The Third to Last Sunday of the Church Year
November 8, 2026
Heritage Lutheran Church
Apple Valley, MN
9:00 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 #404 "The Lord My God Be Praised"

1 The Lord, my God, by praised,
My Light, my Life from heaven;
My Maker, who to me
Hath soul and body given;
My Father, who doth shield
And keep me day by day,
Doth make each moment yield
New blessings on my way.

2 The Lord, my God, be praised,
My Trust, my Life from heaven,
The Father's own dear Son,
Whose life for me was given,
Who for me sin atoned
With His most precious blood,
Who giveth me by faith
The highest heav'nly good.

3 The Lord, my God, be praised,
My Hope, my Life from heaven,
The Spirit, whom the Son
In love to me hath given.
'Tis He revives my heart,
'Tis He that gives me pow'r,
Help, comfort, and support
In sorrow's gloomy hour.

4 The Lord, my God, be praised,
My God, who ever liveth,
To whom the heav'nly host
All praise and honor giveth.
The Lord, my God, be praised,
In whose great name I boast,
God Father, God the Son,
And God the Holy Ghost.

5 To Him with joyful song
Our praises we are bringing
And with the angel throng
Thrice "Holy" we are singing.
With one united voice
The Church doth Him adore.
The Lord, my God, be praised
Now and forevermore.

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 *(Psalm 95)*

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 #457 "Blessed Is The Man"

1 Blessed is the man that never
Doth in godless counsel meet;
Nor in sinners' way stands ever,
Nor sits in the scorner's seat,
But on God's all-perfect law
Meditates with holy awe;
Day and night he delves for treasure
In the Word--'tis all his pleasure.

2 As a tree that has been planted
By the flowing waters fair,
In its season e'er is granted
Fruits and foliage to bear;
So is he, the righteous, seen
Ever fruitful, ever green,
And his leaf shall wither never,
All he does shall prosper ever.

3 To the wicked 'tis not given
Such a happy lot to share;
As the chaff by wind is driven
So shall the ungodly fare;
They in judgment shall not stand,
Nor be in the righteous band:
These the Lord forsaketh never,
Those shall be cast off forever.

4 For the Lord His people knoweth,
His pure eyes behold their way,
And the blessing He bestoweth
Is their heritage for aye:
But the wicked ever tend
To their doom and to their end:
God will all the righteous cherish,
But the wicked ones shall perish.

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 2:8-13, 3:11-13*

2:8 So, being affectionately desirous of you, we were ready to share with you not only the gospel of God but also our own selves, because you had become very dear to us. **9** For you remember, brothers, our labor and toil: we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you, while we proclaimed to you the gospel of God. **10** You are witnesses,

and God also, how holy and righteous and blameless was our conduct toward you believers. **11** For you know how, like a father with his children, **12** we exhorted each one of you and encouraged you and charged you to walk in a manner worthy of God, who calls you into his own kingdom and glory. **13** And we also thank God constantly for this, that when you received the word of God, which you heard from us, you accepted it not as the word of men but as what it really is, the word of God, which is at work in you believers. 3:**11** Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, **12** and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, **13** so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

10. Heritage Choir "God So Loved The World"

God so loved the world, God so loved the world,
God so loved the world, He gave His only Son.

A Son to shine on our darkness, a light to cast out despair,
He comes to take away evil, and in His light we have life!

Refrain…

And everyone who believes will have eternal life.
Lord, lifted up, we come to you with wonder, thanks, and praise.

Refrain…

Thank you, Lord for Your steadfast love, let all who seek You rejoice.
Deliver us from distress and lead us forth in joy.
Do not live in fear. Called to life—arise!
Turn away from sin. O Come, Lord, enter in.

Refrain…

11. The Gospel *Matthew 24:15-28, 23:1-12*

24:15 "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. 23:1 Then Jesus said to the crowds and to his disciples, **2** "The scribes and the Pharisees sit on Moses' seat, **3** so do and observe whatever they tell you, but not the works they do. For they preach, but do not practice. **4** They tie up heavy burdens, hard to bear, and lay them on people's shoulders, but they themselves are not willing to move them with their finger. **5** They do all their deeds to be seen by others. For they make their phylacteries broad and their fringes long, **6** and they love the place of honor at feasts and the best seats in the synagogues **7** and greetings in the marketplaces and being called rabbi by others. **8** But you are not to be called rabbi, for you have one teacher, and you are all brothers. **9** And call no man your father on earth, for you have one Father, who is in heaven. **10** Neither be called instructors, for you have one instructor, the Christ. **11** The greatest among you shall be your servant. **12** Whoever exalts himself will be humbled, and whoever humbles himself will be exalted.

Pastor O Lord, have mercy upon us!
♫ **Congregation** Thanks be to You, O Lord!

12. Sermon Hymn #69 "The God Of Abraham Praise" (verses 1-4,6-8)

1 The God of Abr'am praise,
Who reigns enthroned above;
Ancient of everlasting days
And God of love.
Jehovah, great I Am!
By earth and heav'n confessed;
I bow and bless the sacred name
Forever blest.

2 The God of Abr'am praise,
At whose supreme command
From earth I rise, and seek the joys
At His right hand.
I all on earth forsake,
Its wisdom, fame, and pow'r,
And Him my only portion make,
My shield and tow'r.

3 The God of Abr'am praise,
Whose all-sufficient grace
Shall guide me all my pilgrim days
In all my ways.
He deigns to call me friend;
He calls Himself my God.
And He shall save me to the end
Through Jesus' blood.

4 He by Himself has sworn;
I on His oath depend.
I shall, on eagle wings upborne,
To heav'n ascend.
I shall behold His face,
I shall His pow'r adore
And sing the wonders of His grace
Forevermore.

6 The goodly land I see,
With peace and plenty blest;
A land of sacred liberty
And endless rest.
There milk and honey flow,
And oil and wine abound,
And trees of life forever grow
With mercy crowned.

7 There dwells the Lord our King,
The Lord our Righteousness,
Triumphant o'er the world and sin,
The Prince of Peace.
On Zion's sacred height
His kingdom He maintains
And glorious with His saints in light
Forever reigns.

8 The God who reigns on high
The great archangels sing;
And, "Holy, holy, holy," cry,
"Almighty King!
Who was and is the same
And evermore shall be;
Jehovah, Father, Great I Am!
We worship Thee!"

13. Sermon – "The Sign That Can't Be Missed" Matthew 24:15-28

14. The Offering

15. Te Deum Hymn #44 (verses 1-5, 11-13)

1 Thee, God, we praise, Thy name we bless,
Thee, Lord, of all we do confess;
The whole creation worships Thee,
The Father of eternity.

2 To Thee aloud all angels cry,
The heav'ns and all the pow'rs on high,
The cherubs and the seraphs join,
And thus they hymn Thy praise divine.

3 O holy, holy, holy Lord,
Thou, God, of hosts, by all adored;
Earth and the heav'ns are full of Thee,
Thy light, thy pow'r, Thy majesty.

4 The apostles join the glorious throng,
The prophets swell the immortal song,
The white-robed hosts of martyrs bright
All serve and praise Thee day and night.

5 The holy Church in ev'ry place
Throughout the world exalts Thy praise,
And ever doth acknowledge Thee,
Father of boundless majesty.

11 O guide them, lift them up for aye:
We magnify Thee day by day,
Thy name we worship and adore,
World without end, for evermore.

12 Vouchsafe, O Lord, we humbly pray,
To keep us safe from sin this day:
O Lord, have mercy on us all,
Have mercy on us when we call.

13 Thy mercy, Lord, to us extend,
As on Thy mercy we depend:
Lord, I have put my trust in Thee,
Confounded let me never be.

16. 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.

17. 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.

18. Benediction Hymn #484 “Christ Alone Is Our Salvation”

1 Christ alone is our salvation,
Christ the rock on which we stand;
Other than this sure foundation
Will be found but sinking sand.
Christ, His cross and resurrection,
Is alone the sinner's plea;
At the throne of God's perfection
Nothing else can set him free.

2 We have all things, Christ possessing:
Life eternal, second birth,
Present pardon, peace, and blessing
While we tarry here on earth;
And by faith's anticipation,
Foretaste of the joy above
Freely giv'n us with salvation
By the Father in His love.

3 When we perfect joy shall enter,
'Tis in Him our bliss will rise;
He's the essence, soul, and center
Of the glory in the skies.
In redemption's wondrous story
Planned before our parents' fall,
From the cross unto the glory
Jesus Christ is all in all.

Announcements

Church Council – The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, November 10th at 6:30 p.m.

Heritage Bazaar – The 50th annual bazaar is coming up on Saturday, November 21st from 10 am – 1 pm. There are many ways to help out – please see the volunteer board if you would like to help in any way. Please help spread the word and most importantly, please come and support this wonderful event!

Seminary Gifts – We are once again sponsoring the Bethany Lutheran Theological Seminary students and their families this Christmas. Please see the poster in the narthex if you would like to help buy gifts for them this Christmas.

Sunday School & Bible Class – Each Sunday at 10:30 – after the worship service and fellowship time.

Catechism Class – Catechism class meets on Wednesdays at 4:15 pm.

Worship Times – Sundays at 9:00 a.m. & Mondays at 6:30 p.m.

Special Parking Lot Fundraiser – The parking lot looks great after the mill and overlay project. The cost was $65,000 for a mill and overlay of the entire lot. If you would like to contribute to this project, please specify your donation is for the parking lot project.

Women's Bible Study – Women's Bible class meets on Tuesdays at 6:30. The group is studying "The Theology of the Cross." Please talk to Sarah Smith if you have questions.

Men's Bible Study – No Men's Bible study this week.

Heritage Choir meets on Wednesdays from 6:45 to 7:45. Please come and sing with us!

The Lutheran Sentinel & Meditations – The Lutheran Sentinel and Meditations are available on the welcome stand.

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

Help Needed – Please see the volunteer board for opportunities to help around the church grounds. There are indoor and outdoor projects. Please take a look and see if there are any projects that you would like to help with.

New Carpet – New carpet will be installed in the narthex sometime in November. This will be paid for by TLC and memorial money.

Budget Update - We have updated the member-giving scorecard through the end of September. If you have any questions, please speak with church treasurer Phil Holz or church president Dave Paulsen.

Member Giving Scorecard	YTD Actual	YTD Target	Variance	Annual Target
Member General Fund Giving	$88,739	$81,566	**$7,173**	$380,000
School Deficit Reduction Giving Target	$2,126	8,750	**($6,624)**	$35,000
Parking Lot Project	$21,050	$65,000	**($43,950)**	$65,000
Total Member Giving	**$111,916**	**$155,316**	**($43,401)**	**$480,000**

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