

Mount Calvary Lutheran Church

1000 Scalp Avenue Johnstown, Pennsylvania 15904 814-266-4859

www.mt-calvarylutheran.org
The Rev. James N. West, Interim Pastor
November 16 & 17, 2024 Lectionary 33

Preparing to Hear Today's Readings

"THE END IS NEAR!!!" The end of the church year, that is! Today is the next to the last Sunday in the church year, and the readings are intentionally ominous – "end is near-ish." Some people, both secular and religious, see only panic and doom in the future. There are some in the secular culture who worry and stress about carbon footprints and global warming with cataclysmic days predicted to come soon. Some literalists in the religious culture scare the feathers out of their congregants as they preach hellfire and damnation to those whose names aren't written "in the book." Both seem to dwell in a land of fear.

The conclusion to the Lord's Prayer offers another view: "the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours forever and ever." It is a bold confession of faith in God - our refuge and strength. This hope, expressed in our 2nd reading, leads away from fear and counsels us "to encourage one another in love and good deeds."

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Preservice Music

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end.

Amen.

Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy, we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power.

We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest.

Unbind us and set us free.

Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.

These words are trustworthy and true:

Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross,

swallowing up death forever.

For his sake, you are + forgiven

and God remembers your sin no more.

Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation.

Lord,

Amen.

Gathering Hymn "We Praise You, O God"

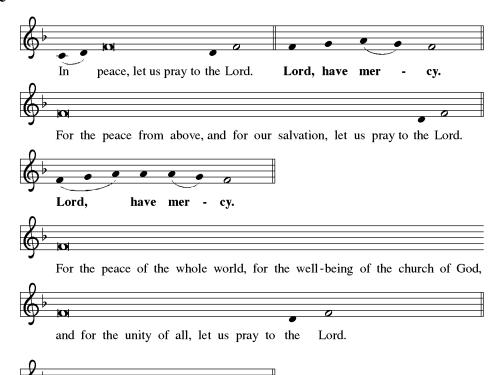
No. 870

Greeting

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

And also with you.

Kyrie



have mer - cy.



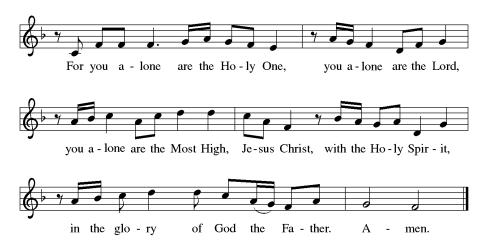
For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,





Hymn of Praise





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.

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

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. ² Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³ Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 16

¹ Protect 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.
- ³ But 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.
- ⁵O Lord, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot.
- ⁶ My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance.
- ⁷ I 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.
- ⁹ My 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.
- ¹¹ You 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, 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.

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

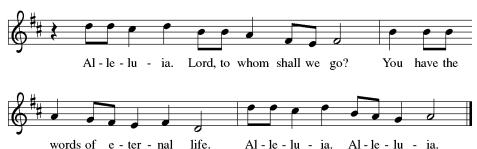
¹⁹ Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful.

²⁴ And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel: Mark 13:1-8

The holy gospel according to Mark

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" ² Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down."

³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?"

⁵ Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. ⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon: "Sunday's Comin"

Hymn of the Day "O God of Every Nation"

Apostles' Creed

Together with the whole church, we confess the faith into which we were baptized.

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

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

O God, in the washing of water you set us free from the power of sin and death. Unite all the baptized in the covenant you have made with us, as we strive for your justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

By your merciful might you sustain all creation. Stir us from complacency with the harm we inflict on the earth and urge us to adopt sustainable ways of life that protect and restore our planet. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

With a selfless power you protect all who take refuge in you. As nations rise against nations, defend all who are displaced or affected by war or violence. Empower all people and nations to pursue peace. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

In your presence you give fullness of joy. Care for all for whom joy feels distant. Be present with persons experiencing depression, anxiety, addiction, or any mental illness. Bring them healing and wholeness. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Through the years you have gathered your church and this community for worship, fellowship, formation, and service. Enable us to look beyond the walls of our building to perceive where you are calling us forward. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

With thanksgiving, we remember saints and angels who delight in your everlasting presence. As their lives inspire ours, provoke us always to love, holding fast to the confession of our hope in you. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

Children's Message (Sunday)

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Meal

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

Offering Song "Accept, O Lord, the Gifts We Bring"

No. 691



- 1 Ac-cept, O Lord, the gifts we bring to place up-on your ta-ble.
- 2 The vines were plant ed, seeds were sown. They grew in your good plea-sure.
- 3 Our hopes and dreams, our toils and cares we lift in prayer be fore you.



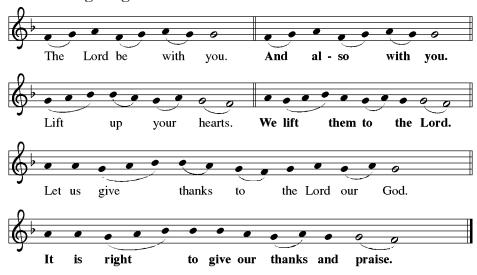
We do not wor - ship as we ought but on - ly as we're a - ble. What once was com - mon, dail - y food be-comes a ho - ly trea-sure. Lord, by your grace now come to us, as hum-bly we a - dore you.

Offering Prayer

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

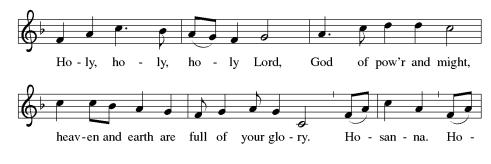
Amen.

The Great Thanksgiving

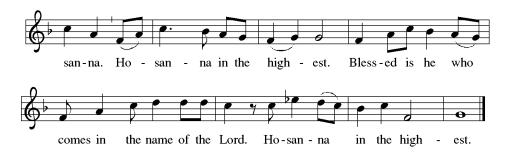


It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy



:



Thanksgiving at the Table

Holy God, around your throne archangels and angel choirs have sung of your glory since the dawn of creation.

When those whom you created just a little lower than the angels, when they sought to praise their own ingenuity and to act as if your creation was their own handiwork, it was then that you sent your Son to redeem all that you have created.

Our Lord's Words of Institution

Send now your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this meal: give us a word of peace to a worried world, we may be faithful witnesses to the victory that already assured by your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,
Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your Holy Church, both now and forever. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

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

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.

Invitation to Communion

The food of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

"Lamb of God" (Setting Three, ELW pg.146)

Special Music "Thank You Jesus for the Blood" performed by Charity Gayle

Prayer after Communion

Sovereign God, in this meal you give us a foretaste of the great feast to come.

Keep us faithful to you,

that we, with all your saints,

may at length celebrate

the marriage feast of the Lamb,

Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

Amen.

Sending Hymn "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

No. 632

Dismissal

Go in peace. Be the presence of Jesus for others.

Thanks be to God.

+ + +

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2024 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SB126679. Reprinted under ONE LICENSE #A-716507. All rights reserved.

Readers/Communion Assistants	<u>Ushers</u>
Nov 16 Corlee Louder	Nov 16 Joan Bunnell & Janis Daily
Nov 17 Bill Layton	Nov 17 Mayket Family
Nov 23 Marsha Pauley	Nov 23 Tim & Kerri Moyer
Nov 24 Carter & Laura Bower	Nov 24 Mayket Family
Nov 30 **HELP WANTED**	Nov 30 Tim & Kerri Moyer
Nov 31 Ray Leverknight	Nov 31 Raho Family