

## **\*\*Script Worship Resources - “The Day of the Lord is Coming”**

**24<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Pentecost, Year A,**

12<sup>th</sup> November, 2023

Guest Pastor - Carol Mason

**Amos 5:18-24 NSRVA / 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:13-18 NSRVA**

### **Prelude**

**Worship Song** (Lyric Video) [\*\*Waking Up\*\*](#) We the Kingdom  
YouTube Video

### **Welcome**

### **Pass the Peace**

**Opening Hymn: *Christ is Our Cornerstone* 43**

### **Call to Worship:**

This is the house of God. Preparations have been made here for your coming. It is uncluttered because someone has prepared it for worship. But this building is not the only temple where God abides. God dwells in the heart even more than here in this sanctuary. So it is up to each of us, as a custodian of the soul, quickly and quietly to make ready for the divine presence. Let us put aside all that is unnecessary for these moments....and wait on the Lord.

### **Invocation:**

Let us pray: Come, God! Call my name! Draw me into your presence, into your loving embrace. Teach me to praise you as all the sounds of creation praise you. Let me join the mighty chorus that sings your love.  
Come, God! Call my name! And I will celebrate your presence. Amen.

## **Old Testament Reading: Amos 5:18-24 NRSVA**

Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD! Why do you want the day of the LORD? It is darkness, not light;

as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake.

Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

Even though you offer me your burnt-offerings and grain-offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon.

Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

## **A Time of Prayer**

### **Sharing Joys and Concerns**

#### **Pastoral Prayer:**

O God, pastor and people come together in worship. We stand on level ground before you, You are the sculptor of your kingdom and the shaper of our souls. We desire that human and divine love may be so blended that one cannot be recognized from the other. We bow before you in gratitude; for surprise moments of our lives that are rewarding; for experiences that are overwhelming, yet fascinating; for journeys that are made in safety. We come, our God, as believers, sojourners and pilgrims. We refuse to let happenings of life estrange us from you. We implore your goodness upon your body of believers. Teach us this day ,heal us this hour, inspire us this moment to be your voice in the world, for the now, for tomorrows and for times of trial. Let us live such lives that even now we will find reasons to rejoice and be exceedingly glad, as pastor and people serve you in love. In Jesus' name. Amen.

## **Hymn**

### ***Softly and Tenderly Jesus is Calling***

**491**

## **New Testament Reading: 1<sup>st</sup> Thessalonians 4:13-18 NRSVA**

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.

For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died.

For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died.

For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord for ever.

Therefore encourage one another with these words.

**Message:** *The Day of the Lord is Coming*      *Guest Preacher Carol Mason*

### **Call to Serve**

The willingness to give is a sign of life. The fruit tree gives of its fruit, and we know it is alive. When it refuses to give, we know real life has gone out of it. The heart that hoards the blessings of God is no longer alive with spiritual power. To give is to live. Amen.

### **A Time for Reflection**

#### **Prayer of Thanksgiving:**

Creator God, In our world, money is power. In your world, power comes through love. Instill our offerings with the power of your world transforming all into loving acts of justice and truth. Amen.

**Hymn:**            *God Is Here Among Us*    **16**

### **Benediction**

Go in peace. And may the Holy God surprise you on the way. Christ Jesus be your company, and the Spirit lift up your life. Amen.

### **Postlude**