



Day Twenty-Seven

Awakening to God's Presence

Jesus will come again.
He has instructed us,
“Watch, because you do not know
when your Lord will return.”
We watch and wait
because Jesus will return.
He has promised this.
The one who created us,
brought us to birth,
gave us reason and freedom
will come again.
We need to use our time well
to prepare ourselves as best we can.
Jesus will return as Lord of all,
to examine what we have done
and to decide our future.
We need to think seriously about this.
God's mercy is wide open to us;
grace is extended to us.
Will we accept these gifts?
Can we spend too much time
preparing for the coming of our Lord?
Jesus will return certainly,
but we know neither the year, day, nor hour.
We do not know
how much time remains to us.
What do we have to do to be ready?
How can we use grace well?
“Watch and keep yourselves prepared.”
Jesus himself advised us to do this
so we would not be caught napping.

Living by God's Grace

Think often of the coming of Jesus.

Acknowledging God's Gifts

May this night's rest
inspire and renew my faith,
and make me alert to my hope
that Jesus will come again.
The hours of this day are slipping away.
May they stand as a vigil,
a remembrance of my attentiveness to you.
Let my actions be acceptable to you,
and reflect my desire for you.
For tomorrow, give me confidence.
Help me to prepare myself for a holy life.
Let me be unafraid of my way of life
before the justice and mercy of God.
Since I cannot know the hour,
give me the grace to watch.
I want to be with you, Lord, in time and eternity.
For this day, thank you.
Bless this night.
May tomorrow be a fresh beginning.

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