

LESSON: MICAH 4.1-7

1 But in the last days it shall come to pass, *that* the mountain of the house of the LORD shall be established in the top of the mountains, and it shall be exalted above the hills; and people shall flow unto it. 2 And many nations shall come, and say, Come, and let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, and to the house of the God of Jacob; and he will teach us of his ways, and we will walk in his paths: for the law shall go forth of Zion, and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. 3 And he shall judge among many people, and rebuke strong nations afar off; and they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up a sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. 4 But they shall sit every man under his vine and under his fig tree; and none shall make *them* afraid: for the mouth of the LORD of hosts hath spoken *it*. 5 For all people will walk every one in the name of his god, and we will walk in the name of the LORD our God for ever and ever. 6 In that day, saith the LORD, will I assemble her that halteth, and I will gather her that is driven out, and her that I have afflicted; 7 And I will make her that halted a remnant, and her that was cast far off a strong nation: and the LORD shall reign over them in mount Zion from henceforth, even for ever.

EPISTLE: ROMANS 15.4-13

4 For whatsoever things were written aforetime were written for our learning, that we through patience and comfort of the scriptures might have hope. 5 Now the God of patience and consolation grant you to be likeminded one toward another according to Christ Jesus: 6 That ye may with one mind and one mouth glorify God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. 7 Wherefore receive ye one another, as Christ also received us to the glory of God. 8 Now I say that Jesus Christ was a minister of the circumcision for the truth of God, to confirm the promises made unto the fathers: 9 And that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy; as it is written, For this cause I will confess to thee among the Gentiles, and

sing unto thy name. 10 And again he saith, Rejoice, ye Gentiles, with his people. 11 And again, Praise the Lord, all ye Gentiles; and laud him, all ye people. 12 And again, Esaias saith, There shall be a root of Jesse, and he that shall rise to reign over the Gentiles; in him shall the Gentiles trust. 13 Now the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that ye may abound in hope, through the power of the Holy Ghost.

GOSPEL: LUKE 21.25-36

25 And there shall be signs in the sun, and in the moon, and in the stars; and upon the earth distress of nations, with perplexity; the sea and the waves roaring; 26 Men's hearts failing them for fear, and for looking after those things which are coming on the earth: for the powers of heaven shall be shaken. 27 And then shall they see the Son of man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. 28 And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh. 29 And he spake to them a parable; Behold the fig tree, and all the trees; 30 When they now shoot forth, ye see and know of your own selves that summer is now nigh at hand. 31 So likewise ye, when ye see these things come to pass, know ye that the kingdom of God is nigh at hand. 32 Verily I say unto you, This generation shall not pass away, till all be fulfilled. 33 Heaven and earth shall pass away: but my words shall not pass away. 34 And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day come upon you unawares. 35 For as a snare shall it come on all them that dwell on the face of the whole earth. 36 Watch ye therefore, and pray always, that ye may be accounted worthy to escape all these things that shall come to pass, and to stand before the Son of man.



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The Coming Redeemer

When these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh.

Luke 21:28

THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION, PP. 15-31

Prelude

HYMN

Confession through Creed

Introit & Collect

Lessons

Gradual

Nicene Creed

HYMN of the Week

Sermon

Offertory

Offering

We Give Thee but Thine Own # 441, vs. 1

General Prayer

*Who may commune here? Communicant members in good standing
in this and other Missouri Synod* congregations.*

Communion HYMN

70

Preface through Distribution

pp. 24-29

Post-communion

pp. 29-31

Closing DOXOLOGY

644

Postlude

Today's Usher: *Rich Pfeifer*

Today's ALTAR FLOWERS - are given to the glory of God by
Fay Thomas.

*These church bodies are in altar and pulpit fellowship with the
Missouri Synod: The Association of American Lutheran Churches, / the
Lutheran Church - Canada, / the Lutheran Synod of Mexico, / and the
Ev. Lutheran Church of Haiti.*

THIS WEEK

- Today, 9am, Sunday School
- Today, 9:15am, Bible class
- Wednesday, 10am, Bible class

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The BETHLEHEM CANDLE is lit today reminding us that Christ was born in Bethlehem as foretold by the prophets, and also to remind us that biblical prophecy is clear and specific, not vague.

Voters' meeting: Thursday December 16th at 7:30pm via Zoom.

A 2 ADVENT PRAYER

by Veit Dietrich

Lord God, heavenly Father, who by Thy Son hast revealed to us that heaven and earth shall pass away, that our bodies shall rise again, and that we all shall appear before the judgment seat: We beseech Thee, keep us by Thy Holy Spirit in Thy word; establish us in the true faith, graciously defend us from sin and preserve us in all temptations, that our hearts may not be overcharged with surfeiting and drunkenness, and cares of this life, but that we may ever watch and pray and, trusting fully in Thy grace, await with joy the glorious coming of Thy Son, and at last obtain eternal salvation, through Thy beloved Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who liveth and reigneth with Thee and the Holy Ghost, one true God, world without end. Amen.

THIS WEEK'S READINGS

- Psalms - 119 (he - kaph)
- OT - 2 Samuel 9-15
- NT - Matthew 21-27