



# THURSDAY DECEMBER 7, 2023 SCRIPTURE READING Mark 13:24-37

24 "But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light,25 and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.26 Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in clouds' with great power and glory.27 Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.28 "From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near.29 So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates.30 Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place.31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. 32 "But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father.33 Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come.34 It 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.35 Therefore, 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,36 or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly.37 And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake."

## Reflection:

- Imagine the resurrected Jesus has just walked onto the earth. What happens next?
- If God's intended dwelling is among us on earth, how will the world be righted?
- What one thing can you do this week to make sure you are prepared and awake?

## Blessing:

The Lord bless you and keep you; the Lord make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

-Numbers 6:24-26

Taken from Joy of Every Longing Heart: An Advent Devotional from the Foundry Publishing. If you would like to join us in this devotional during this season you can purchase one at the church or go online to the Foundry Publishing.