PPT "Jesus Our Hope" Sunday, December 2, 2018 Dr. Janet Cook, Senior Pastor ©2018 Praysers Ministries, Inc. dba River of Life Community Church

Note: unless otherwise indicated, all Scriptures are taken from the NKJV.

This morning as we celebrate the first Sunday in the advent season, as we light this purple candle symbolizing Jesus Christ our Hope, let us all look forward to this Christmas Season mindful of the truth that Christ is our Hope.

1. People need hope during times of darkness. That hope is Christ. He will never leave us alone.

Isaiah 60:1-3 "Arise, shine; For your light has come! And the glory of the Lord is risen upon you. For behold, the darkness shall cover the earth, and deep darkness the people; But the Lord will arise over you, And His glory will be seen upon you. The Gentiles shall come to your light, And kings to the brightness of your rising."

Psalm 23:1 "The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want."
Psalm 23:4-5 "Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
I will fear no evil; For You are with me; Your rod and Your staff, they comfort me."

2. Throughout his ministry Jesus Christ, brought hope wherever he traveled. In Matthew 8.

Jesus cleansed the leper - Matthew 8:3 "Then Jesus put out His hand and touched him, saying, 'I am willing; be cleansed.' Immediately his leprosy was cleansed."

Jesus healed the Centurion's servant - Matthew 8:5-7 "Now when Jesus had entered Capernaum, a centurion came to Him, pleading with Him, saying, 'Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, dreadfully tormented.' And Jesus said to him, 'I will come and heal him.'"

Jesus healed Peter's Mother in law – Matthew 8:14-15 "Now when Jesus had come into Peter's house, He saw his wife's mother lying sick with a fever. So, He touched her hand, and the fever left her. And she arose and served them."

Jesus healed many who were demon possessed – Matthew 8:16-17 "When evening had come, they brought to Him many who were demon-possessed. And He cast out the spirits with a word, and healed all who were sick, that it might be fulfilled which was spoken by Isaiah the prophet, saying: 'He Himself took our infirmities and bore our sicknesses.'"

Jesus spoke to the storm – Matthew 8:26-27 "But He said to them, 'Why are you fearful, O you of little faith?' Then He arose and rebuked the winds and the sea, and there was a great calm. So, the men marveled, saying, 'Who can this be, that even the winds and the sea obey Him?'"

Jesus commanded the demons to come out of two men – Matthew 8:28-29 "When He had come to the other side, to the country of the Gergesenes, there met Him two demonpossessed men, coming out of the tombs, exceedingly fierce, so that no one could pass that way. And suddenly they cried out, saying, 'What have we to do with You, Jesus, You Son of God? Have You come here to torment us before the time?""

Matthew 8:32-33 "And He said to them, 'Go.' So, when they had come out, they went into the herd of swine. And suddenly the whole herd of swine ran violently down the steep place into the sea and perished in the water. Then those who kept them fled; and they went away into the city and told everything, including what had happened to the demon-possessed men."

3. Jesus is our Blessed Hope (Titus 2:13). We know that Jesus Christ is coming again.

Titus 2:11-14 "For the grace of God that brings salvation has appeared to all men, teaching us that, denying ungodliness and worldly lusts, we should live soberly, righteously, and godly in the present age, looking for the blessed hope and glorious appearing of our great God and Savior Jesus Christ, who gave Himself for us, that He might redeem us from every lawless deed and purify for Himself His own special people, zealous for good works."

4. Will you acknowledge Jesus Christ as your hope this morning?

Romans 5:5-9 "Now hope does not disappoint, because the love of God has been poured out in our hearts by the Holy Spirit who was given to us. For when we were still without strength, in due time Christ died for the ungodly. For scarcely for a righteous man will one die; yet perhaps for a good man someone would even dare to die. But God demonstrates His own love toward us, in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Much more then, having now been justified by His blood, we shall be saved from wrath through Him."

1Corinthians 13:13 "And now abide faith, hope, love, these three; but the greatest of these is love."