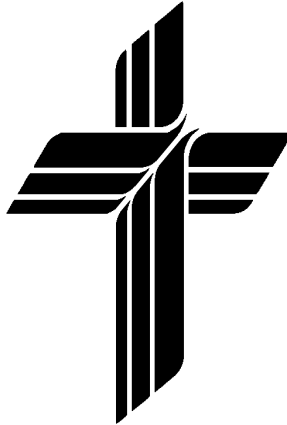


FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

La Crosse, Wisconsin
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

Last Sunday of the Church Year
November 22nd, 2020



Our purpose: Faith Lutheran Church exists to share with all, God's love through Christ and His promise of salvation!

As We Gather... Jesus' account of the sheep and the goats is a challenging text. At the end of time, Jesus will come again to separate the sheep and the goats. It would appear that they are judged on the basis of their works. It would appear they were judged on how they treated the "least of these." The Bible certainly demands that Christians do good works, but at the same time, we know we are not saved by them. Sheep do good works, good works don't make sheep. Whenever we doubt our salvation and wonder, "Am I a Sheep?" looking to our own thoughts, words, and deeds will leave us unsatisfied. Look to Jesus whose death and resurrection transforms goats into sheep.

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845 Where Charity and Love Prevail

sts. 1-2

1 Where char - i - ty and love pre - vail There
2 With grate - ful joy and ho - ly fear His

God is ev - er found; Brought here to - geth - er
char - i - ty we learn; Let us with heart and

by Christ's love By love are we thus bound.
mind and soul Now love Him in re - turn.

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Common Versicles

219

- 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.
- C** 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.
Praise to You, O Christ. Alleluia.

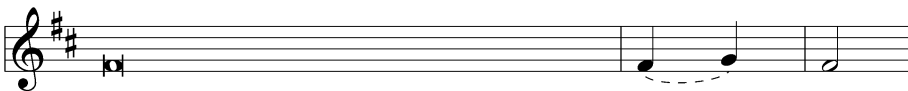
Antiphon (Common)

LSB 220

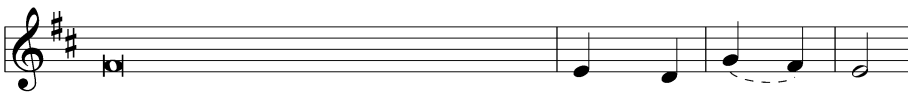
- L** Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- C** O come, let us worship Him.

Venite

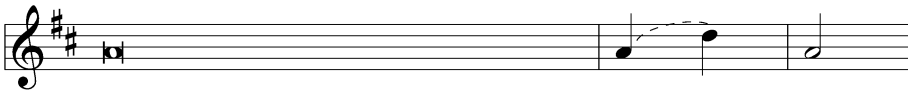
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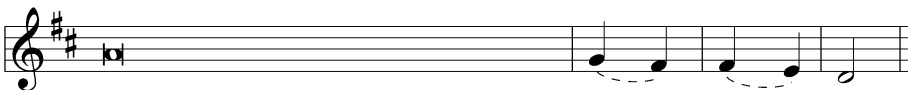
- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
 - 2 For the Lord is a great God
 - 3 The sea is His, for He made it,
- 5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
 - 2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
 - 3 and His hand formed the dry land.
- 5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



- 1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
- 2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
- 3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
- 4 For He is our God,
- 5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



- 1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
- 2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
- 3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
- 4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand.
- 5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Antiphon (Common)

LSB 221

- L** Blessed be God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
- C** O come, let us worship Him.

Introit

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

- P** In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.
- C** O Lord, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days; let me know how fleeting I am!

- P** Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths, and my lifetime is as nothing before you.
- C** **And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in you.**
- P** Deliver me from all my transgressions. Do not make me the scorn of the fool!
- C** **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.**
- C** **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.**
- P** In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

Luther's Small Catechism

- P** The Sixth Petition
- C** **And lead us not into temptation.**
- P** What does this mean?
- C** **God tempts no one. We pray in this petition that God would guard and keep us so that the devil, the world, and our sinful nature may not deceive us or mislead us into false belief, despair, and other great shame and vice. Although we are attacked by these things, we pray that we may finally overcome them and win the victory.**

Old Testament

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

¹¹“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 O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

1 Corinthians 15:20–28

²⁰But 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 O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Matthew 25:31–46

³¹[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** O Lord, have mercy on us.
- C** Thanks be to God.

Responsory

221

- L** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
- C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**
- L** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
- C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**
- L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

851 Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

sts. 1-2

1 Lord of glo - ry, You have bought us With Your
2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give You Glad - ly,
life - blood as the price, Nev - er grudg - ing for the
free - ly of Your own. With the sun - shine of Your
lost ones That tre - men - dous sac - ri - fice;
good - ness Melt our thank - less hearts of stone
And with that have free - ly giv - en Bless - ings
Till our cold and self - ish na - tures, Warmed by
count - less as the sand To the un - thank - ful
You, at length be - lieve That more hap - py



and the e - vil With Your own un - spar - ing hand.
and more bless - ed 'Tis to give than to re - ceive.

Text and tune: Public domain

Sermon

Text: Matthew 25:31–45 Title: Am I a Sheep?

Apostles' Creed

C 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.

Kyrie

227

C Lord, have mercy;
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Lord's Prayer

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.**

Collects

Introduction to Collects

LSB 227

- L** O Lord, hear my prayer.
- C** And let my cry come to You.

Prayer of the Church

Collect of the Day

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.

Collect for the Word

L Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

Collect for Grace

L O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have 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 doings, 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 God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Benedicamus

LSB 228

L Let us bless the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

228

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

C Amen.

348 The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns

sts. 1, 4–5



1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light tri - um-phant breaks,
4 Oh, bright-er than that glo - rious morn Shall dawn up - on our race
5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns And light and beau - ty brings.



When beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills And life to joy a-wakes.
The day when Christ in splen-dor comes And we shall see His face.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: Come quick-ly, King of kings!

Text and tune: Public domain

Verse to Ponder

“So faith comes through hearing, and hearing through the word of Christ.” — Romans 10:17

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Title: Am I a Sheep?
Text: Matthew 25:31–46

- For those of you playing the home game, what hagiographic means is that the documentary tried to demonstrate how much of a _____ Mr. Rogers was.
- Joanne, his wife, said in reply, “If anyone is a _____, you are.”
- When we look at _____, we only see sin, failure, and uncertainty.
- “Am I a Sheep?” The simple answer is, “Stop asking that question, look to _____!”
- The King has made you into a sheep, and sheep do _____ things.
- It’s a beautiful day in the neighborhood, not because of anything we’ve done, but because _____ has moved in and said, “Won’t you be my neighbor?”