

St. Olaf Lutheran Church

Sunday, November 14, 2021

Introduction

November begins with All Saints Day and ends in or near Advent, when we anticipate Christ's coming again. It is fitting, then, that the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised forgiveness. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet together to provoke one another to love.

Welcome & Announcements

Temple Talk

Jane Wallestad

***Confession and Forgiveness**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Have mercy on us, O God.

**We confess that we have sinned against you
and against our neighbor.**

**We have built walls instead of tables
and have turned away the stranger.**

**We have sought glory for ourselves
and have treasured that which does not satisfy.**

**Help us to love as you love,
to welcome those you send,
and to treasure mercy and justice.**

**Turn us from our ways to your ways,
and free us to serve those in need. Amen.**

God, who makes all things new,
forgives your sins for † Jesus' sake
and remembers them no more.

Lift up your heads and your hearts.

Yours is the kingdom of God.

Amen.

***Hymn**

Praise & Thanksgiving

ELW 689

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

C: And also with you.

***Kyrie**

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***Glory be to God**

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Prayer of the Day

Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

First Reading: Daniel 12:1-3

The book of Daniel is an example of apocalyptic literature, which is full of strange visions and symbolism. Arising during times of great persecution, apocalyptic literature is concerned with God's revelation about the end time and the coming kingdom of God, when God will vindicate the righteous who have been persecuted.

¹“At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.”

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 16

My heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; my body shall rest in hope. (Ps. 16:9)

¹Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

²**All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.**

³But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.

⁴**I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips. R**

⁵O LORD, you are my portion and my cup;
it is you who hold my lot.

⁶**My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a rich inheritance.**

⁷I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.

⁸**I have set the LORD always before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.**

⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰**For you will not abandon me to the grave,
nor let your holy one see the pit.**

¹¹You will show me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25

Images of worship and sacrifice are used throughout Hebrews to highlight what Christ has uniquely accomplished through his death. Because we have received forgiveness through Christ's death, we live with sincere hearts by trusting in God's promises and encouraging love and good works from each other.

¹¹Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹²But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right hand of God," ¹³and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet." ¹⁴For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. [¹⁵And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

¹⁶"This is the covenant that I will make with them
after those days, says the Lord:
I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds,"

¹⁷he also adds,

"I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more."

¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.]

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

***Gospel Acclamation**

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Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹⁴"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, ¹⁶to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid

his master's money. ¹⁹ After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²² And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶ But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

P: The gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Children's Sermon

Pastor Emily Sauer

Sermon

Emily Wikner

***Hymn of the Day**

We Give Thee but Thine Own

ELW 686

***Apostles Creed**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy catholic church,

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

***Prayers of Intercession**

P: God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Offering

***Offering Prayer**

Holy God,

the earth is yours and everything in it,
yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures.

Come among us now in these gifts,
and strengthen us to be your body for the world
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

***Blessing**

God, the beginning and the end,
who has written your name in the book of life,

✠ bless and keep you in grace and peace
from this time forth and forevermore.

Amen.

***Hymn**

Give to our God Immortal Praise

ELW 848

Dismissal

Led on by the saints before us,
go in peace to serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Assisting in Worship

Presider: Pastor Emily Sauer

Preacher: Emily Wikner

Organist: Jason Swedlund

Reader: Viv Nore

Ushers: Mitch Craigmile & Doug Seltz

Sound operators: Marc Matthes, Mark Oester, Bob Younie

Bus Driver: Dennis Gross