

**The Third Last Sunday in the Church Year
November 12, 2023
Heritage Lutheran Church
Apple Valley, MN
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.**



The Order of Matins - ELH page 109

1. Welcome

2. The Confession Of Sin

Pastor Dearly Beloved: We have come together in the presence of God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at His hand, to set forth His most worthy praise, to hear His holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and salvation. O come, let us worship Him! Let us kneel and bow down before Him. Let us confess our sins with penitent hearts, and obtain forgiveness by His infinite grace and mercy.

Congregation Almighty and most merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our hearts. We have offended against Your holy law. We have done those things which we should not have done, and we have not done those things which we should have done. Have mercy on us, O Lord! Spare us and restore us, according to the promises You have declared to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. For His sake grant that we may live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name.

Absolution

Pastor The almighty and most merciful Lord has granted us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, grace for true repentance and amendment of life, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation Amen.

3. Opening Hymn #435 “All Praise To God, Who Reigns Above” (verses 1,2,5,6)

1 All praise to God, who reigns above,
The God of all creation,
The God of wonders, pow'r, and love,
The God of our salvation!
With healing balm my soul He fills,
The God who ev'ry sorrow stills--
To God all praise and glory!

2 What God's almighty pow'r hath made,
His gracious mercy keepeth;
By morning dawn or evening shade
His watchful eye ne'er sleepeth;
Within the kingdom of His might,
Lo, all is just and all is right--
To God all praise and glory!

5 Ye who confess Christ's holy name,
To God give praise and glory!
Ye who the Father's pow'r proclaim,
To God give praise and glory!
All idols under foot be trod,
The Lord is God! The Lord is God!
To God all praise and glory!

6 Then come before His presence now
And banish fear and sadness;
To your Redeemer pay your vow
And sing with joy and gladness:
Though great distress my soul befell,
The Lord, my God, did all things well--
To God all praise and glory!

4. Opening Versicles

Pastor O Lord, open my lips.

♪ **Congregation** And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

Pastor Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

♪ **Congregation** Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: Forevermore. Amen. Alleluia.

5. The Invitatory and Venite

Pastor Oh come, let us worship the Lord.

♪ **Congregation** For He is our Maker.

Oh, come let us sing to the Lord:

let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving:

and make a joyful noise to Him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God: and a great King above all Gods.

In His hand are the deep places of the earth:

the strength of the hills is His also.

The sea is His, for He made it: and His hands form-ed 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.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

6. Hymn #551 "Lord, Help Us Ever To Retain"

1 Lord, help us ever to retain
The Catechism's doctrine plain
As Luther taught the Word of Truth
In simple style to tender youth.

2 Help us Thy holy Law to learn,
To mourn our sin, and from it turn
In faith to Thee and to Thy Son
And Holy Spirit, Three in One.

3 Hear us, dear Father, when we pray
For needed help from day to day
That as Thy children we may live,
Whom Thou in Baptism didst receive.

4 Lord, when we fall and sin doth stain,
Absolve and lift us up again;
And through the Sacrament increase
Our faith till we depart in peace.

7. Psalm 90:1-12 (read responsively by whole verse)

¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

² Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

³ You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!"

⁴ For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.

⁵ You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning:

⁶ in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

⁷ For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.

⁸ You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

⁹ For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

¹⁰ The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.

¹¹ Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you?

¹² So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

8. Old Testament Lesson Job 14:1-5

¹ "Man who is born of a woman is few of days and full of trouble. ² He comes out like a flower and withers; he flees like a shadow and continues not. ³ And do you open your eyes on such a one and bring me into judgment with you? ⁴ Who can bring a clean thing out of an unclean? There is not one. ⁵ Since his days are determined, and the number of his months is with you, and you have appointed his limits that he cannot pass.

9. The Epistle 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

¹ Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ² For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴ But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵ For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶ So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸ But since we

belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

10. Heritage Choir “Make Haste O God”

11. The Gospel *Matthew 24:15-28*

¹⁵ “So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), ¹⁶ then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. ¹⁷ Let the one who is on the housetop not go down to take what is in his house, ¹⁸ and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. ¹⁹ And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! ²⁰ Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath. ²¹ For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. ²² And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. ²³ Then if anyone says to you, ‘Look, here is the Christ!’ or ‘There he is!’ do not believe it. ²⁴ For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. ²⁵ See, I have told you beforehand. ²⁶ So, if they say to you, ‘Look, he is in the wilderness,’ do not go out. If they say, ‘Look, he is in the inner rooms,’ do not believe it. ²⁷ For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. ²⁸ Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

Pastor O Lord, have mercy upon us!

♪ **Congregation** Thanks be to You, O Lord!

12. Children’s Message

13. Sermon Hymn #536 “O Son Of God, We Wait For Thee”

1 O Son of God, we wait for Thee,
We long for Thine appearing;
We know Thou sittest on the throne,
And we Thy Name are bearing.
Who trusts in Thee,
May joyful be,
And see Thee, Lord, descending
To bring us bliss unending.

2 We wait for Thee, ’mid toil and pain,
In weariness and sighing;
But glad that Thou our guilt hast borne,
And canceled it by dying.
Hence, cheerfully
May we with Thee
Take up our cross and bear it,
Till we relief inherit.

3 We wait for Thee; here Thou hast won
Our hearts to hope and duty;
But while our spirits feel Thee near,
Our eyes would see Thy beauty;
We fain would be
At rest with Thee
In peace and joy supernal,
In glorious life eternal.

4 We wait for Thee; sure Thou wilt come,
The time is swiftly nearing;
In this we also now rejoice,
And long for Thine appearing.
Oh, bliss 'twill be
When Thee we see,
Homeward Thy people bringing,
With transport and with singing!

14. Sermon – “The Return Of Christ – You Won’t Miss It!” *Matthew 24:15-28*

15. The Offering

16. Prayer

17. Te Deum Hymn #43 “Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”

1 Holy God, we praise Thy name;
Lord of all, we bow before Thee.
All on earth Thy scepter claim,
All in heav'n above adore Thee.
Infinite Thy vast domain,
Everlasting is Thy reign.

2 Hark! the glad celestial hymn
Angel choirs above are raising;
Cherubim and seraphim,
In unceasing chorus praising,
Fill the heav'ns with sweet accord:
"Holy, holy, holy Lord!"

3 Lo, th'apostles' holy train
Join Thy sacred name to hallow;
Prophets swell the glad refrain,
And the white-robed martyrs follow;
And from morn to set of sun
Through the Church the song goes on.

4 Holy Father, holy Son,
Holy Spirit, three we name Thee,
Though in essence only one;
Undivided God we claim Thee
And, adoring, bend the knee
While we own the mystery.

5 King of glory, Thou, O Christ;
Son of God, yet born of Mary,
For us sinners sacrificed,
On the cross our sins didst carry;
First to break the bars of death,
Thou hast opened heav'n to faith.

6 From Thy high celestial home,
Judge of all, again returning,
We believe that Thou shalt come
On the dreadful Judgment morning
When Thy voice shall shake the earth
And the startled dead come forth.

7 Spare Thy people, Lord, we pray,
By a thousand snares surrounded;
Keep us without sin today,
Never let us be confounded.
Lo, I put my trust in Thee;
Never, Lord, abandon me.

18. Prayers

The Kyrie Sung by All

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Lord's Prayer Sung by All

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 Collect

Pastor Let us pray: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, having safely brought us to the beginning of this day, defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doing, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

19. Benedicamus & Benediction

Pastor Let us bless the Lord!

♪ **Congregation** Thanks be to God!

Pastor The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

20. Benediction Hymn #278 "O Jesus, King Most Wonderful"

1 O Jesus, King most wonderful,
Thou Conqueror renowned,
Thou Sweetness most ineffable,
In whom all joys are found!

2 When once Thou visitest the heart,
The truth begins to shine,
Then earthly vanities depart,
Then kindles love divine.

3 O Jesus, Light of all below,
Thou Fount of life and fire,
Surpassing all the joys we know,
All that we can desire.

4 May ev'ry heart confess Thy name
And ever Thee adore
And, seeking Thee, itself inflame
To seek Thee more and more!

5 Thee may our tongues forever bless,
Thee may we love alone,
And ever in our lives express
The image of Thine own!

Announcements

Church Council – The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, November 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Moving Help – In preparation for the grind & seal flooring project in the old fellowship hall, old narthex and the church offices, we are looking for help after the late service on Sunday, November 19th. Please let the office know if you can help as we will provide lunch for those that are willing to stay and help and need to know how many to plan for. We will also need furniture dollies and hand trucks/dollies to help us get things moved quickly and efficiently, so if you have one we can use, please bring it.

Women's Bible Study – The Monday Evening Bible Class is beginning a study of Ecclesiastes tomorrow. The group meets at church at 6:30 pm, but they also utilize Zoom if you are unable to attend in person. Contact Ruth Braun if you would like more information.

Men's Bible Study – Men's Bible study meets on Thursdays at 8:00 a.m.

Choir – The choir meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:00. New members are always welcome!

Bazaar – The 48th Annual Bazaar is next Saturday, November 18th from 10 am – 1 pm. Please see the schedule below for the busy week ahead! Please check the volunteer board for cookies needed for the bake sale, food items needed for the Bistro and help needed on Saturday.

Thursday, November 16

9:00am Set up tables in the gym and put on tablecloths
Set up continues throughout the day
5-8pm Vintage Treasure pricing and set up

Friday November 17

8:00am Craft and Bistro set up and displays
4:00 Cookie assembly
Evening Vintage Treasures set up

Saturday November 18

8:00am Final set up
10-1 BAZAAR

Bazaar Deadlines

Vintage Treasures on Thursday evening (if you would like to bring your items earlier, please put them in the coat room)
Cookies - noon on Friday
Crafts - Friday morning
Baked goods - Friday afternoon
Bistro food - 8am Saturday morning

Pie Social – The Outreach Board is hosting a Pie Social following the Thanksgiving Eve Worship service on Wednesday, November 22nd. Plan to stay after the service and enjoy some fellowship time and if you would like to bring a pie to share, there is a sign-up sheet on the volunteer board.

Seminary Gifts - Again this year, we, as a congregation, will be bringing gifts to the seminary students and their families. There is a poster with post-its hanging in the narthex. Gift cards are available for purchase through Katie Henricks (Raise Right/Scrip) and can be put in the office or mailbox #9. If you have any questions, please talk to Rhonda Eisenbeis. Gifts are due December 3.