

St. John Lutheran Church

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# November 26, 2023

# Welcome

to St. John Lutheran Church and our Traditional Worship Service. We are so glad you have chosen to join us today and we pray your time with us will fill you with the love our Lord has for you.

> May God bless your worship with us today, Paul Kruse, Pastor

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Compelled by the Love of Christ to Live, Learn, Share, and Serve' *Our Vision is to inspire the vibrant experience of Christian faith in our community, to all generations, wherever they may be'* 

# Last Sunday of the Church Year Prelude Sharing of the Peace and Welcome

**Divine Service Three** (pp 184ff) A Time of Preparation

### **Opening Song**

#### "Hail, Thou Once Despised Jesus" LSB 531

Hail, Thou once despisèd Jesus! Hail, Thou Galilean King!
Thou didst suffer to release us;
Thou didst free salvation bring. Hail, Thou universal Savior,
Bearer of our sin and shame! By Thy merit we find favor:
Life is given through Thy name.

Paschal Lamb, by God appointed, All our sins on Thee were laid; By almighty love anointed, Thou hast full atonement made. All Thy people are forgiven Through the virtue of Thy blood; Opened is the gate of heaven, Reconciled are we with God.

Jesus, hail! Enthroned in glory, There forever to abide; All the heav'nly hosts adore Thee, Seated at Thy Father's side. There for sinners Thou art pleading; There Thou dost our place prepare, Ever for us interceding Till in glory we appear. Worship, honor, pow'r, and blessing Thou art worthy to receive; Highest praises, without ceasing, Right it is for us to give. Help, ye bright angelic spirits, All your noblest anthems raise; Help to sing our Savior's merits, Help to chant Immanuel's praise!

Text (sts. 1, 3–4): Hymns Addressed to the Holy, Holy, Holy, Triune God, 1757, London, alt.; (sts. 2–4): A Collection of Psalms and Hymns, 1760, London, alt. Text: Public domain

# Invocation

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

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

# **Confession and Forgiveness**

- 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,
- **G** who made heaven and earth.
- P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- **G** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

- Almighty God, our maker and redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against You by thought, word, and deed. Wherefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- O most merciful God, who has given Your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You and of Your will and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

- Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son to die for us and for His sake forgives us all our sins. To those who believe on His name He gives power to become the children of God and has promised them His Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved. Grant this, Lord, unto us all. С Amen.
  - Service of the Word
- In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a P new earth,
- the home of righteousness. С
- O Lord, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; **P**
- let me know how fleeting I am! С
- P Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,
- С and my lifetime is as nothing before you.
- **P** And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?
- С My hope is in you

P

- Deliver me from all my transgressions. **P**
- Do not make me the scorn of the fool! С
- P Hear my prayer, O Lord, and give ear to my cry; hold not your peace at my tears
- For I am a sojourner with you, a guest, like all my fathers. С

#### Glory be to the Father (Sung)

- Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was С in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
- Lord, Have Mercy (Sung)
  - **C** Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

#### **Song of Praise** (Sung)

- Glory be to God on High, [**P**]
- С and on earth peace, goodwill toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy

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upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us. For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord. Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

# Prayer of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **G** And with thy spirit.
- **P** Let us pray together...
- 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. Amen

# **First Reading**

#### Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

<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.<sup>1</sup> 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. This is the Word of the Lord.

#### **G** Thanks be to God.

#### Second Reading

1 Corinthians 5:20-28

<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 in subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** Thanks be to God.

Alleluia (Sung)

G Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

# **Gospel Reading**

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifthchapter.



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Matthew 25:31-46

<sup>31</sup> "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 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,<sup>[a]</sup> 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."



### **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.
 And in Josus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived.

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.

#### **Children's Message**

Message Song	"Dear Christians One and All Rejoice" LSB 556, vs 1-4 & 10
	Dear Christians, one and all, rejoice, With exultation springing, And with united heart and voice And holy rapture singing, Proclaim the wonders God has done, How His right arm the vict'ry won. What price our ransom cost Him!
	Fast bound in Satan's chains I lay; Death brooded darkly o'er me. Sin was my torment night and day; In sin my mother bore me. But daily deeper still I fell; My life became a living hell, So firmly sin possessed me.
	My own good works all came to naught, No grace or merit gaining; Free will against God's judgment fought, Dead to all good remaining. My fears increased till sheer despair Left only death to be my share; The pangs of hell I suffered.
	But God had seen my wretched state Before the world's foundation,

And mindful of His mercies great, He planned for my salvation.He turned to me a father's heart; He did not choose the easy part But gave His dearest treasure.

"What I on earth have done and taught Guide all your life and teaching; So shall the kingdom's work be wrought And honored in your preaching. But watch lest foes with base alloy The heav'nly treasure should destroy; This final word I leave you." Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt. Text: Public domain

# Message

# "What Part Don't You Understand"

# Offering

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# Offering Song - Sung

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

# **Prayer of the Church**

### Lord's Prayer

- **P** 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.



you

LSB 196

# Blessing

P 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.

**Closing Song** 

#### "The Lord My God Be Praised" LSB 794

The Lord, my God, be praised, My light, my life from heaven; My maker, who to me Has soul and body given; My Father, who will shield And keep me day by day And make each moment yield New blessings on my way.

The Lord, my God, be praised, My trust, my life from heaven, The Father's own dear Son, Whose life for me was given, Who for my sin atoned With His most precious blood And gives to me by faith The highest heav'nly good.

The Lord, my God, be praised, My hope, my life from heaven, The Spirit, whom the Son In love to me has given. His grace revives my heart And gives my spirit pow'r, Help, comfort, and support In sorrow's gloomy hour. The Lord, my God, be praised, My God, the ever-living, To whom the heav'nly host Their laud and praise are giving. The Lord, my God, be praised, In whose great name I boast, God Father, God the Son, And God the Holy Ghost. Text: tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.; Johann Olearius, 1611–84 Text: Public domain

#### Acknowledgments

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