

The Last Sunday Of the Church Year

November 22, 2020

Bethlehem Lutheran Church, Hermiston, Oregon

Christ Alone Lutheran Church, Ione, Oregon

Prayer Before Worship

O Lord, my Creator, Redeemer, and Comforter, as I come to worship You in spirit and in truth, I humbly pray that You would open my heart to the preaching of Your Word so that I may repent of my sins, believe in Jesus Christ as my only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear me for the sake of His name. Amen.

Hymn #570 "Just As I Am, Without One Plea"

Just as I am, without one plea
But that Thy blood was shed for me
And that Thou bidd'st me come to Thee,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am and waiting not
To rid my soul of one dark blot,
To Thee, whose blood can cleanse each spot,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, though tossed about
With many_a conflict, many_a doubt,
Fightings and fears within, without,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, poor, wretched, blind;
Sight, riches, healing of the mind,
Yea, all I need, in Thee to find,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, Thou wilt receive,
Wilt welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;
Because Thy promise I believe,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am; Thy love unknown
Has broken ev'ry barrier down;
Now to be Thine, yea, Thine alone,
O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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Opening Versicles

L: O Lord, open my lips,

C: and my mouth will declare Your praise.

L: Make haste, O God, to deliver me;

C: make haste to help me, O Lord,

**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.**

Introit of the Day

Psalm 39:4–5a, 7–8, 12; antiphon: 2 Peter 3:13 NIV

In keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth,
the home of righteousness.

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

let me know how fleeting I am!

Behold, You have made my days a few handbreadths,

and my lifetime is as nothing before You.

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

My hope is in You.

Deliver me from all my transgressions.

Do not make me the scorn of the fool!

Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; hold not Your peace at my tears!

**For I am a sojourner with You,
a guest, like all my fathers.**

**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.**

In keeping with His promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth,
the home of righteousness.

Old Testament Reading

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

"For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land. And I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice . . .

²⁰"Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gradual

recited by all

Revelation 7:14b' Psalm 84:5

These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

**Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

Epistle Lesson

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²²For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷For "God has put all things in subjection under his feet." But when it says, "all things are put in subjection," it is plain

that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. ²⁸When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

Matthew 25:31-46

L: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. ³²Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' ⁴⁰And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

⁴¹"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

L: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

Hymn #532 "The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns"

The Head that once was crowned with thorns
Is crowned with glory now;
A royal diadem adorns
The mighty Victor's brow.

The highest place that heav'n affords
Is His, is His by right,
The King of kings and Lord of lords,
And heav'n's eternal Light;

The Joy of all who dwell above,
The Joy of all below
To whom He manifests His love
And grants His name to know.

To them the cross, with all its shame,
With all its grace, is giv'n;
Their name an everlasting name,
Their joy the joy of heav'n.

They suffer with their Lord below,
They reign with Him above,
Their profit and their joy to know
The myst'ry of His love.

The cross He bore is life and health,
Though shame and death to Him:
His people's hope, His people's wealth,
Their everlasting theme.

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Sermon

Offering

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.**

Hymn #735 "Have No Fear, Little Flock"

Have no fear, little flock;
Have no fear, little flock,
For the Father has chosen
To give you the Kingdom;
Have no fear, little flock!

Have good cheer, little flock;
Have good cheer, little flock,
For the Father will keep you
In His love forever;
Have good cheer, little flock!

L: Teach me Your way, O Lord, that I may walk in Your truth;

C: **unite my heart to fear Your name.**

L: I give thanks to You, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,

C: **and I will glorify Your name forever.**

L: May all who seek You rejoice and be glad in You.

C: **May those who love Your salvation say evermore, "God is great!"**

L: Save Your people and bless Your heritage!

C: **Be their shepherd and carry them forever.**

L: . . . *Congregational prayers are offered here* . . . Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer;

C: **listen to my plea for grace.**

Collects

L: Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

All: I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

Benedicamus and Blessing

L: Let us bless the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

L: The Lord bless us, defend us from all evil, and bring us to everlasting life.

C: **Amen.**

Hymn #789 "Praise and Thanksgiving"

Praise and thanksgiving, Father, we offer
For all things living, Created good:
Harvest of sown fields, Fruits of the orchard,
Hay from the mown fields, Blossom and wood.

Bless, Lord, the labor We bring to serve You
That with our neighbor We may be fed.
Sowing or tilling, We would work with You,
Harvesting, milling For daily bread.

Father, providing Food for Your children,
By Your wise guiding Teach us to share
One with another, So that, rejoicing
With us, all others May know Your care.

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Scripture for November

1 Thessalonians 5:18

***Give thanks
in all circumstances;
for this is God's will for you
in Christ Jesus.***

What's Happening This Week

Worship:	At Bethlehem (<i>Hermiston</i>) At Christ Alone (<i>lone</i>)	Sunday at 9:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m. Sunday at 8:00 a.m.
Bible Study:	Bethlehem - Online At the Lone Market	Wednesday at 6:30 a.m. Friday at 7 a.m.
Men's Prayer Breakfast:	At Bethlehem	Wednesday at 6:00 a.m.

Doxology #805 "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

△ Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

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