

Sunday –November 30, 2025 – 1st Sunday of Advent
New Series: “A Christmas Journey”



In church history, Advent was a season of quiet reflection and preparation. They knew Jesus had been born, so it was a time of anticipation of Jesus coming back again. It was a time of soul searching and reflection. Today, Advent has turned into a countdown of business to have things perfect for Christmas. In doing so, we stop watching for Jesus and can miss what He is doing.

Background:

Isaiah has several prophetic passages looking forwards to the promised Messiah who would make all things right. *Isaiah 2* begins to give a description of what the Messiah will be like and what he will do. In Matthew Jesus, knowing he is about to be crucified, is giving the disciples some clues what to look for before he comes back again.

Read *Isaiah 2:1-5, Matthew 24:36-44*. In each passage is the idea of “watching.” How would describe how the “watching” in each?

Introduction: Advent Is a Season of Watching

- Advent is not passive nostalgia—it is active _____.

How do I stay _____ in a world that wants to lull me to sleep spiritually?

Read *Isaiah 2:1-5* again. Describe the person Isaiah tells the Israelites to watch?

THE CERTAINTY OF HIS COMING — Matthew 24:36–39

How certain am I that Jesus is coming again? Do I live what I believe?

I cannot _____ the day—only _____ for it.

It’s possible to be busy with life and miss the _____ of life.

How does this apply to me? _____.

THE SUDDENNESS OF HIS COMING — Matthew 24:40–41

How can being sure of the time of Jesus’ coming change my life for the better? How could it hinder me if I knew? What would I be doing differently?

His coming will be _____ and _____.

Life will feel _____ until it doesn’t.

Advent truth: Jesus won’t come on our _____.

THE CALL TO ACTIVE WATCHFULNESS — Matthew 24:42–44

Watchfulness is not _____ but faithful _____.

I can make my heart ready by

- Holy habits: _____, _____, _____, serving.

- Kingdom attention: looking for where Jesus is already at _____.

- Living today as if He could come _____.

THE HOPE OF HIS COMING- Isaiah 2:4,5

- Advent is joyful _____, not _____.

His coming brings _____, _____, and fulfillment.

This Advent

- In preparation for Jesus’ coming, what will I change in my life this season?
- What relationships do I need to address with God? Someone else?