

# Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 22, 2020

## DIVINE SERVICE – Setting Three

### OPENING HYMN – “The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us”

LSB 514

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| 1 | The Bridegroom soon will call us,<br>“Come to the wedding feast.”<br>May slumber not befall us<br>Nor watchfulness decrease.<br>May all our lamps be burning<br>With oil enough and more<br>That we, with Him returning,<br>May find an open door! | 3 | There God shall from all evil<br>Forever make us free,<br>From sin and from the devil,<br>From all adversity,<br>From sickness, pain, and sadness,<br>From troubles, cares, and fears,<br>And grant us heav’nly gladness<br>And wipe away our tears. |
| 2 | There shall we see in glory<br>Our dear Redeemer’s face;<br>The long-awaited story<br>Of heav’nly joy takes place:<br>The patriarchs shall meet us,<br>The prophets’ holy band;<br>Apostles, martyrs greet us<br>In that celestial land.           | 4 | In that fair home shall never<br>Be silent music’s voice;<br>With hearts and lips forever<br>We shall in God rejoice,<br>While angel hosts are raising<br>With saints from great to least<br>A mighty hymn for praising<br>The Giver of the feast.   |

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

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

**[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

Sung responsively – Cantor: Regular print; Congregation: Bold print



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

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

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

**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!  
And now, O Lord, for what | do I wait?\***

My hope | is in you.

**Deliver me from all my trans- | gressions.\*  
Do not make me the scorn | of the fool!**

### Gloria Patri

- [C]** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

### Kyrie

- [C]** Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

### Gloria in Excelsis

- [P]** Glory be to God on high:  
**[C]** 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 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.

### SALUTATION and COLLECT OF THE DAY

- [P]** The Lord be with you.  
**[C]** And with thy spirit.  
**[P]** Let us pray. O Lord, absolve Your people from their offenses that from the bonds of our sins, which by reason of our frailty we have brought upon ourselves, we may be delivered by Your bountiful goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
**[C]** Amen.

<sup>17</sup>“For behold, I create new heavens  
and a new earth,  
and the former things shall not be remembered  
or come into mind.  
<sup>18</sup>But 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.  
<sup>19</sup>I 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.  
<sup>20</sup>No 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.  
<sup>21</sup>They shall build houses and inhabit them;  
they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit.  
<sup>22</sup>They 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.  
<sup>23</sup>They 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.  
<sup>24</sup>Before they call I will answer;  
while they are yet speaking I will hear.  
<sup>25</sup>The 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.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you.  
<sup>2</sup>For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>While 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. <sup>4</sup>But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup>For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness.  
<sup>6</sup>So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. <sup>7</sup>For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But 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. <sup>9</sup>For God has not destined us for wrath, but

to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore 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.**

### **ALLELUIA and VERSE**

**Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.**

*Verse (Sung by Cantor)*

*I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven  
from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. (Revelation 21:2)*

**Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.**

### **HOLY GOSPEL**

**Matthew 25:1–13**

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

**C** **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

[Jesus said] <sup>1</sup>“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>And 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. <sup>11</sup>Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

### **CONFESSION OF FAITH – Nicene Creed**

**I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation, came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of Life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets.**

**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life **✠** of the world to come. Amen.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY – “Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying”

LSB 516

1	“Wake, awake, for night is flying,” The watchmen on the heights are crying; “Awake, Jerusalem, arise!” Midnight hears the welcome voices And at the thrilling cry rejoices: “Oh, where are ye, ye virgins wise? The Bridegroom comes, awake! Your lamps with gladness take! Alleluia! With bridal care Yourselves prepare To meet the Bridegroom, who is near.”	2	Zion hears the watchmen singing, And all her heart with joy is springing; She wakes, she rises from her gloom. For her Lord comes down all-glorious, The strong in grace, in truth victorious; Her star is ris’n, her light is come. Now come, Thou Blessèd One, Lord Jesus, God’s own Son, Hail! Hosanna! We enter all The wedding hall To eat the Supper at Thy call.
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3            Now let all the heav’ns adore Thee,  
Let saints and angels sing before Thee  
With harp and cymbals’ clearest tone.  
Of one pearl each shining portal,  
Where, joining with the choir immortal,  
We gather round Thy radiant throne.  
No eye has seen the light,  
No ear has heard the might  
Of Thy glory;  
Therefore will we  
Eternally  
Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

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### SERMON

### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### BENEDICTION

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you  
and be gracious unto you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and **+** give you peace.  
**C** Amen.

**+**    **+**    **+**

### THIS WEEK AT BETHEL

Mon.	(23rd)	December newsletter deadline	
Wed.	(25th)	Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service	6:00 p.m.
<i>First Sunday in Advent</i>			
Sun.	(29th)	Sunday School/Bible Class	9:00 a.m.
		Divine Worship Service	10:15 a.m.