## The Lutheran Church of the Savior

**A Community of Faith:** Centered in Christ – Called to Serve



# Order of Worship

November 22, 2020 9:45 AM

## Last Sunday of the Church Year

#### Welcome

## Opening Hymn



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#### Invocation

- lacksquare In the name of the Father and of the lacksquare Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- Amen.

#### Confession and Absolution

- L If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- **G** Amen.

#### Service of the Word

**Psalm** Psalm 95:1–7a

Spoken in unison

<sup>1</sup>Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

<sup>2</sup>Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

<sup>3</sup>For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods.

<sup>4</sup>In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also.

<sup>5</sup>The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land.

<sup>6</sup>Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! <sup>7</sup>For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Kyrie LSB 152

- **L** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **L** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **L** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **L** For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- L Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- G Amen.

## Hymn of Praise

#### This Is the Feast

Al-le - lu

ia,

LSB 155

Brief introduction



al - le - lu - ia,

continued on next page

ia.

al - le - lu



## Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **L** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- **L** Let us pray.

Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

<sup>11</sup>"For thus says the Lord GoD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GoD.

<sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice."

<sup>20"</sup>Therefore, thus says the Lord GoD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup>Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, <sup>22</sup>I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. <sup>23</sup>And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## **Epistle**

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

<sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup>For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup>For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. <sup>23</sup>But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup>Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup>For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be

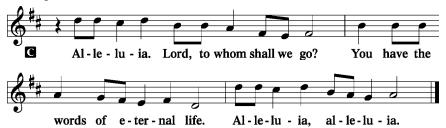
destroyed is death. <sup>27</sup>For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. <sup>28</sup>When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

#### **Alleluia and Verse**

LSB 156

Brief organ introduction



## **Holy Gospel**

Matthew 25:31-46

- The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus said:] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup>Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup>And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. <sup>35</sup>For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? <sup>38</sup>And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you?

<sup>39</sup>And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' <sup>40</sup>And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

<sup>41</sup>"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup>For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' <sup>44</sup>Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' <sup>45</sup>Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

- **L** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You. O Christ.

#### **Apostles' Creed**

LSB 159

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life 

everlasting. Amen.

## Sermon Hymn



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#### Sermon



#### **Prayer of the Church**

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Response after each petition

- L Let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- Lord God, heavenly Father, we here remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Praising His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His Kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

Lord's Prayer LSB 162

Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction LSB 166

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and 

→ give you peace.

**G** Amen.

## Closing Hymn



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#### **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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## Resources for Meditation this Week

#### LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

22 November 2020

#### Readings

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24 1 Corinthians 15:20–28 Matthew 25:31–46

## By the Cross of Christ, We Enter the Kingdom of Our God and Father

When the crucified and risen Lord Jesus comes to judge the living and the dead, "he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats" (Matt. 25:32). "To those on his right," who have been crucified and raised with Him through repentance and faith in His Gospel, He will grant the blessed kingdom of His Father (Matt. 25:34). Having been justified by His grace, they live unto righteousness in Him (Matt. 25:35-40). But "those on his left," who trust in themselves and despise their neighbor, will depart "into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels" (Matt. 25:41). Until that day, the Lord searches for His sheep "as a shepherd seeks out his flock" (Ezek. 34:11–12). Through His preaching of repentance, He disciplines the proud sheep and goats, "the fat and the strong," but through the preaching of forgiveness He rescues the lost, binds up the injured, strengthens the weak and feeds "the lean sheep" (Ezek. 34:16, 20). In this way, He destroys the power of death in the children of Adam by His cross, so that "in Christ shall all be made alive" by His resurrection (1 Cor. 15:20–26).



#### FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

## Readings

Isaiah 64:1–9 1 Corinthians 1:3–9 Mark 11:1–10 or Mark 13:24–37

### The Lord Jesus Comes in Meekness and Humility to Save Us

Although we pray that God "would rend the heavens and come down" (Is. 64:1), that He would take vengeance against our enemies, we ourselves "have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment" (Is. 64:6). We have continued in our sins for "a long time, and shall we be saved?" (Is. 64:5). Yet, the Lord does not punish us in anger. He comes in voluntary meekness and humility to save us by His grace. Just as He once came into Jerusalem to sacrifice Himself for us upon the cross (Mark 11:4–8), He still comes to His Church with the fruits of His Passion. By His ministry of the Gospel, we are "enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge," and so He will "sustain you to the end" (1 Cor. 1:5, 8). Although "heaven and earth will pass away," His words "will not pass away" (Mark 13:31). As He sends disciples to call us to Himself in the fellowship of His Church, so will He "send out the angels" to gather us and all of His elect "from the ends of the earth" to Himself in heaven forever (Mark 13:27).

