

WATER OF LIFE

LUTHERAN CHURCH

Whatever you
did for one of the
least of these
brothers of mine,
you did for me.



LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

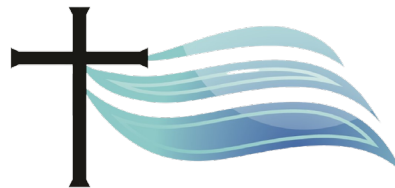
NOVEMBER 26, 2023 | 10 AM

WATER OF LIFE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL ✝ SEEK THE THIRSTY ✝ TEACH THE WORD



Welcome ✝

IF YOU ARE WATCHING OUR LIVESTREAM FOR THE FIRST TIME, please fill out a Connection Card so we may get to know you better. Simply scan this QR code and follow the instructions.



As We Gather ✝

Preparing for Christ's return means loving the people around us. Right now the end time in which we live has multiple opportunities to share God's love. In the Gospel, Jesus explains that means caring for the "least of these My brothers" (Matthew 25:40) in their hunger, poverty, and even separation from society. Why? Because the Kingdom has already been graciously prepared for us. Today's Readings encourage us to give God "right glory" by sharing His love.

The service in its entirety is printed in this service bulletin.

Preparation ✝

OPENING SONG

Cornerstone

Praise Team

My hope is built on nothing less, than Jesus' blood and righteousness.
I dare not trust the sweetest frame, but wholly trust in Jesus' Name.

Chorus: Christ alone. Cornerstone. Weak made strong in the Saviour's love.
Through the storm He is Lord. Lord of all.

When darkness seems to hide His face, I rest on His unchanging grace.
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil.
My anchor holds within the veil. *Chorus*

When He shall come with trumpet sound, oh may I then in Him be found.
Dressed in His righteousness alone. Faultless stand before the throne.

INVOCATION

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

C **Amen.**

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Ezekiel 34:11; 1 Cor. 15:27

P Let us confess our unworthiness and ask God for His grace and mercy.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

P Through Ezekiel, God said that He would “search for My sheep and will seek them out.”

C **We confess that we have wandered away as erring sheep, preferring the pleasures of this world rather than the rich pastures You have provided. Forgive us, O Lord.**

P Paul wrote that “God has put all things in subjection under [Christ’s] feet.”

C **We confess that we have not always been loyal subjects of our Lord, but have made decisions based on our own thoughts and desires. Forgive us, O Lord.**

P Jesus foretold that He will judge people about how they treated others—the hungry, strangers, and prisoners.

C **We confess that we have not always sought to share Your love and meet the needs of the people around us. We cannot change without Your grace, mercy, and strength. Forgive us, O Lord.**

P Rejoice! The One who comes to judge is the same Jesus who is the One who gave His body and shed His blood for you on the cross. He is the first to rise from death, and by His grace we shall follow Him to His eternal kingdom. 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.**

White as snow, white as snow, though my sins were as scarlet,
 Lord, I know, Lord, I know that I'm clean and forgiven
 Through the power of Your blood, through the wonder of Your love,
 Through faith in You I know that I can be white as snow.

Service of the Word

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P 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.

C **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

¹¹"For 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."

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

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.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

(Please rise for the reading of the Holy Gospel)

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.**

NICENE CREED

ALL 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 worshiped 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 \dagger of the world to come. Amen.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Stephanie Womack



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, Fair are the wood - lands, Robed in
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
 flow'rs of bloom - ing spring; Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is
 spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
 God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -



serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 pur - er, He makes our sor - r'wing spir - it sing.
 pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
 ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

SERMON

Rev. Shawn Deterding

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Service of the Sacrament 

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

C And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*

C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalm 136*

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, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, to whom we

give glory by sharing His love with the people around us. Therefore we join angels and archangels and all the company of heaven, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS

**C Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might:
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory. Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, King of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and have shown Your gracious power to us through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. We give You thanks that in His most Holy Supper, You reveal Your sacred presence among us. Grant that we may receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood. Hear us now as we pray in His name and in the words He has taught us:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

**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.**

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 11:23-25

PAX DOMINI

John 20:19

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

DISTRIBUTION ~ Welcome to the Lord's table. (An usher will direct you.)

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Come Let Us Eat

LSB 626



1 Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,
2 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,
3 In His pres - ence now we meet and rest,
4 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word,



Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
 Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
 In His pres - ence now we meet and rest.
 Rise, then, to spread a - broad God's might - y Word.



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er,
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er,
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er,
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom,



Our Lord's bod - y let us take to - geth - er.
 Je - sus' blood poured let us drink to - geth - er.
 In the pres - ence of our Lord we gath - er.
 Je - sus ris - en will bring in the King - dom.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord

LSB 637



1 Draw near and take the bod - y of the Lord,
 2 He who His saints in this world rules and shields,
 3 Come for - ward then with faith - ful hearts sin - cere,



And drink the ho - ly blood for you out - poured;
 To all be - liev - ers life e - ter - nal yields;
 And take the pledg - es of sal - va - tion here.



Of - fered was He for great - est and for least,
 With heav'n - ly bread He makes the hun - gry whole,
 O Lord, our hearts with grate - ful thanks en - dow



Him - self the vic - tim and Him - self the priest.
 Gives liv - ing wa - ters to the thirst - ing soul.
 As in this feast of love You bless us now.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

P You alone, O Lord, are righteous in all Your ways. We thank and praise You for the gift of Christ's perfect righteousness given to us in this Holy Sacrament. What we could never do for ourselves, You have done for us in Christ. Send us from this Table with renewed hearts, ready to serve our neighbors with the love You have first shown us; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

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.**

CLOSING SONG

Even So Come

Praise Team

All of creation, all of the earth
Make straight a highway, a path for the Lord; Jesus is coming soon.
Call back the sinner, wake up the saint,
Let ev'ry nation shout of Your fame; Jesus is coming soon.

Chorus: Like a bride waiting for her groom,
We'll be a Church ready for You.
Ev'ry heart longing for our King, we sing:
Even so, come, Lord Jesus come.
Even so, come, Lord Jesus come.

There will be justice, all will be new. Your name forever, faithful and true;
Jesus is coming soon. *Chorus*

So we wait, we wait for You. God, we wait; You're coming soon.
So we wait, we wait for You. God, we wait; You're coming soon.
God, we wait, we wait for You. God, we wait; You're coming soon.



ANNOUNCEMENTS

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