

As We Gather: The final three weeks of the Church Year are traditionally concerned with “the last things.” The lessons of the Church bring a special opportunity to reflect on the end of time and on the end of our earthly lives. In the Apostles’ Creed, we affirm our belief in the resurrection of the body, which is God’s good but temporary gift to us while we are living on earth. With all who have died in the faith before us, we await the coming of the Lord. Paul writes, “We shall all be changed.” Our faithful worship helps us prepare for that glorious event!

Pre-Service Music

Welcome

Sharing of the Peace

The people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, “Peace be with you,” as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

Lord Jesus Christ, Be Present Now

LSB 902



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, be pres - ent now; Our hearts in
 2 Un - seal our lips to sing Your praise In end - less
 3 Then shall we join the hosts that cry, “O ho - ly,
 4 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, Son, And Ho - ly



true de - vo - tion bow. Your Spir - it send with
 hymns through all our days. In - crease our faith and
 ho - ly Lord Most High!” And in the light of
 Spir - it, Three in One! To You, O bless - ed



light di - vine, And let Your truth with - in us shine.
 light our minds; And set us free from doubt that blinds.
 that blest place We then shall see You face to face.
 Trin - i - ty, Be praise through - out e - ter - ni - ty!

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Stand

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

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

C Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

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

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake 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.

C **Amen.**

Kyrie

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C **Lord, have mercy.**

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C **Amen.**

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Sit

Old Testament Reading: Amos 5:18–24

Amos 5:18–24

P The Old Testament Reading is from Amos, the fifth chapter.

Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why would you have the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, and not light,
as if a man fled from a lion,
and a bear met him,
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.
Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
“I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

P The Epistle is from 1 Thessalonians, the fourth chapter.

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

Common Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:1–13

Matthew 25:1–13

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ 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.’ 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. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

Children's Message

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

LSB 516



1 “Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing,” The watch - men on the
2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing, And all her heart with
3 Now let all the heav’ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels



heights are cry - ing; "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"
 joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
 sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym - bals' clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing
 For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in
 Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join - ing with the



cry re - joic - es: "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?
 truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come.
 choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!
 Now come, Thou Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,
 No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might



Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your - selves pre - pare
 Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall
 Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly



To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."
 To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.
 Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

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Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**☩ I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth.**

**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.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✠ everlasting. Amen.**

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

We pray for the Church, the gathering of God's forgiven people, that we may support and encourage one another as we await the day of the Lord's return.

People: In mercy, Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for our nation, our state, our local community, and our neighborhoods. May justice roll down like waters and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream in our courts and in all centers of government, that we may lead lives that are peaceful and peaceable.

People: In mercy, Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for those who serve among us as leaders in the Church, that they may find support and joy in their service. We pray that many young men and women would be led into vocations of service in the Church, encouraged by our prayers and our gifts.

People: In mercy, Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray for those with special need for our petitions in these times, including the sick and hospitalized, the shut-ins, those facing challenges in employment or in other parts of their lives, that their needs may be met according to God's gracious plan. This day we remember [*names . . .* and] all those in need of our prayers.

People: In mercy, Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: We pray, O Lord, that we may use all of the good gifts You have given us with thanksgiving, caring for our own bodies, using the talents we have been given, and seeking to be the neighbors and friends You have designed us to be.

People: In mercy, Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastor: We thank You, Lord, for the witness left to us by Your saints, those we have known personally in our lives and those from times past whose witness continues to inspire and inform us. May Your Holy Spirit lead us each day to be those people who do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with You as we await the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting.

People: In mercy, Lord, hear our prayer.

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

People: Amen.

Sit

Offering

Stand

Offertory

LSB 159



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



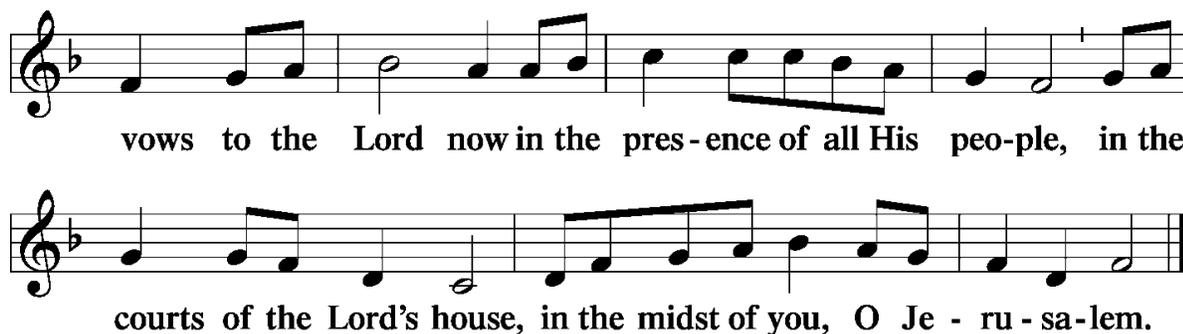
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.

Collect

Almighty and merciful God, we have again worshiped in Your presence and received both forgiveness for our many sins and the assurance of Your love in Jesus Christ. We thank You for this undeserved grace and ask You to keep us in faith until we inherit eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Benediction

LSB 166

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.**

Sit

Announcements

✠

✠

✠



Guide Me, O Thou Great Redeemer

LSB 918



1 Guide me, O Thou great Re - deem - er, Pil - grim through this
 2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain Whence the heal - ing
 3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, Bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but Thou art might - y;
 stream doth flow; Let the fi - ery, cloud - y pil - lar
 fears sub - side; Death of death and hell's de - struc - tion,



Hold me with Thy pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en,
 Lead me all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer,
 Land me safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs of prais - es,



bread of heav - en, Feed me till I want no
 strong de - liv - 'rer, Be Thou still my strength and
 songs of prais - es I will ev - er give to



more; Feed me till I want no more.
 shield; Be Thou still my strength and shield.
 Thee; I will ev - er give to Thee.

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