

## Wednesday

Read Luke 21:29-31 *The coming kingdom*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What new season do you envision when you think of God's kingdom joining with earth? How will it be?*
2. *Advent is the season of preparation and waiting. What ways will you spend the next few weeks preparing for Christ to come among us?*

**Prayer Focus** All trees are yours, Creator, a gift of grace that helps us watch for your coming, even if we don't have any idea when that will be. We will embrace this season of making our hearts and homes ready for you, and ready to share.

## Thursday

Read Luke 21:32-35 *Be prepared*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What distracts you from preparing to encounter Christ in the future, far or near?*
2. *Reflect on what you might do if you saw Jesus returning. What will you do to welcome him?*

**Prayer Focus** Change makes us anxious. We sometimes ward off anxiety by numbing or distracting ourselves. Remind us that you came as a child to set the captive free, to heal the sick, serve the poor, and offer compassion to all. Help us prepare, in our small way, by doing the same in our lives.

## Friday

Read Luke 21:36 *Watch and pray*

### Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Take time to draw closer to God for strength and hope. Tell God what you need.*
2. *In the coming weeks, what can you do that will strengthen your joy at the coming of Christ?*

**Prayer Focus** Make ready our hearts, make ready our homes. Come, Promise Keeper, and show us the signs that Hope is on the way. Be with us, Savior.

## Anticipation

**Pastor's message: Luke 21:25-36.** Our hope in Christ enriches our lives and awakens us to our calling to be the agents of change.

**Message Notes:**

## Small Group Format



### Welcome

- Introductions/getting acquainted
- Mutual Invitation question: *The Advent candle for this week is a symbol of hope. What is your greatest hope for your life, our world, or our church in the coming season?*

### Opening Prayer

### Song (optional)

### Reflection on Scripture

Have someone read: **Luke 21:25-36**

- Discuss observations about the text
  - *What word or phrase strikes you the most?*
  - *What do you think is the most important point of the text?*

*Application of Scripture (The central transformative questions)*

- What did you hear God say to you through this week's Scriptures?
- What are you doing about it?
- How can we support you?

### Share your faith (in groups of 3)

- *How have you experienced God recently in your life?* (This is a weekly question - it may be difficult to answer at first, but if you ask it each week you may start to notice God more in your life.)

### Pray for each other

### Refreshments (optional)

## ANTICIPATION November 28, 2021

### Monday

**Read Luke 21:25-26** *A warning*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *Do you see any of these signs in our world today?*
2. *Do you see signs of hope as well as danger?*

**Prayer Focus** As we see signs of your return, we reflect on those things we have left undone, Holy One—on all the fences we need to mend with others, all the ways we can still reach out and share your love. Help us be ready to face what might be coming, and especially preparing our hearts and our world for you.

### Tuesday

**Read Luke 21:27-28** *Signs of salvation*

Questions for Reflection and Application

1. *What do you see when you imagine how Christ will come again?*
2. *What does it mean for you to stand and raise your head in the midst of so much chaos?*

**Prayer Focus** Lift our eyes in hope, God of All, expecting you to come with salvation, ready to offer redemption to all who call on your name. Let us look into your face this Advent season and stand prepared to see your promises fulfilled.