Sermon Notes

December 1, 2019

First Sunday in Advent

Readings for this year (Year C) are focused on the end times. Jesus says we will be caught off guard if we are not careful. Two will be working and one will be left. Saint Paul says the time is short. So, should we live in fear and anxiety about the coming of Jesus?

I don’t think so. Mostly because Jesus is already here, we should always live as if Jesus were coming again in the next moment. We should keep awake and aware of God’s purposes and plan for us.

Saint Paul reminds us of how we should live…laying aside the works of darkness and doing what is honorable.

Isaiah reminds us of where we should be…in the house of the Lord. We should be receiving good instruction about how to live. If we keep good company God will use us to bring about the peaceable kingdom that we learned about last week.

The psalmist invites us to Jerusalem (the center of God’s will and security).

* To give thanks
* To pray for the peace of Jerusalem…God’s kingdom
* For ourselves and our relative and friends

So what should we do? Like Alfred E. Newman we should say, “What, me worry?” And have the hope of Jesus coming in victory to find us centered in God’s will and living as those who have the knowledge and surety of a peace that passes the world’s understanding.

With Isaiah we should be on our way and invite all to ascend to the mountain of God.