

THE LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

November 23, 2025

“God Knows What He Is Doing!”

THE WELCOME

THE OPENING HYMN #549 *“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”*



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros-trate fall;
2 Crown Him, ye mar-tyrs of our God, Who from His al - tar call;
3 Ye seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race, Ye ran - somed from the fall,
4 Hail Him, ye heirs of Da - vid's line, Whom Da - vid Lord did call,



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car-nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.

**5 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.**

**6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.**

**7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.**

(please stand)

THE INVOCATION, 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 to God our Father, imploring 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 to 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 and King,

C: We confess that we have broken trust with You. We have doubted Your goodness, neglected Your ways, and sought to satisfy our sinful nature. We do not think, speak, or act like Your treasured possession. We bring before You our faults and failures, honestly and humbly recognizing that we deserve to be cast out of Your kingdom. Have mercy, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Spare us from Your wrath, deliver us from death and darkness, and cleanse us from sin, that we serve You in righteousness, innocence, and blessedness now and always. 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.

(please be seated)

THE INTROIT Psalm 39:4-5, 7-8, 12a; antiphon 2 Peter 3:13

P: In keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth.

C: The home of righteousness.

P: O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days;

C: let me know how fleeting I am!

P: Behold, You have made my days a few handbreadths,

C: and my lifetime is as nothing before You.

P: And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?

C: My hope is in You.

P: Deliver me from all my transgressions.

C: Do not make me the scorn of the fool!

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

P: The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads.

C: They shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE *“There Is a Redeemer”*

- 1) **There is a Redeemer, Jesus, God’s own Son,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, Holy—One.
Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son;
and leaving Your Spirit ‘til the work on earth is done.**
- 2) **Jesus, my Redeemer, Name above all names,
Precious Lamb of God, Messiah, hope—for—sinners slain.
Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son;
and leaving Your Spirit ‘til the work on earth is done.**
- 3) **When I stand in glory I will see His face,
and there I’ll serve my King forever, in—that—holy place.
Thank You, O my Father, for giving us Your Son;
and leaving Your Spirit ‘til the work on earth is done.**

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THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray: Lord Jesus Christ, You reign among us by the preaching of Your cross.
Forgive Your people their offenses that we, being governed by Your bountiful goodness,
may enter at last into Your eternal paradise; for You live and reign with the Father and the
Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Malachi 3:13-18 (ESV)

“Your words have been hard against Me,” says the Lord. “But you say, ‘How have we spoken against You?’ You have said, ‘It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping His charge or of walking as in mourning before the Lord of hosts? And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evil-doers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape.’” Then those who feared the Lord spoke with one another. The Lord paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before Him of those who feared the Lord and esteemed His name. “They shall be mine,” says the Lord of hosts, “in the day when I make up My treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him.”

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE EPISTLE Colossians 1:13-20 (ESV)

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were

created through Him and for Him. And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.

P: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(please stand)

THE ALLELUIA VERSE (LSB #952)



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THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 23:27-43 (ESV)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the twenty-third chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

And there followed Him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for Him. But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?" Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with Him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on His right and one on His left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide His garments. And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at Him, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself, if He is the Christ of God, His Chosen One!" The soldiers also mocked Him, coming up and offering Him sour wine and saying, "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself!" There was also an inscription over Him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged railed at Him, saying, "Are You not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." And he said, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." And He said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE 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.

(please be seated)

THE MEMORY VERSE *6th Petition of the Lord's Prayer & What Does This Mean?* *from Luther's Small Catechism*

And lead us not into temptation. ***What does this mean?*** God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.

THE CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE HYMN OF THE DAY #741 "Jesus Christ, My Sure Defense" (verses 1-5)



1 Je - sus Christ, my sure de - fense And my Sav - ior, now is
2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, lives; Like - wise I to life shall
3 No, too close - ly I am bound By my hope to Christ for -
4 I am flesh and must re - turn To the dust, whence I am
5 Glo - ri - fied, I shall a - new With this flesh then be en -



liv - ing! Know - ing this, my con - fi - dence
wak - en. He will bring me where He is;
ev - er; Faith's strong hand the Rock has found,
tak - en; But by faith I now dis - cern
shroud - ed; In this bod - y I shall view



Rests up - on the hope here giv - en, Though the
Shall my cour - age then be shak - en? Shall I
Grasped it, and will leave it nev - er; E - ven
That from death I shall a - wak - en With my
God, my Lord, with eyes un - cloud - ed; In this



night of death be fraught Still with man - y an anx - ious thought.
fear, or could the Head Rise and leave His mem - bers dead?
death now can - not part From its Lord the trust - ing heart.
Sav - ior to a - bide In His glo - ry, at His side.
flesh I then shall see Je - sus Christ e - ter - nal - ly.

THE SERMON *"God Knows What He Is Doing!"* Text: Luke 23:27-43

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS *"Baptized into Your Name"* (#590, verse 4)

All that I am and love most dearly—Receive it all, O Lord, from me.
Let me confess my faith sincerely; Help me Your faithful child to be!
Let nothing that I am or own Serve any will but Yours alone.

(please stand)

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Each petition concludes with the response: "Lord, in Your mercy." "Hear our prayer.")

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(printed inside the back cover of the hymnal)*

THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance on you and ✕ give you peace.

C: Amen.

(please be seated)

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE CLOSING HYMN #512 *"At the Name of Jesus"* (verses 1, 5-7)



1 At the name of Je - sus Ev - 'ry knee shall bow,
5 In your hearts en - throne Him; There let Him sub - due
6 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus Shall re - turn a - gain
△ 7 Glo - ry then to Je - sus, Who, the Prince of light,



Ev - 'ry tongue con - fess Him King of glo - ry now.
All that is not ho - ly, All that is not true:
In His Fa - ther's glo - ry, With His an - gel train;
To a world in dark - ness Brought the gift of sight;



'Tis the Fa - ther's plea - sure We should call Him Lord,
Crown Him as your cap - tain In temp - ta - tion's hour;
For all wreaths of em - pire Meet up - on His brow,
Praise to God the Fa - ther; In the Spir - it's love



Who from the be - gin - ning Was the might - y Word.
Let His will en - fold you In its light and pow'r.
And our hearts con - fess Him King of glo - ry now.
Praise we all to - geth - er Him who reigns a - bove.