

The Last Sunday of the Church Year
November 26, 2023
Heritage Lutheran Church
Apple Valley, MN
8:00 & 10:30 a.m.



ELH Rite 4, Chorale Service, no Communion page 107

1. Welcome

2. Opening Hymn #543 “Rejoice, Rejoice Believers”

1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers, And let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing, And darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising And soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; At midnight comes the cry.

2 The watchers on the mountain Proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go forth as He approaches With alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting; The gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory; The Bridegroom is at hand.

3 Ye saints, who here in patience Their cross and suff'rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever When sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory The Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before Him Their diadems of gold!

4 Our hope and expectation, O Jesus now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted, We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption, That sets Your people free!

3. Invocation

Pastor In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Congregation Amen.

4. The Confession of Sin

Pastor Let us confess our sins:

Congregation Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, we confess that we have sinned against Your divine majesty by thought, word, and deed, provoking Your wrath against us. We earnestly repent and are heartily sorry for our sins. We grieve to think of them. Their burden is intolerable. Have mercy upon us, gracious Father! Forgive us our sins for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ. Grant that we may serve You in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Pastor Lift up your hearts. The Lord God, according to His promise, is slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. By the command of Christ and the authority of my holy office I forgive your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

5. The Kyrie - Hymn #34 "Kyrie, God Father in Heaven Above"

*Kyrie, God Father in heav'n above, Great art Thou in grace and love
Of all things the Maker and Preserver. Eleison, eleison!
Kyrie, O Christ, our King, Salvation for sinners Thou didst bring.
O Lord Jesus, God's own Son, Our Mediator at the heav'nly throne,
Hear our cry and grant our supplication. Eleison, eleison!
Kyrie, O God the Holy Ghost, Guard our faith, the gift we need the most;
Do Thou our last hour bless; Let us leave this sinful world with gladness.
Eleison, eleison!*

6. The Gloria Hymn - Hymn #35 "All Glory Be to God on High" verse 1

*All glory be to God on high, Who hath our race befriended!
To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended.
God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall reign on earth again;
O thank Him for His goodness!*

7. The Collect for the Day

Pastor Let us pray. O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit, that, being ever mindful of the end of all things and the day of Your last judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You forever hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

8. Baptism Hymn #179 "Jesus Loves Me" (10:30 service)

1 Jesus Loves me this I know for the Bible tells me so
Little ones to Him belong they are weak but He is strong
Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

2 Jesus loves me See His grace!, On the cross He took my place.
There He suffered and He died, That I may be glorified.
Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

3 Jesus loves me God's own Son, Over sin the vict'ry won.
When I die, saved by His grace, I shall see Him face to face.
Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

4 Jesus loves me He is near, He is with His Church so dear.
And the Spirit He has sent. By His Word and Sacrament.
Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, Yes, Jesus loves me, the Bible tells me so.

9. Affirmation of Private Baptism – Harper Amanda Korstad (10:30 service)

10. Hymn #177 "I am Jesus' Little Lamb" (10:30 service)

1 I am Jesus' little lamb,
Ever glad at heart I am,
For my Shepherd gently guides me,
Knows my need, and well provides me,
Loves me every day the same,
Even calls me by my name.

2 Day by day, at home, away,
Jesus is my Staff and Stay.
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me,
Into pleasant pastures leads me;
When I thirst, He bids me go
Where the quiet waters flow.

3 Who so happy as I am,
Even now the Shepherd's lamb?
And when my short life is ended,
By His angel host attended,
He shall fold me to His breast,
There within His arms to rest.

11. The Old Testament Lesson – *Isaiah 65:17-25*

¹⁷“For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. ¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. ¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress. ²⁰No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed. ²¹They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. ²²They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. ²³They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the LORD, and their descendants with them. ²⁴Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear. ²⁵The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain,” says the LORD.

12. Psalm 130 (*read responsively by whole verse*)

¹ Out of the depths I cry to you, O LORD!

² O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy!

³ If you, O LORD, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

⁴ But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

⁵ I wait for the LORD, my soul waits, and in his word I hope;

⁶ my soul waits for the Lord more than watchmen for the morning, more than watchmen for the morning.

⁷ O Israel, hope in the LORD! For with the LORD there is steadfast love, and with him is plentiful redemption.

⁸ And he will redeem Israel from all his iniquities.

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.

13. The Epistle – *2 Pet 3:3-4, 8-10, 13*

³ knowing this first of all, that scoffers will come in the last days with scoffing, following their own sinful desires. ⁴ They will say, “Where is the promise of his coming? For ever since the fathers fell asleep, all things are continuing as they were from the beginning of creation.”

⁸ But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. ⁹ The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. ¹⁰ But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. ¹³ But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells.

14. Chief Hymn #544 "Wake, Awake"

1 "Wake, awake, for night is flying,"
The watchmen on the heights are crying,
"Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"
It is midnight, we are weary,
With voices strong they call us clearly:
"Where are you now, O virgins wise?
The Bridegroom comes, awake!
Your lamps with gladness take!
Allelujah!
With bridal care yourselves prepare
To feast with Him, your Groom most fair."

2 Zion hears the watchword sounding,
With bridal joy her heart is bounding,
She wakes, and breaks the spell of sleep.
For her Lord comes forth in splendor,
All rich in grace, truth's strong Defender!
Her Star grows bright and darkness deep.
Now come, O precious Crown,
Lord Jesus, God's own Son.
Hail, Hosanna!
We enter all, the marriage hall,
To eat the Supper at Your call.

3 All the Church in Christ rejoices
With human and angelic voices,
All twelve gates of that blest city
Gleam forth with pearls of heav'nly beauty;
We worship there around the throne.
No vision ever brought,
No ear hath ever caught
Such great glory;
Blessed, will we, sweet jubilee,
Sing "Gloria" eternally.

15. The Gospel Lesson *Matthew 25:1-13*

¹ "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴ but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵ As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶ But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷ Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹ 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.' ¹⁰ 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. ¹¹ Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹² But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' ¹³ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

16. The Creed Hymn #37 "We All Believe In One True God"

1 We all believe in one true God, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Ever-present Help in need, Praised by all the heav'nly host,
By whose mighty pow'r alone All is made and wrought and done.

2 We all believe in Jesus Christ, Son of God and Mary's Son,
Who descended from His throne And for us salvation won,
By whose cross and death are we Rescued from all misery.

3 We all confess the Holy Ghost, Who from both fore'er proceeds,
Who upholds and comforts us In all trials, fears, and needs.
Blest and Holy Trinity, Praise forever be to Thee!

17. Children's Message

18. The Sermon "Watch!" *Matthew 25:1-13*

19. The Offering

20. The Prayers *prayer requests and general prayers for the needs of all people*

21. 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.

22. The Closing Prayer

Pastor Blessed Lord, since You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning, grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn and take them to heart, that by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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.

23. The Benediction

Pastor The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

Congregation Amen.

24. Closing Hymn #546 "Around the Throne of God a Band" (Tune Winchester New, ELH #280)

1 Around the throne of God a band
Of glorious angels ever stand;
Bright things they see sweet harps they hold,
And on their heads are crowns of gold.

2 Some wait around Him, ready still
To sing His praise and do His will;
And some, when He commands them, go
To guard His servants here below.

3 Lord, give Thy angels ev'ry day
Command to guide us on our way
And bid them ev'ry evening keep
Their watch around us while we sleep.

4 So shall no wicked thing draw near
To do us harm or cause us fear;
And we shall dwell, when life is past,
With angels round Thy throne at last.

Announcements

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. If you have any questions, please talk to Rhonda Eisenbeis. Gifts are due December 3. Gifts can be dropped off in the new kitchen. Gift cards can be given to Rhonda or put in the library.

Call Process – In keeping with the timeline for introducing grades K-2 to our school, the council has sent our call form to the synod. We expect a call list in 2 weeks and plan to have a call meeting on December 3.

If members of the congregation have recommendations for the call list, please submit those names to the school board (schoolboard@heritagelutheran.org) by November 26. The council asks that before you submit a name(s) that:

1. The candidate is a member of ELS/WELS.
2. The candidate is qualified to teach grades K-2.
3. You speak to the candidate to assure that he/she is willing to be on the call list.

The council asks for our prayers as they continue to do the work of educating the Lambs at Heritage. Thank you.

Lunch Bunch Volunteers – We are looking for volunteers to help with Lunch Bunch on Tuesdays and Fridays. This would be the second person helping out and eating lunch with our wonderful preschoolers.

Women's Bible Study – The Monday Evening Bible Class is studying Ecclesiastes. The group meets at church at 6:30 pm, but they also utilize Google Meet 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.

Meditations – The new meditations are available on the welcome stand.

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

Fellowship - Volunteers are always needed to provide fellowship food every Sunday. Please sign up on the volunteer board.



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