



WELCOME TO
ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH!

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,
the Beginning and the End,
the First and the Last.” *Revelation 22:13*

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

November 22, 2015

(The Last Sunday in the Church Year)

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 119:57-64 You are my portion, O Lord; I have said that I would keep Your words. I entreated Your favor with my whole heart; Be merciful to me according to Your word. I thought about my ways, And turned my feet to Your testimonies. I made haste, and did not delay To keep Your commandments. The cords of the wicked have bound me, But I have not forgotten Your law. At midnight I will rise to give thanks to You, Because of Your righteous judgments. I am a companion of all who fear You, And of those who keep Your precepts. The earth, O Lord, is full of Your mercy; Teach me Your statutes.*

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.

INVOCATION

Matthew 28:19

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

Congreg. (C) Amen.

RESPONSIVE

Based on passages from Revelation and TLH 341

M Grace to you and peace from Him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven Spirits who are before His throne, and from

Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler over the kings of the earth. To Him who loved us and washed us from our sins in His own blood, and has made us kings and priests to His God and Father, to Him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

♪ Sing (w intro, TLH 341:1):

**Crown Him with many crowns
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heavenly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.**

M Behold, He is coming with clouds, and every eye will see Him, even they who pierced Him. And all the tribes of the earth will mourn because of Him. Even so, Amen. "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the Beginning and the End," says the Lord, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

♪ Sing (w intro, TLH 341:2):

**Crown Him the Virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now His brow adorn;
Fruit of the mystic rose,
As of that rose the stem;
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The Babe of Bethlehem.**

M And I saw in the right hand of Him who sat on the throne a scroll written inside and on the back, sealed with seven seals. Then I saw a strong angel proclaiming with a loud voice, "Who is worthy to open the scroll and to loose its seals?" And no one in heaven or on the earth or under the earth was able to open the scroll, or to look at it. So I wept much, because no one was found worthy to open and read the scroll, or to look at it. But one of the elders said to me, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals." And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne and of the four living creatures, and in the midst of the elders, stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth.

♪ Sing (w intro, TLH 341:3):

**Crown Him the Lord of Love.
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wondering eye
At mysteries so bright!**

M Let us confess our sins before Him and plead for His mercy,

C O Lamb of God, You alone are worthy to take the scroll, And to open its seals; For You were slain, And have redeemed us to God by Your blood Out of every tribe and tongue and people and nation, And have made us kings and priests to our God; And we shall reign on the earth. O Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and grant us a place in Your holy kingdom forever.

M Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and glory and blessing! For He was dead and is alive forevermore and He holds the keys of Hades and Death. Therefore before His throne and by the power and promise which He has bestowed on the Church, I forgive you all your sins in the name of Him who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

C Amen!

♪ Sing (w intro, TLH 341:4):

**Crown Him the Lord of Life
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.**

M The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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

C Amen

FIRST LESSON

Jude 20–25

²⁰But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith, praying in the Holy Spirit, ²¹keep yourselves in the love of God, looking for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ unto eternal life.

²²And on some have compassion, making a distinction; ²³but others save with fear, pulling *them* out of the fire, hating even the garment defiled by the flesh.

²⁴ Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling,
And to present *you* faultless
Before the presence of His glory with exceeding joy,

²⁵ To God our Savior,
Who alone is wise,
Be glory and majesty,
Dominion and power,
Both now and forever.
Amen.

M This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN

“We Now Implore God the Holy Ghost” (TLH 231)

The musical score is written on four staves in a single system. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are: "I We now im - plore God the Ho - ly Ghost". The second staff continues the lyrics: "For the true faith which we need the most,". The third staff continues: "That in our last mo - ments he may be - friend us". The fourth staff concludes the lyrics: "And, as home - ward we jour - ney, at - tend us. Lord, have mer - cy!". The music consists of a single melodic line with a steady, hymn-like rhythm.

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.

Mark 13:24–37

²⁴ “But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; ²⁵ the stars of heaven will fall, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶ Then they will see the Son of Man coming in the clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷ And then He will send His angels, and gather together His elect from the four winds, from the farthest part of earth to the farthest part of heaven.

²⁸ “Now learn this parable from the fig tree: When its branch has already become tender, and puts forth leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ So you also, when you see these things happening, know that it is near—at the doors! ³⁰ Assuredly, I say to you, this generation will by no means pass away till all these things take place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but My words will by no means pass away.

³² “But of that day and hour no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Take heed, watch and pray; for you do not know when the time is. ³⁴ *It is* like a man going to a far country, who left his house and gave authority to his servants, and to each his work, and commanded the doorkeeper to watch. ³⁵ Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house is coming—in the evening, at midnight, at the crowing of the rooster, or in the morning—³⁶ lest, coming suddenly, he find you sleeping. ³⁷ And what I say to you, I say to all: Watch!”

M This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

Luther's Explanation to the Second Article of Apostles' Creed

C 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.

M What does this mean?

C I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord. He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sin, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and His innocent suffering and death.

He did this that I should be His very own, live under Him in His kingdom, and serve Him in eternal righteousness, innocence, and joy; just as He is risen from death, lives and reigns in eternity.

M Is this true?

C This is most certainly true.

HYMN OF THE DAY

TLH 218 (red hymnal)

See, the Conqueror Mounts in Triumph

SERMON

Daniel 7:9–10

- ⁹ “I watched till thrones were put in place,
And the Ancient of Days was seated;
His garment *was* white as snow,
And the hair of His head *was* like pure wool.
His throne *was* a fiery flame,
Its wheels a burning fire;
- ¹⁰ A fiery stream issued
And came forth from before Him.
A thousand thousands ministered to Him;
Ten thousand times ten thousand stood before Him.
The court was seated,
And the books were opened. . . .
- ¹³ “I was watching in the night visions,
And behold, *One* like the Son of Man,
Coming with the clouds of heaven!
He came to the Ancient of Days,
And they brought Him near before Him.
- ¹⁴ Then to Him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom,
That all peoples, nations, and languages should serve Him.
His dominion *is* an everlasting dominion,
Which shall not pass away,
And His kingdom *the one*
Which shall not be destroyed.

**A Time to Confess:
“I Believe That Jesus Christ Is My Lord”**

1. In the courtroom of Judgement Day
2. In the courtroom of the conscience
3. In the courtrooms of the world

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

Philippians 4:7

RESPONSE

“Lord Keep Us Steadfast In Your Word” (LSB 655)

The image shows a musical score for three voices (Soprano, Alto, and Tenor) and a basso continuo line. The music is in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The lyrics are arranged in three systems, each with a vocal line and a basso line. The lyrics are: 1 Lord, keep us stead-fast in your word; curb those who 2 Lord Je-sus Christ, your pow'r make known, for you are 3 O Com-fort-er of price-less worth, send peace and by de- ceit or sword would wrest the king-dom from your Son Lord of lords a-lone; de-fend your ho-ly church, that we u-ni-ty on earth; sup-port us in our fi-nal strife and bring to naught all he has done. may sing your praise e-ter-nal-ly. and lead us out of death to life.

Text: Martin Luther, 1483-1546; tr. Catherine Wiskworth, 1827-1878, alt.
Music: J. Klag, *Geistliche Lieder*, 1543

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GATHERING OF OUR THANK OFFERING

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.**

♪ Sing (w intro, TLH 341:5):

**Crown Him the Lord of Heaven,
Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the King to whom is given
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns
For He is King of all.**

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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: R. Louderman Lead Usher: P. Louderman
Minister: Pr. David Pfeiffer