

Second Sunday of End Time

Last Judgment

The Righteous Live for Jesus



Christ Lutheran Church
North St. Paul & Hugo, Minnesota
November 08, 2020

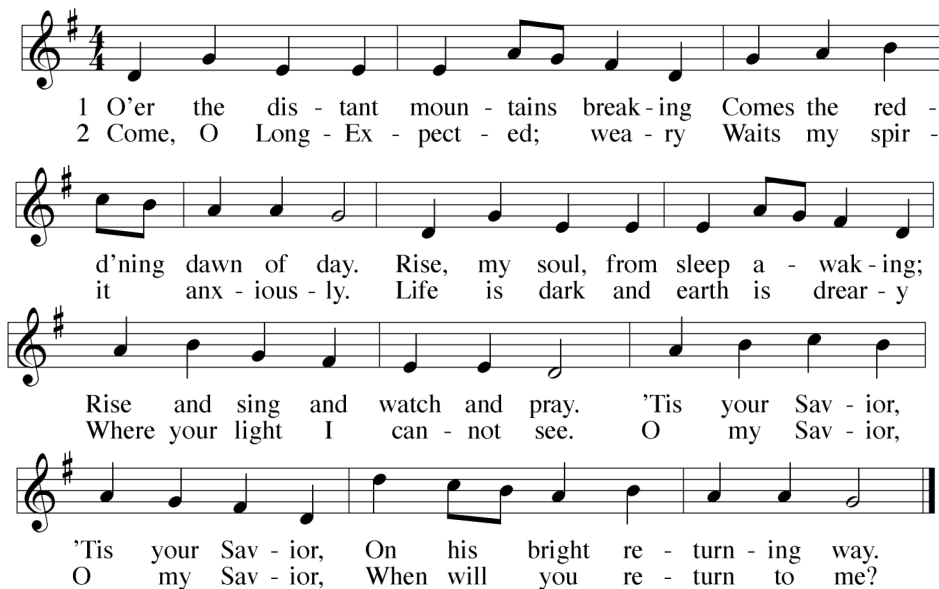
THE SEASON OF END TIME The Church Year comes a close in November with the season of End Time. In this season, we are reminded that we are living in the “last days” between Christ’s first coming at Christmas and his second coming on Judgment Day. The world could be ended at any time. For a believer, the end of his life or the end of the world is a wonderful thing! It means the beginning of a new and better existence in a much more glorious world than this one.

FALL GROWTH GROUPS Our fall worship and Bible study series is called, “*Thankful Heart, Thoughtful Life.*” Jesus’ parables in the gospel readings in October served to strengthen our faith in Jesus and living for Jesus. In November, we will follow the Church Year for the End Times. Growth Group study guides will be available on these Sundays for taking notes during the sermon and using the Bible studies throughout the week. Today: the **Thankful Heart, Thoughtful Life** is found in those who are righteous through faith in Jesus and demonstrate their faith through loving acts that Jesus acknowledges. (Gospel Reading)

✧ Gathering ✧

OPENING HYMN

O'er the Distant Mountains Breaking
CW #220:1,2



1 O'er the dis - tant moun - tains break - ing Comes the red -
2 Come, O Long - Ex - pect - ed; wea - ry Waits my spir -

d'ning dawn of day. Rise, my soul, from sleep a - wak - ing;
it anx - ious - ly. Life is dark and earth is drear - y

Rise and sing and watch and pray. 'Tis your Sav - ior,
Where your light I can - not see. O my Sav - ior,

'Tis your Sav - ior, On his bright re - turn - ing way.
O my Sav - ior, When will you re - turn to me?

INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

- M: Beloved in the LORD, the day is surely coming, and it will burn like a furnace. Therefore, let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- C: **Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am sinful by nature, and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**
- M: God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- M: Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and to the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith and present us at last holy and blameless before you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: **Amen.**

✠ The Word ✠

FIRST LESSON

Daniel 7:9,10

Daniel sees a vision of the Last Judgment. The scene is a courtroom and God judges all humankind.

“As I looked, “thrones were set in place, and the Ancient of Days took his seat. His clothing was as white as snow; the hair of his head was white like wool. His throne was flaming with fire, and its wheels were all ablaze. ¹⁰ A river of fire was flowing, coming out from before him. Thousands upon thousands attended him; ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him. The court was seated, and the books were opened.

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 90

M: Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

C: From everlasting to everlasting you are God.

M: You turn men back to dust, saying, “Return to dust, O sons of men.”

C: For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by.

M: You sweep men away in the sleep of death.

C: We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation.

M: You have set our iniquities before you,

C: our secret sins in the light of your presence.

M: The length of our days is seventy years—or eighty, if we have the strength;

C: yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly away.

M: Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.

C: Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love, that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.

M: May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us.

C: Establish the work of our hands for us. Yes, establish the work of our hands.

SECOND LESSON

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

*Being mindful of the judgment means living according to God's Word, not according to what the world says.
We are to be alert and live self controlled lives.*

Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ² for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴ But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵ You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶ So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. ⁹ For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Matthew 24:42

Alleluia. Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Alleluia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31-46

A great separation will take place on Judgment Day between believers and unbelievers.

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. ³⁴ “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’ ³⁷ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’ ⁴⁰ “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ ⁴¹ “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’ ⁴⁴ “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’ ⁴⁵ “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’ ⁴⁶ “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

M: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

Day of Wrath, O Day of Mourning

Hugo (Sunday) Solo: "O Praise Thy Name"

CW #209:1-3; 5,7



1 Day of wrath, oh, day of mourn - ing!
2 Death is struck and na - ture quak - ing;
3 See, the book, ex - act - ly word - ed,



See ful - filled the proph - ets' warn - ing:
All cre - a - tion is a - wak - ing,
Where - in all has been re - cord - ed—



Heav'n and earth in ash - es burn - ing.
To its judge an an - swer mak - ing.
Thus shall judg - ment be a - ward - ed.

5. King of majesty tremendous
Who does free salvation send us,
Fount of pity, then befriend us.
7. On the cross your dying spared me;
Just and righteous you declared me;
I await the joy prepared me.

THE MESSAGE Matthew 25:31-46.

Pastor Matt Hennig

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there 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.

OFFERING

Gifts will be received as you leave

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

M: Heavenly Father, around us we see the birth pangs of the last days: war, famine, earthquakes, false prophets, spiritual apathy.

C: Use these signs to remind us that we do not know the day or the hour when Christ will come again.

M: Keep us faithful to your Word; send your Spirit to strengthen our faith so that we are always prepared for your Son's return as judge.

C: Make us faithful in sharing your Word, and cause many more to put their hope in you before the end comes.

M: Build our fellowship of love as brothers and sisters in faith.

C: Help us support one another when trials and troubles come our way.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions. *Silent prayer and intercessions.*

Heavenly Father, we eagerly await for Jesus to come again and make all things new. May he find us, whose names are written in the Lamb's book of life, faithfully enduring until the end, through the power of your Holy Spirit.

C: Come, Lord Jesus. May your grace be with us. Amen.

M: Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

**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.**

BLESSING

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give + you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending

CW #29:1,4

1 Lo, he comes with clouds de - scend - ing,
Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain.
Thou - sand, thou - sand saints at - tend - ing
Swell the tri - umph of his train.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
Christ re - veals his end - less reign.

Yea, Amen, let all adore you
High on your eternal throne,
Ev'ry knee shall bow before you;
Come and take your people home!
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
You shall reign and you alone!