

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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Last Sunday of the Church Year

✠ SUNDAY OF THE TEN VIRGINS ✠

November 20, 2022

BY FAITH WE ARE PREPARED FOR CHRIST'S RETURN

"The day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night" (1 Thess. 5:1-11). The arrival of the bridegroom will be sudden and unexpected. Therefore you are to be watchful and ready like the five wise virgins. "For you know neither the day nor the hour" when the Son of Man is to return. (Mt 25:1-13). The lamps are the Word of Christ. The oil in the lamps is the Holy Spirit, who works through the Word to create and sustain the flame of faith in Christ. The foolish are those who do not give proper attention to the working of the Holy Spirit in baptism, preaching, and the supper, and so their faith does not endure. The wise, however, are those who diligently attend to these gifts of the Spirit, and who therefore have an abundance of oil. The flame of faith endures to the end. By God's grace they are received into the eternal wedding feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, the new heavens and the new earth created by the Lord for the joy of His people (Is. 65:17-25).

COMMUNING AT THIS ALTAR

GUESTS WISHING TO JOIN OUR CONFESSION AND RECEIVE THIS HOLY SACRAMENT ARE ASKED TO MEET WITH THE PASTOR BEFORE COMMUNING FOR THE FIRST TIME.

The Lord's Supper is joyfully received here today and every Lord's Day! At the altar, our Lord Jesus Christ delivers His true body and blood into our mouths. His gift of body and blood, given in, with, and under the bread and wine, bestows tremendous benefits. His body and blood forgives our sins, strengthens our faith, binds us to the Lord, and unites us with each other. In this sacred meal and salvation are given to us.

All members of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod have publicly confessed this sacred gift and its blessings, and so are encouraged to commune.

Every pastor and congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod has publicly promised to practice closed communion, where all who come to the Altar bear witness to their oneness in the apostolic doctrine and faith (Acts 2:42). All this is done for the benefit and blessing of the Lord's people. Because we consider communing at this altar a public declaration of fellowship in what our church believes, teaches, and confesses, we ask that guests speak with the Pastor first.

When you have examined yourself according to Christ's bidding (1 Cor 11:28), come to His Supper rejoicing, just as Jesus asks, knowing that our Lord meets you at His altar with joy. Those coming to the altar for a blessing rather than the Holy Supper are asked to cross their arms over their chest.

As you commune, select either the individual cup or the common chalice.

Communicants who cannot easily come to the altar will be communed in the pew.

Please notify an usher or the Pastor beforehand if you need such assistance.

To help prepare yourself to receive the Lord's Body and Blood you may read "[Christian Questions with Their Answers](#)" found on pages 329 and 330 of the hymnal.



✠ THE DIVINE SERVICE ✠

Setting Three, Lutheran Service Book, p.184

HYMN OF INVOCATION ~ We Praise You And Acknowledge You, O God

941

△Please stand and face the cross as it enters.

✠ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION ✠

INVOCATION

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the Name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

INTROIT

Ps. 39:4-5, 7- 8; antiphon: Is. 35:10



P The ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with | singing;*
everlasting joy shall be up- | on their heads.

C They shall obtain glad- | ness and joy,*
and sorrow and sighing shall | flee away.

P O Lord, make me know my end and what is the measure | of my days;*
let me know how fleeting | I am!

C Behold, You have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing
be- | fore You.*

Surely all mankind stands as a | mere breath!

- P** And now, O Lord, for what | do I wait?*
- My hope | is in You.
- C** Deliver me from all my trans- | gressions.*
- Do not make me the scorn | of the fool!
- C** *Glory be to the Father and | to the Son**
and to the Holy | Spirit;
 as it was in the be- | ginning,*
 is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

**You may bow your head at this point
 in praise of the Name of the Holy Trinity*

- P** The ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with | singing;*
- everlasting joy shall be up- | on their heads.
- C** They shall obtain glad- | ness and joy,*
 and sorrow and sighing shall | flee away.

KYRIE ~ Lord, Have Mercy

Mark 10:47

C Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -
 on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ~ Glory to God in the Highest

Lk 2:14; Jn 1:29

P Glory be to God on high: **C** and on earth peace, good - will toward
 men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee,
 we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
 O Lord God, heav'n-ly King, God the Fa-ther Al - mighty.
 O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up-on us.
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re-ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

G And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son, we pray, to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

G A - men.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 65:17-25

¹⁷For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. ¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. ¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress. ²⁰No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed. ²¹They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. ²²They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. ²³They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the LORD, and their descendants with them. ²⁴Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear. ²⁵The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain," says the LORD.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

GRADUAL

Ps. 45:14-15

- A** In many-colored robes [the king's daughter] is led | to the king,*
with her virgin companions following be- | hind her.
- C** With joy and gladness they are | led along*
as they enter the palace | of the king.

EPISTLE READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

- P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Stand

ALLELUIA



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

P I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heav- | en from God,*
prepared as a bride adorned for her | husband.



C Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia. Al-le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 25:1-13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.



C Glo - ry be to Thee, O Lord.

¹"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.'

⁹But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' ¹⁰And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut.

¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹²But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Stand

OFFERTORY

Psalms 51:10-12

C Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

Sit

OFFERING

*The offering is a joyful response of faith. It should be free, generous, and offered with thanksgiving to God.
 The offering today goes toward the work and mission of the Church.
 Guests, especially, should not feel obliged to give.*

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

After each petition respond: "Hear our prayer."

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

C And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

Colossians 3:1

C We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

Psalms 136

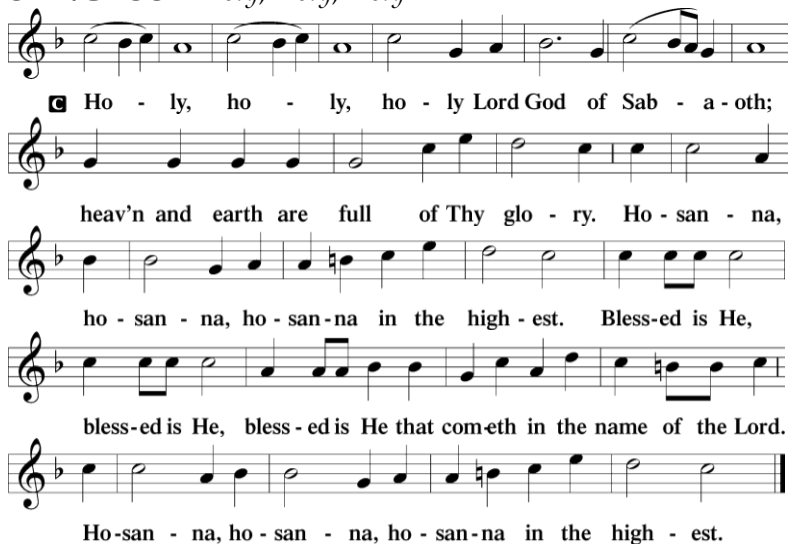
C It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to

You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

**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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Mt 26:26-28; Mk 14:22-24; Lk 22:19-20; 1 Cor 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



A - men.

AGNUS DEI ~ Lamb of God

John 1:29



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



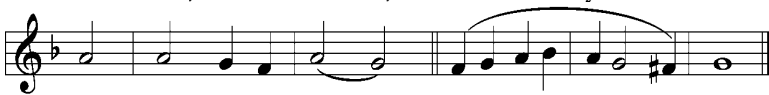
world, have mer-cy up-on us. **O** Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that



tak-est a-way the sin of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.



O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that tak-est a-way the sin of the



world, grant us Thy peace. **A** - men.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

Please take a moment and read 'COMMUNING AT THIS ALTAR' in the front cover of the bulletin. Guests are invited to please speak with the Pastor before communing for the first time.

Prayer Before Reception of Holy Communion

O Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof; but speak only Your Word, and my soul will be healed. I will take the Bread of Heaven and call upon the Name of the Lord. What shall I give to the Lord for all that He has given to me? I will take the Cup of Salvation and call upon the Name of the Lord. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS ~

<i>Children Of The Heavenly Father</i>	725
<i>Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers</i>	515
<i>Rise My Soul To Watch And Pray</i>	663
<i>All Christians Who Have Been Baptized</i>	596

Prayer After Reception of Holy Communion

I live, and yet not I, but Christ lives in me. What we have received with our mouths, O Lord, let us keep with faithful hearts, that this Gift given us in earthly time may bring us to eternal salvation. Amen.

Additional prayers to prepare for receiving the Sacrament are found in the front cover of the hymnal.

NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon

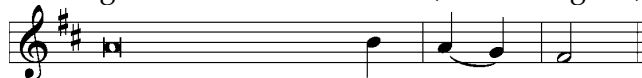
Luke 2:29-32



C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world without end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,



C and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

A Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

SALUTATION and BENEDICAMUS

P The Lord be with you.



C And with thy spir - it.

A Bless we the Lord.



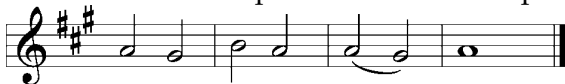
C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.



C A-men, a-men, a - men.

△ Please remain standing and face the cross in reverence as it processes out.

CLOSING HYMN ~ *The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us*

514

