

St Luke's Anglican Church & Golden Grove

Sermon: "Living Watchfully and Faithfully"

By: Rev. Samuel Mori Yengi

Date: Thursday 28 Aug 2025 Eucharist.

Matthew 24:42–51

Beloved in Christ, grace and peace to you this morning.

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus speaks with urgency: "*Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.*" His words remind us that the life of faith is not one of drifting or complacency, but of constant readiness, of living each day as if it were the day of the Lord's return.

Jesus gives us a picture two servants entrusted with responsibility while their master is away. One is faithful, attending to his duties, feeding others in due season. The other grows careless, imagining that the master's return will be delayed, and he misuses his freedom, becoming harsh, self-indulgent, and unprepared.

This parable is not meant to frighten us, but to awaken us. The truth is, none of us knows the hour or the moment of Christ's coming whether in the final consummation of history, or in the simple, quiet ways He enters our lives daily. The call is the same: to be ready.

But what does readiness look like?

1. **Watchfulness** – Staying spiritually awake. This does not mean living anxiously, always looking over our shoulders. Rather, it is about cultivating awareness of God's presence in our ordinary moments: in prayer, in Scripture, in the breaking of bread, and in the neighbour before us.
2. **Faithfulness** – Like the good servant, we are entrusted with responsibilities our families, our communities, our vocations, even this Eucharist we share today. Readiness is found in being faithful to these tasks, however small, done in love and obedience to Christ.
3. **Hopeful Living** – To wait for Christ is not to wait in fear, but in hope. His coming is not to condemn but to complete, to make all things new. Our watchfulness is therefore rooted in trust and anticipation of His mercy.

So, as we gather at the Lord's Table today, let us remember here, in the Eucharist, Christ already comes to us. His presence is real, His grace is offered, His life shared with us. The very meal we celebrate trains us to live watchfully, to be strengthened for faithful service, and to wait with hope.

Let us therefore not be like the servant who forgets his master, but like the one who stays true in love, ready to be found doing what is right when Christ appears.

And may we, at His coming whether at the end of time or at the end of our days be greeted with those blessed words: *“Well done, good and faithful servant. Enter into the joy of your Lord.”* Amen.

Prayer

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, You call us to be watchful and faithful,
to serve You with love in the responsibilities entrusted to us.
Strengthen us by Your Word and by this holy meal,
that we may live in hope, ready for Your coming,
and be found as faithful servants in Your kingdom.
Through You, who live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and forever. Amen.

Blessing

And now, may Christ our Lord find us faithful and ready,
may His Spirit keep us watchful in love,
and may the blessing of God Almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be with us and remain with us always. Amen.

Reflection:

1. **Daily Readiness:**
“What does being spiritually ‘awake’ look like in your daily routine at home, work, or in quiet moments?”
2. **Faithful Service:**
“Jesus speaks of the faithful servant caring for others. Who are the people God is inviting you to care for more intentionally right now?”
3. **Hopeful Waiting:**
“When you think about Christ’s coming whether in the future or in your daily life what gives you hope rather than fear?”