



WELCOME TO
ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH!

I am the Alpha and the Omega,
the Beginning and the End,
the First and the Last.

Rev 22:13

CHRIST THE KING

Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 23, 2014

A Service of the Word

TLH (hymns 1-660) is the RED book, WS (hymns 701-800) is the TAN book
(If you have difficulty standing, please feel free to remain seated as needed)

Preservice Devotion: Psalm 95, forepart of TLH p.143

OPENING PRAYER

Minister (M): O Lord, our Maker, Redeemer, and Comforter, we are assembled in Your presence to hear Your Holy Word. We pray You to open our hearts by Your Holy Spirit that by the preaching of Your Word we may be brought to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and in death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake.

Congreg. (C) Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

"Christ is Made the Sure Foundation" (VS 758:1-2)

1. Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
 2. To this tem - ple, where we call you, Come, O Lord of
 cor - ner - stone, Cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
 hosts, and stay; Come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
 Bind - ing all the Church in one, Ho - ly Zi - on's
 Hear Your peo - ple as they pray; And Your full - est
 help for - ev - er And our con - fi - dence a - lone,
 ben - e - dic - tion Speak with - in these walls to - day.

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19

Minister (M) In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Congreg. (C) Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

1 John 1

M God is light and in Him is no darkness at all.

C If we walk in the light as He is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus Christ His Son cleanses us from all sin.

M If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

M Let us pray.

C Almighty God, merciful Father, we are sinful by nature, and have sinned against You in our thoughts, words, and actions. But we are sorry for our transgressions and pray You, of Your bountiful mercy, to be gracious and merciful unto us. Forgive us for Jesus' sake, renew us by Your Spirit, and lead us in the way everlasting. Amen.

M Jesus Christ is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for our only, but also for the sins of the whole world. You are forgiven. With boldness and confidence we may approach the throne to find grace to help in time of need. In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the 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.

GOD, WE PRAISE YOU

Te Deum

1 God, we praise You! God, we bless You! God, we name You
 2 True a - pos - tles, faith - ful proph - ets, Saints who set their
 3 Je - sus Christ, the King of glo - ry, Ev - er - last - ing
 4 Christ, at God's right hand vic - to - rious, You will judge the

sov - 'reign Lord! Might - y King whom an - gels wor - ship, Fa - ther,
 world a - blaze, Mar - tyrs, once un - known, un - heed - ed, Join one
 Son of God, Hum - ble was Your vir - gin moth - er, Hard the
 world You made; Lord, in mer - cy help Your ser - vants For whose

by Your Church a - dored: All cre - a - tion shows Your glo - ry;
 grow - ing song of praise, While Your Church on earth con - fess - es
 lone - ly path You trod: By Your cross is sin de - feat - ed,
 free - dom You have paid: Raise us up from dust to glo - ry;

Heav'n and earth draw near Your throne, Sing - ing, "Ho - ly,
 One ma - jes - tic Trin - i - ty: Fa - ther, Son, and
 Hell con - front - ed face to face, Heav - en o - pened
 Guard us from all sin to - day. King en - throned a -

ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord of hosts and God a - lone!"
 Ho - ly Spir - it, God, our hope e - ter - nal - ly.
 to be - liev - ers, Sin - ners jus - ti - fied by grace.
 bove all prais - es, Save Your peo - ple, God, we pray.

M The Lord be with you.

Luke 1:28

C And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

M Let us pray, ... one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 34:11–16

¹¹ ‘For thus says the Lord God: “Indeed I Myself will search for My sheep and seek them out. ¹² As a shepherd seeks out his flock on the day he is among his scattered sheep, so will I seek out My sheep and deliver them from all the places where they were scattered on a cloudy and dark day. ¹³ And I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them to their own land; I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys and in all the inhabited places of the country. ¹⁴ I will feed them in good pasture, and their fold shall be on the high mountains of Israel. There they shall lie down in a good fold and feed in rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I will feed My flock, and I will make them lie down,” says the Lord God. ¹⁶ “I will seek what was lost and bring back what was driven away, bind up the broken and strengthen what was sick; but I will destroy the fat and the strong, and feed them in judgment.”

GRADUAL HYMN *rise if able* “We Now Implore God the Holy Ghost” (TLH 231)

1. We now im - plore God the Ho - ly Ghost For the
2. Shine in our hearts. O most pre - cious Light. That we

true faith. which we need the most. That in our last
Je - - sus Christ may know a - - right. Cling - ing to our

mo - - ments He may be - friend us And. as home - ward
Su - - vior. whose blood hath bought us. Who a - - gain to

we jour - ney. at - - tend us. Lord. have mer - - cy.
our home - land hath brought us. Lord. have mer - - cy.

GOSPEL LESSON

M In many and various ways, God spoke to His people of old by the prophets.

C But now in these last days, He has spoken to us by His Son.

Matthew 25:31–46

³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the holy angels with Him, then He will sit on the throne of His glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before Him, and He will separate them one from another, as a shepherd divides *his* sheep from the goats. ³³ And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on His right hand, ‘Come, you blessed of My Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world: ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave Me food; I was thirsty and you gave Me drink; I was a stranger and you took Me in; ³⁶ I *was* naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’

³⁷ “Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed *You*, or thirsty and give *You* drink?’ ³⁸ When did we see You a stranger and take *You* in, or naked and clothe *You*?’ ³⁹ Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ ⁴⁰ And the King will answer and say to them, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did *it* to one of the least of these My brethren, you did *it* to Me.’

⁴¹ “Then He will also say to those on the left hand, ‘Depart from Me, you cursed, into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels:’ ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not take Me in, naked and you did not clothe Me, sick and in prison and you did not visit Me.’

⁴⁴ “Then they also will answer Him, 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?’ ⁴⁵ Then He will answer them, saying, ‘Assuredly, I say to you, inasmuch as you did not do *it* to one of the least of these, you did not do *it* to Me.’ ⁴⁶ And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

M This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CREED ~ Apostolic Creed

**C 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.**

HYMN OF THE DAY

WS 757 (tan hymnal)

Christ Triumphant, Ever Reigning

SERMON

1 Corinthians 15:20–28

²⁰ But now Christ is risen from the dead, *and* has become the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since by man *came* death, by Man also *came* the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, even so in Christ all shall be made alive. ²³ But each one in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, afterward those *who are* Christ's at His coming. ²⁴ Then *comes* the end, when He delivers the kingdom to God the Father, when He puts an end to all rule and all authority and power. ²⁵ For He must reign till He has put all enemies under His feet. ²⁶ The last enemy *that will be destroyed is* death. ²⁷ For "*He has put all things under His feet.*" But when He says "all things are put under *Him*," *it is* evident that He who put all things under Him is excepted. ²⁸ Now when all things are made subject to Him, then the Son Himself will also be subject to Him who put all things under Him, that God may be all in all.

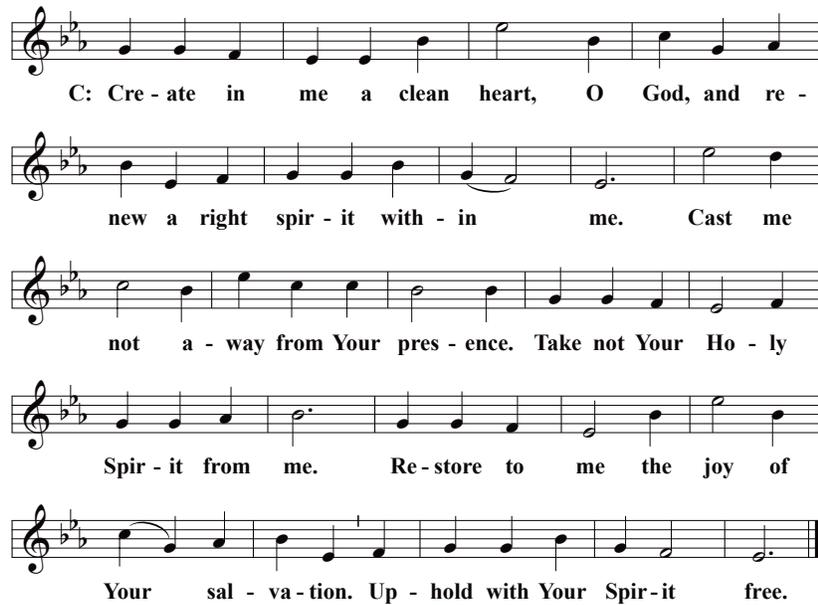
**Our Banners Tell the End of the Story:
"VIVIT!" (He Lives!)**

M The peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Philippians 4:7

OFFERTORY

Psalms 51:10-12



C: Cre - ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -
 new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me
 not a - way from Your pres - ence. Take not Your Ho - ly
 Spir - it from me. Re - store to me the joy of
 Your sal - va - tion. Up - hold with Your Spir - it free.

GATHERING OF OUR THANK OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

O Lord God, heavenly Father, You have blessed us by Your grace and, without any worthiness in us, You have prepared Your kingdom for us from the the foundation of the world. Make Your reign known among us through the death and resurrection of Your Son Jesus Christ both in the hearing of Your word and fruits of selfless love toward our neighbor.

For the Church, that the preaching of the gospel would conquer our enemies: sin, death, and the devil and that it would take us captive by faith in our gracious Lord and lead us to live under Him always, we pray O Lord, **let Your kingdom come.**

For our fellowship in this congregation and in the CLC, that we would support the ministry of the gospel by providing of ourselves for those who preach and teach in our churches and schools and supplying what is lacking, we pray O Lord, **let Your kingdom come.**

For those brethren who are hungry and thirsty, who lack food or access to clean water, that we would respond with the ability God gives, especially remembering the needs of our brethren overseas in Africa, India, and Asia, we pray O Lord, **let Your kingdom come.**

For those brethren who are estranged and searching for fellowship with God's people, whether they be without family to care for them physically or without a church home to care for them spiritually, that we would take them in without partiality and care for them, we pray O Lord, **let Your kingdom come.**

For those brethren who are naked and destitute of basic needs, that we would be willing to sacrifice our time and talents and treasures to help those in need of housing, clothing, or financial aid, we pray O Lord, **let Your kingdom come.**

For those brethren who are sick, that we would visit them and share words of comfort and hope in God's promises, even as we ask the Lord, if it is his will, to relief them of their affliction, we pray O Lord, **let Your kingdom come.**

For those brethren who are in prison, that we would not forget them or forsake them, but visit them and encourage them by the Word the Lord, we pray O Lord, **let Your kingdom come.**

For all brethren as we await the end, when our Lord will deliver the kingdom to His Father, that we would be kept in the true faith against the assault of all enemies and at last be made alive together in His victory and receive the promised inheritance, we pray O Lord, **let Your kingdom come.**

O Lord God, for these petitions and all who have requested our prayers that You would reign for us over all enemies, we also join together to pray,

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

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!

BENEDICTION

Numbers 6:24-26

M The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

TLH 221 (tan hymnal)

Hark! Ten Thousand Harps and Voices

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation (WS 758) – text, tune, setting: public domain. *God, We Praise You* (WS 798) – text Christopher M. Idle, tune: Franz Joseph Haydn, text: ©1982 Hope Publishing House, tune and setting: public domain. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License.net license # A-A-723598. Unless otherwise noted, Scripture quotations taken from the New King James Version ©1982 Thomas Nelson. Used by permission. All rights reserved. *Offertory* and other texts are in public domain.

Welcome! We wish a warm welcome to our guests this morning. It is our mission to share the good news that God gave His only Son that whoever believes in Him has eternal life (John 3:16-17). May that good news go with you. Feel free to sign our guest book in the entry way. For more information about our church see the visitor comment cards and brochures in the entry way or visit our website at AscensionBatavia.org. We hope to see you again!

Participating in this Service of the Word

Music Asst.: V. Walsh Lead Usher: []

Minister: Pr. David Pfeiffer