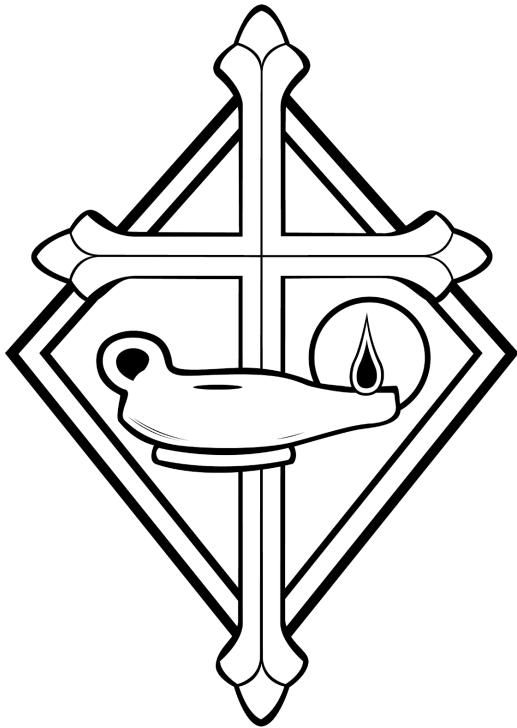


FAITH

LUTHERAN CHURCH



DAY OF FULFILLMENT

Last Sunday
of the Church Year

SERVICE NOTES FOR THIS MORNING

“The day of the Lord so comes as a thief in the night” (1 Thess 5:1-11). The arrival of the bridegroom will be sudden and unexpected. Therefore you are to be watchful and ready like the five wise virgins. “For you know neither the day nor the hour in which the Son of Man is coming” (Matt 25:1-13). The lamps are the Word of Christ. The oil in the lamps is the Holy Spirit, who works through the Word to create and sustain the flame of faith in Christ. The foolish are those who do not give proper attention to the working of the Holy Spirit in baptism, preaching, and the supper, and so their faith does not endure. The wise, however,

are those who diligently attend to these gifts of the Spirit, and who therefore have an abundance of oil. The flame of faith endures to the end. By God’s grace they are received into the eternal wedding feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, the new heavens and the new earth created by the Lord for the joy of His people (Is 65:17-25).

SERVING TODAY

Preacher:	Rev. Jeff Hendrix
Organist:	Caroline Rehborg
Altar Guild:	Rev. Jeff Hendrix & Confirmants: Sasha Disch, Kaito Mikkelsen, Gabe Klahn

Scripture lessons taken from the Evangelical Heritage Version (EHV). The Wartburg Project. © 2017.
Introit and Psalms from the New King James Version (NKJV). Thomas Nelson. © 1982, used by permission.

SERVICE OF
PREPARATION



The first part of our service prepares our hearts to come before God. God forgives our sins and the theme for the day is set in the introit.

OPENING PRAYER

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 through the preaching of Your Word we may be taught to repent of our sins, to believe on Jesus in life and death, and to grow day by day in grace and holiness. Hear us for Christ's sake. Amen.

ENTRANCE HYMN

Ye Watchers and Ye Holy Ones | 540 vv. 1, 3-4

CONFESSION


P Let us bow before the Lord and confess our sins. Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess unto You that we are by nature sinful and unclean, and that we have sinned against You by thought, word and deed. Therefore we flee for refuge to Your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring Your grace, for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C O most merciful God, You have given Your only-begotten Son to die for us: have mercy upon us, and for His sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by Your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of You, and of Your will, and true obedience to Your Word, to the end that by Your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

KYRIE [Lord, Have Mercy (Luke 18:39)]



C O God the Fa-ther in hea-ven, have mer-cy up-on
us. O God the Son, Re-deem-er of the world,



have mer-cy up-on us. O God the Ho-ly
Ghost, true Com-fort-er, have mer-cy up-on us.

ABSOLUTION

P Hear the holy and comforting Word of our Lord: Come unto Me, all you who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. For God so loved the world that He gave His only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life.

Lift up your hearts! By the authority of God and of my holy office I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *[Glory be to God on high (Luke 2:14)]*

P ♪ Glory be to God in the Highest



C And on earth peace, good will to-ward men.

C ♪ All glory be to God on high Who hath our race befriended!
To us no harm shall now come nigh, The strife at last is ended;
God showeth His good will to men, And peace shall dwell on earth again;
O thank Him for His goodness!

SALUTATION & COLLECT OF THE DAY

P ♪ The Lord be with you.



C And with your spir - it.

P Let us pray: Lord God, heavenly Father, make us watchful and heedful in awaiting the coming of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, that when He shall stand at the door and knock, He may find us not sleeping in carelessness and sin, but awake and rejoicing in His appearance; through the same, Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever

C  **Amen.**

SERVICE OF THE WORD



Our service builds towards the hearing of the Gospel. The lessons and even the chief hymn all reflect the theme of the Gospel.

OLD TESTAMENT

Isaiah 65:17-19


¹⁷Watch this! I am about to create new heavens and a new earth.
The former things will not be remembered.
They will not come to mind.

¹⁸Instead, rejoice and celebrate forever, because of what I am creating.
Watch this! I am about to create Jerusalem to be a source of gladness,
and her people will be a source of joy.

¹⁹I also will be glad because of Jerusalem,
and I will rejoice over my people.
The sound of weeping will not be heard in her again,
nor will the sound of crying.

GRADUAL

Psalms 45:14-15

P  The King's daughter shall be brought to the King; /
the virgins, her companions who follow her, shall be brought to You.
With gladness and rejoicing they shall be brought; /
they shall enter the King's palace.

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Concerning the times and dates, brothers, there is no need to write to you, ²for you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When people are saying, "Peace and security," destruction will suddenly come on them, like labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will certainly not escape. ⁴But you, brothers, are not in the dark so that this day takes you by surprise like a thief, ⁵for you are all sons of the light and sons of the day.

⁷To be sure, those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. ⁹You see, God did not appoint us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰He died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as you are also doing.

Matthew 25:1–13

P This is the Gospel of Christ:



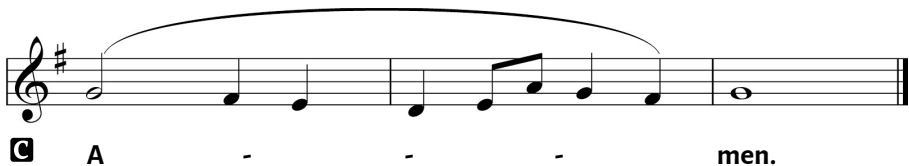
God be prais - ed for His glad ti - dings.

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, Begotten, not made, Being of one substance with the Father, by Whom all things were made; Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made

man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father; and He shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life; Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, Who spoke by the prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and life of the world to come.



CHIEF HYMN

Wake, Awake | **544 vv. 1-2**

SERMON “Certainty in Uncertainty” (1 Thessalonians 5:1–11)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Everlasting and merciful God, we beseech You in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ:

C To have mercy upon us and to hear our prayer.

Pastor prays on behalf of the congregation. Each prayer ends with:

P ...Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P Be merciful, O God, to all, according to Your great love in Christ Jesus, our Lord. When our final hour shall come, grant us a blessed departure from this world, and on the last day, a resurrection to Your glory.

C Amen. Grant us Your peace, O Lord!

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

Your offering to the Lord may be placed in the back in one of the plates, or you may set up direct deposit by filling out a form available on our website.

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT



Christ, our crucified and risen Lord,
now brings us His Body and Blood
which were shed for us, whereby He
forgives all our sins.

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.



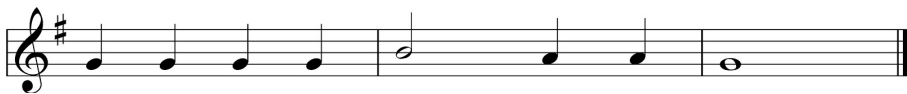
C And with your spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts unto the Lord.



C We lift up our hearts un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.



C It is good and right so to do.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God...*who in the multitude of Your saints did surround us with so great a cloud of witnesses that we, rejoicing their fellowship, may run with patience the race that is set before us and, together with them, may receive the crown of glory that does not fade away...*

Therefore with angels and archangels and all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS [Holy, Holy, Holy (Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9)]

ELH pg. 52

C Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God of Sabaoth;
Heaven and earth are full of Your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, Hal-low-ed be Thy name,
Thy king-dom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heav-en.
Give us this day our dai-ly bread; And for-give us our tres-pass-es,
as we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us;
And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, But de-liv-er us from e-vil.
For Thine is the king-dom and the pow'r and the glo-ry
for-ev-er and ev-er. A - - - men.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which He was betrayed, took bread and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in My blood which is shed for you and for many, for the remission of sins. This do as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

☞ **♪** **O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**
**O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
have mercy upon us.**
**O Christ, the Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world,
Grant us Your peace. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

- *Holy Communion is limited to communicant members of our fellowship, who have properly announced themselves to the pastor beforehand.*
- *Please limit one family per side of the communion rail, or two individuals per side.*
- *To receive the host, form a cup with your hands to receive.*
- *While others commune, take this time to pray the prayers for Communion (ELH pg. 40) or read the hymn "O Lord, We Praise Thee, Bless Thee, and Adore Thee" (327).*

HYMN OF THANKSGIVING

Wake, Awake | **544 v. 3**

COLLECT OF THANKSGIVING

P Let us give thanks and pray: We thank You, Lord God Almighty, that You have refreshed us with these Your salutary gifts; and we beseech You of Your mercy, to strengthen us through the same in faith toward You, and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

☞ **♪** **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P **♪** 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.

☞ **♪** **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN

Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers | **543 vv. 1, 3, 4**

CLOSING PRAYER

P O Lord, we render unto You our heartfelt thanks that You have taught us what You would have us believe and do. Help us, O God, by Your Holy Spirit, for the sake of Jesus Christ, to keep Your Word in pure hearts, that we thereby may be strengthened in faith, perfected in holiness, and comforted in life and death. Amen.

NEWS & NOTES

Today	9:00am	Divine Service for Last Sunday of the Church Year
	10:15am	Bible Study: the Body of Christ, a study of 1. Cor.
Wed	6:30pm	Thanksgiving Eve Vespers
	7:15pm	Decorating for Advent
Sunday	9:00am	First Sunday in Advent

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE

Wednesdays in Advent 6:30pm Vespers (Dec. 2, 9, 16)

Christmas Eve 6:30pm Vespers

11:00pm Midnight Mass (by Candlelight)

Christmas Day 9:00am Divine Service

DIY ADVENT & BIBLE READING PLANS

“A life goal for every mature Christian should be to read the entire Holy Bible,” reads an introductory paragraph from the Lutheran Study Bible. Our DIY Advent this year will truly be DIY. We have made three different bookmarks with different Bible reading plans – one of which uses the Lutheran Study Bible’s suggestion. Take which ones would be helpful to you. Advent Candles are available again to purchase for \$6 a set. If you would like a Lutheran Study Bible, they can be purchased from Concordia Publishing House at CPH.org.

FAITH SERVICES ON TV

Recordings of Faith’s services from the previous week will now be broadcast on OCA Media at 11am on Sundays. Channels: Charter 983 & TDS - HD 1019.

FAMILIES IN THE FAITH

A Bible Study plan has been put together for our congregation. Each child/family will take home (for free) at least one book, based on age. A church year calendar and a suggested reading schedule is provided. Please see Pastor to get your books.

MILITARY MONUMENT AT BLC

The ELS Military Monument Committee has established a Veteran’s Day 2020

through Memorial Day 2021 Matching Funds Challenge. We invite all donors to double the impact of their offering from Nov. 11, 2020 – May 31, 2021. We already have commitments of a \$32,600 match and expect in the weeks to come that we will be increasing this amount and will announce periodically when the match amount is increased. These donors are challenging us in the ELS and beyond to give to this worthwhile project. Please consider a generous (tax deductible) contribution to be matched dollar for dollar during this designated time period. (While not part of this match offer, we continue to encourage contributions honoring individual veterans with engraved pavers, benches and branch pillars to be part of the site. Ordering information is available on our website: www.els.org/monument)

