

The Last Sunday of the Church Year
November 25-26, 2023
St. Michael Tide
Divine Service, Setting Two, p. 167

Prelude

Invocation (*stand*)

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Confession and Absolution

Introit *What is the Measure of My Days?*

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

In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven
and a | new earth,*
the home of | righteousness.

**O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure | of my days;*
let me know how fleeting | I am!**

Behold, you have made my days a few | handbreadths,*
and my lifetime is as nothing be- | fore you.

And now, O Lord, for what | do I wait?*

My hope | is in you.

Deliver me from all my trans- | gressions.*

Do not make me the scorn | of the fool!

**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.

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*

and to the Holy | Spirit;

as it was in the be- | ginning,*

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven
and a | new earth,*
the home of | righteousness.

Kyrie

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Hymn of Praise "Gloria in Excelsis"

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Collect of the Day

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P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P 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. **Amen.** (*sit*)

Old Testament *The Lord God Will Seek Them Out* 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.”

- A This is the word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Revelation 7:14b, Psalm 84:5

These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.*

They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

**Blessèd are those whose strength is | in you,*
in whose heart are the highways to | Zion.**

Epistle

The Resurrection of the Dead

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.

- A This is the word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse of the Day (*stand*)

Revelation 22:13

C **Alleluia, alleluia.**

A I am the Alpha and the Omega,*
the first and the last, the beginning | and the end.

C **Alleluia, alleluia.**

Holy Gospel *The Final Judgment*

Matthew 25:31-46

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

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."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

Apostles' Creed

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Sermon (*sit*) "It's not that hard really."

Matthew 25:31-46

Hymn of the Day "Christ, Our Human Likeness Sharing"

LSB 847

Solo Christ, our human likeness sharing,
Heaven's love on earth portrayed;
Christ the Shepherd, tending, caring,
In His death our ransom paid:

All **Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant,
Be Your life in us displayed.**

Solo Hear the word that Christ has spoken,
Help the weak, the hungry feed;
See the pow'rs of darkness broken,
Sinners pardoned, captives freed:

All **Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant,
Help us meet our neighbor's need.**

Solo Christ, in ev'ry congregation
Build Your temple, stone by stone,
With Your word as firm foundation
For a faith matured and grown:

All **Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant,
Make in us Your Gospel known.**

All **Come, O living Christ, renew us,
As of old in wind and flame;
With the Spirit's pow'r endue us,
Servants of Your saving name:
Christ the Savior, Christ the Servant,
Christ whose kingdom we proclaim.**

Prayer of the Church (*stand*)

congregation responds "Hear our prayer"

Offering (*sit*)

Offertory (*stand*)

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Preface

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Distribution (*sit*) "Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

LSB 711

Post-Communion Canticle (*stand*) "Nunc Dimittis"

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Post-Communion Collect and Benediction

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Closing Hymn "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

LSB 700, *soloist st. 2*

Postlude