord, for salvation that bathes every day in grace; eternal life that fills each day with meaning; and heavenly hope that warms our souls in the face of every trial. Hear our prayer in the Name of Jesus who became sin for us, though He Himself knew no sin, Amen.