



Blessed Redeemer Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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Last Sunday of the Church Year November 22th, 2020



HOLY COMMUNION IS CELEBRATED AT OUR 10:30AM SERVICE

Oneness at communion presupposes oneness in doctrine. For this reason we practice close communion, and ask guests desiring to commune to speak with the pastor before the service. To those communicants with dietary needs we offer gluten free wafers.

AS WE GATHER

Today is the Last Sunday of the Church Year. This Sunday is traditionally filled with themes of Christ's roles as King and Judge. But consider these words from Psalm 95: "We are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand." We are God's chosen sheep. He is our Shepherd. We follow Him as He goes to seek the lost, bring back the stray, and bind up the injured.

DIVINE SERVICE FOUR

WORDS OF WELCOME

Elder of the Day

OPENING HYMN

"Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying"

LSB 516

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 95:1-3a, 6-7*

Pastor: Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;

People: **let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

Pastor: Let us come into His Presence with thanksgiving!

People: **For the Lord is a great God.**

Pastor: Oh come, let us worship and bow down.

People: **For He is our God,**

Pastor: and we are the people of His pasture,

People: **and the sheep of His hand.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Indeed, our heavenly Father has called us to be His people. He has led us to green pastures and still waters. Yet, there have been times when we have treated our fellow sheep with disdain, when we have wandered away from our Shepherd. But our Good Shepherd does not abandon us, and we confess our sins before Him and one another.

Silence for reflection

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

People: we confess that we have wandered away from You. We confess that we have acted shamefully toward our brothers and sisters in Christ. We have sinned in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have failed by our inactivity. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, O Lord, that we might follow You to the green pastures and still waters of everlasting life.

Pastor: Our heavenly Father has heard Your confession and sent His only Son, Jesus, to be our Good Shepherd. Jesus searches for each one of His sheep. He brings back those who have strayed. He binds up the injured. He even lays down His life for the sheep. By Christ's death and resurrection, God forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☐ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen. We are sought by our Shepherd. We are forgiven in Christ.

IN EXCELSIS

“Glory to God in the Highest”

LSB page 204

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

✠ READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE ✠

FIRST READING

¹¹ “For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. ¹² As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. ¹⁴ I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing

land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. ¹⁶ I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

²⁰ “Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says to them: See, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

PSALM ~ Read Responsively

Psalm 95:1-7

Leader: Come let us sing for joy to the Lord;

People: let us shout aloud to the Rock of our salvation.

Leader: Let us come before him with thanksgiving

People: and extol him with music and song

Leader: For the Lord is the great God,

People: The great King above all gods.

Leader: In his hands are the depths of the earth,

People: and the mountain peaks belong to him.

Leader: The sea is his, for he made it,

People: and his hands formed the dry land.

Leader: Come, let us bow down in worship,

People: let us kneel before the Lord our Maker

Leader: for he is our God and we are the people of his pasture,

People: the flock under his care.

All: 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.

EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 15: 20-28

²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead

sheep. ²¹ Because you shove with flank and shoulder, butting all the weak sheep with your horns until you have driven them away, ²² I will save my flock, and they will no longer be plundered. I will judge between one sheep and another. ²³ I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd. ²⁴ I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the LORD have spoken.

belong to him. ²⁴ Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷ For he “has put everything under his feet.”^[c] Now when it

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

ALLELUIA & VERSE

LSB page 205

Leader: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 13th chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

GOSPEL READING

³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

³⁴ “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

³⁷ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and

says that “everything” has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. ²⁸ When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

Matthew 25: 31-46

feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

⁴⁰ “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

⁴¹ “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’

⁴⁴ “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

⁴⁵ “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

⁴⁶ “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

Leader: This is the Gospel of the Lord

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Jerusalem the Golden”

LSB 672

SERMON

“The Death of the Funeral”

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

CREED

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Dear heavenly Father, You promise to seek the lost. We pray for all those who have wandered away from Your Church.

People: **We pray that You would strengthen us to reach out to them, to receive them with open arms and open hearts when they return home.**

Pastor: Lord, You promise to strengthen the weak. Send Your strength and courage to all those who need it, to the aging, the lonely, the tired, and the vulnerable.

People: **Protect and defend them from the wolves of this world.**

Pastor: Lord, You promise to feed Your sheep with good pasture.

People: **Raise up faithful servants and shepherds to share the nourishment of Your Word and Sacraments with all Your sheep.**

Pastor: Lord, You promise to rescue Your flock from all enemies.

People: **Guard and keep us from the enemies of sin, death, and Satan. Lead us away from temptation and always closer to the arms of our Good Shepherd.**

Pastor: Lord, You promise to bind up the injured. Bring Your healing to all those who suffer now through injury, illness, and oppression, [*especially . . .*]. Heal them according to Your good and gracious will. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

People: **Give ear to our cry.**

Pastor: (*Special petitions that end in “Lord in Your mercy”*).

People: **Hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord, by Your Word You have told us that the last enemy to be destroyed is death. As we await the return of Jesus and the resurrection of the dead, we still grieve and mourn when the enemy of death strikes our friends and family.

People: Be near all those who are mourning the death of loved ones. Comfort them with the hope of the resurrection to eternal life.

Pastor: Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

People: Amen.

OFFERING

✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE LSB page 208

SANCTUS LSB page 208

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING LSB page 209

LORD'S PRAYER

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD & PAX DOMINI LSB page 209

AGNUS DEI LSB page 210

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS:

HYMN *"Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus"* CCS 54
By Helen Lemmel

Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of the earth will grow strangely dim
In the light of His glory and grace. (*Sung three times*).

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HYMN *"Jesus Loves me Alleluia"* CCS 66

1. Jesus loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so;
Little ones to Him belong; they are weak but He is strong.

CHORUS Alleluia, Allelu. Alleluia, Allelu-u
Alleluia, Allelu. Alleluia, Allelu-u-ia

2. Jesus loves me, He who died, heaven's gate to open wide;
He will wash away my sin, let His little child come in. *Chorus*
3. God so loved the world, He gave His only Son the lost to save;
That whosoever in Him believes, eternal life from Him receives. *Chorus*

4. Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found, once was blind but now I see. **Chorus**
5. Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. **Chorus**

HYMN	<i>“The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us”</i>	LSB 514(Tune LSB 644)
NUNC DIMITIS		LSB page 211
POST COMMUNION COLLECT		LSB page 212
BENEDICTION		LSB page 212
CLOSING HYMN	<i>“We Sing for all the Unsung Saints”</i>	LSB 678

OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

OUR WORSHIP ASSISTANTS

5:30PM SATURDAY

9:00AM SUNDAY

Thom Miller

Elder

Lynette Wedeking

Organist

Rick Melius

Elder

Sarah Peterson

Organist

Mike Beyer

Congregational Chairman

Rick Melius

Head Elder

