



LAST SUNDAY
OF THE CHURCH YEAR
26 November 2023, 10:15 am



AS WE GATHER

The Last Sunday of the Church Year is here as we prepare to celebrate the return of Christ our King. When will it be? How will we know so that we are ready? There are the signs in nature, the sight of the Son of Man, and the angels. For these things, we keep an eye on the sky while we watch and wait, living our lives under God's grace as His righteousness draws near.

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC and CANDLE LIGHTING

WELCOME and INVITATION

BAPTISMAL HYMN

Dearest Jesus, We Are Here

LSB 592 sts. 1-3

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1 Dearest Jesus, we are here,
Gladly Your command obeying;
With this child we now draw near
In response to Your own saying
That to You it shall be given
As a child and heir of heaven. | 2 Your command is clear and plain,
And we would obey it duly:
"You must all be born again,
Heart and life renewing truly,
Born of water and the Spirit,
And My kingdom thus inherit." |
|--|--|

The candidate(s), sponsor(s), and family gather with the pastor at the font.

- 3 Therefore we have come to You,
In our arms this infant bearing.
Truly here Your grace we view;
May this child, Your mercy sharing,
In Your arms be shielded ever,
Yours on earth and Yours forever.



RITE OF HOLY BAPTISM

LSB pp. 268-271

Please stand as you are able.

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

C **Amen.**

At the conclusion of the Rite all return to their places and a hymn is sung.

BAPTISMAL HYMN

Dearest Jesus, We Are Here

LSB 592 sts. 4, 5

- 4 Gracious Head, Your member own;
Shepherd, take Your lamb and feed it;
Prince of Peace, make here Your throne;
Way of Life, to heaven lead it;
Precious Vine, let nothing sever
From Your side this branch forever.
- 5 Now into Your heart we pour
Prayers that from our hearts proceeded.
Our petitions heav'nward soar;
May our hearts' desires be heeded!
Write the name we now have given;
Write it in the book of heaven!

Following the hymn, the service continues with the SERVICE OF THE WORD.

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

[Please refer to the back of your service folder or to the screens overhead.]

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

"The LORD GOD Will Seek Them Out"

JoAnne Runnels

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 95:1-7a

Roy Tedsen



THE REST OF THE STORY: *Loving God & Serving Others*

Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;

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

Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!

For the LORD is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

In his hand are the depths of the earth;

the heights of the mountains are his also.

The sea is his, for he made it,

and his hands formed the dry land.

Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

For he is our God,

and we are the people of his pasture,

and the sheep of his hand.

SONG OF PRAISE

From The Rising Of The Sun

Paul Deming

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EPISTLE READING: 1 Corinthians 15:20-28

"In Christ Shall All Be Made Alive"

Grace Perry

Please stand.

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25:31-46

"The Final Judgment"

SONG OF THE DAY

Go Forth In His Name

Graham Kendrick

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CHILDREN'S CHURCH

Jane Goss

(Kindergarten – 5th grade students are excused to attend Children's Church in the ANNEX)

MESSAGE

"The Orthodox Life"

Pastor Marty Tyler

Matthew 25:31-46



Sermon Notes

Focus Scripture Verse(s)

The Law (Shows Our Sin)

The Gospel (Shows Our Salvation)

Main Point:

What Does This Mean for Me?

Application:

How does what I learned help me share God's Good News?



THANKFUL GIVING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Thank you for your faithful prayers and financial support of Grace Ministries.

Our ability to continue to serve you, the Church, and our community is greatly dependent upon the willingness of God's people to give of their time, talents and treasures. Please remember to support the LORD'S Church by regularly sending in your tithes and offerings; by mail, online at www.GraceLutheranCC.com/Giving, or download the *GivePlus* Mobile App. As the Apostle Paul writes, "Each one must give as he has made up his mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (2 Corinthians 9:7). If you brought your tithe or offering with you today, you may place them in the box marked "I Bring An Offering To The Lord" sitting on the table next to the usher's station at the entrance to the sanctuary.

Please stand.

OFFERTORY SONG

Your Grace is Enough

Matt Maher

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PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(see hymnal inside back cover)*

Please be seated.

DISCIPLESHIP CHALLENGE

"Living The Right Life"

René Hutzell

- Be in the Word: Read 1 Thessalonians chapter 15;
- Be doing good works: Help a friend, neighbor or a friend's neighbor put up their Christmas lights or displays.
- This week: Fast during the day and pray each evening, meditating on the coming of the final judgment.

Please stand.

CLOSING RESPONSE

Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead.



THE REST OF THE STORY: *Loving God & Serving Others*

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.

*Move us, Your People to reflect Your love for us in all that we say and do,
so that Your light shines through us each day until Your Son returns
to usher us into Your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ, our Lord, we pray.*

Amen.

Lord God, gracious Father, we do not know the day nor the hour of the coming of Your Son in glory for the final judgment. As we wait, continue to nourish our faith until we enter Your eternal kingdom; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

BLESSING TO DEPART

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.

Amen.

DEPARTING SONG

If We Are the Body

Mark Hall

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Thank you for worshiping with us today.

Please join us for refreshments and conversation in the Grace Fellowship Hall.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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THE REST OF THE STORY: *Loving God & Serving Others*