

Last Sunday of the Church Year
November 26, 2023



<https://images.squarespace-cdn.com/content/v1/5356d12ee4b031da55e51bff/1525100941726-7C2UNXISR0L8SHTHAY0C/Good+Shepherd+b.jpg>

PRESERVICE MUSIC “Come, Thou Almighty King” (arr. Kosche) &
 “Now Thank We All Our God” (arr. Hobby)

A Reminder: Please be respectful to our brothers and sisters who use the time prior to worship for quiet meditation on God's Word. - Thank you

905 COME, THOU ALMIGHTY KING

- 1 Come, Thou almighty King, Help us Thy name to sing;
 Help us to praise; Father all-glorious,
 O'er all victorious, Come and reign over us,
 Ancient of Days.
- 2 Come, Thou incarnate Word, Gird on Thy mighty sword;
 Our prayer attend. Come and Thy people bless,
 And give Thy Word success, And let Thy righteousness
 On us descend.
- 3 Come, holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness bear
 In this glad hour! Thou, who almighty art,
 Now rule in ev'ry heart, And ne'er from us depart,
 Spirit of pow'r.
- △ 4 To Thee, great One in Three, Eternal praises be
 Hence evermore! Thy sov'reign majesty
 May we in glory see, And to eternity
 Love and adore.

Text: English, before 1760, alt.
Text: Public domain

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

(Jesus says,) “I am the bread of life; whoever comes to Me shall not hunger.” *John 6:35*

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- C** **who made heaven and earth.**
- P** If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C** **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**
- P** Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.
- C** **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**
- P** Almighty God, merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through

Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

G Amen.

HYMN OF THE MONTH - 336 LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING

This hymn focused on the final return of Christ concludes with the confession that the day is near when what is not now visible to us, His glorious reign over all things, will finally be seen by all, and His elect children will receive it and rejoice in it.

- 1 Lo! He comes with clouds descending,
Once for ev'ry sinner slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending
Swell the triumph of His train:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Christ the Lord returns to reign.
- 2 Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him
Robed in glorious majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold Him,
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
Shall their true Messiah see.
- 3 Those dear tokens of His passion
Still His dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To His ransomed worshipers.
With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture
Gaze we on those glorious scars!
- 4 Yea, amen, let all adore Thee,
High on Thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory,
Claim the kingdom as Thine own.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Thou shalt reign, and Thou alone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–88, alt.

Text: Public domain

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

G And also with you.

P 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.

G Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

¹¹For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As 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. ¹³And 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. ¹⁴I 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. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I 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. I will feed them in justice. . . . ²⁰“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM

Psalm 95:1–7a; antiphon: v. 7a

¹Oh come, let us sing to the LORD; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! ²Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! ³For the LORD is a great God, and a great King above all gods. ⁴In his hand are the depths of the earth; the heights of the mountains are his also. ⁵The sea is his, for he made it, and his hands formed the dry land. ⁶Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker! ⁷For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 15:20–28

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷For “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. ²⁸When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31–46

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³¹[Jesus said:] “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴Then 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. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’ ⁴⁰And the King will answer them, ‘Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these

my brothers, you did it to me.’ ⁴¹“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. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³I 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.’ ⁴⁴Then 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?’ ⁴⁵Then 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.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

711 SAVIOR, LIKE A SHEPHERD LEAD US

- 1 Savior, like a shepherd lead us; Much we need Your tender care.
In Your pleasant pastures feed us, For our use Your fold prepare.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
- 2 We are Yours; in love befriend us, Be the guardian of our way;
Keep Your flock, from sin defend us, Seek us when we go astray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Hear us children when we pray.
- 3 You have promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be;
You have mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow’r to free.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Early let us turn to You.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, Early let us turn to You.
- 4 Early let us seek Your favor, Early let us do Your will;
Blessèd Lord and only Savior, With Your love our spirits fill.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.
Blessèd Jesus, blessèd Jesus, You have loved us, love us still.

Text: Hymns for the Young, 1836, 4th ed., London, alt.

Text: Public domain

SERMON “The work of a sheep” Matthew 25:31-46

CREED Nicene Creed (*Creed can be found in the back of the hymnal and on the screens*)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition, please respond with the following:

P Let us pray to the Lord

C Lord have mercy

At the end of the prayer:

C Amen.

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

PREFACE

LSB 208

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new 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

LSB 208

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

LORD'S PRAYER

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **Amen.**

AGNUS DEI

LSB 210

C **1 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

**2 O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world away;
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ,
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

Text: Stephen P. Starke

+ DISTRIBUTION HYMNS +

For guests and visitors, we invite you to please read our statement regarding the Lord's Supper on the inside cover of your bulletin.

547 THE LAMB

1 The Lamb, the Lamb, O Father, where's the sacrifice?
Faith sees, believes God will provide the Lamb of price! **Refrain**

Refrain Worthy is the Lamb whose death makes me His own!
The Lamb is reigning on His throne!

2 The Lamb, the Lamb, One perfect final offering.
The Lamb, the Lamb, Let earth join heav'n His praise to sing. **Refrain**

3 The Lamb, the Lamb, As wayward sheep their shepherd kill
So still, His will On our behalf the Law to fill. **Refrain**

4 He sighs, He dies, He takes my sin and wretchedness.
He lives, forgives, He gives me His own righteousness. **Refrain**

5 He rose, He rose, My heart with thanks now overflows.
His song prolong Till ev'ry heart to Him belong. **Refrain**

Text: Gerald P. Coleman, 1953

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641 YOU SATISFY THE HUNGRY HEART

Refrain You satisfy the hungry heart
With gift of finest wheat.
Come give to us, O saving Lord,
The bread of life to eat.

1 As when the shepherd calls his sheep,
They know and heed his voice;
So when You call Your fam'ly, Lord,
We follow and rejoice. **Refrain**

2 With joyful lips we sing to You
Our praise and gratitude
That You should count us worthy, Lord,
To share this heav'nly food. **Refrain**

3 Is not the cup we bless and share
The blood of Christ outpoured?
Do not one cup, one loaf, declare
Our oneness in the Lord? **Refrain**

4 The myst'ry of Your presence, Lord,
No mortal tongue can tell:
Whom all the world cannot contain
Comes in our hearts to dwell. **Refrain**

5 You give Yourself to us, O Lord;
Then selfless let us be,
To serve each other in Your name
In truth and charity. **Refrain**

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916-97

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710 THE LORD'S MY SHEPHERD, I'LL NOT WANT

1 The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want; He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; He leadeth me The quiet waters by.

- 2 My soul He doth restore again And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of righteousness, E'en for His own name's sake.
- 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill;
For Thou art with me, and Thy rod And staff me comfort still.
- 4 My table Thou hast furnished In presence of my foes;
My head Thou dost with oil anoint, And my cup overflows.
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life Shall surely follow me;
And in God's house forevermore My dwelling place shall be.

Text: The Psalms of David in Meeter, 1650, Edinburgh
Text: Public domain

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P 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 in 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 Amen.

BENEDICAMUS

LSB 212

P Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION

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.

C Amen.

525 CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS

sts. 1, 4–5

- 1 Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king Through all eternity.
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.
- 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is king of all.

Text (sts. 1, 5): Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, alt.; (st. 4): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903
Text: Public domain

POSTLUDE “Crown Him with Many Crowns” (arr. Behnke)

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