



The Sheep & the Goats

Western Koshkonong Ev. Lutheran Church

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(Town of Pleasant Springs)
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☞ WELCOME ☞

Welcome to all in the name of the Triune God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit! If you are a guest today, we welcome you and invite you to worship with us again. Please sign our guest register.

THE DIVINE SERVICE

Rite One

I. The Service of Preparation

THE OPENING PRAYER

P: 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.

THE ENTRANCE HYMN

88: Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

P: Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C: Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

THE KYRIE ELEISON *(Lord, have mercy)*

**C: [sing, p. 42] O God the Father in heaven, have mercy upon us.
O God the Son, Redeemer of the world, have mercy upon us.**

O God the Holy Ghost, true Comforter, have mercy upon us.

THE ABSOLUTION

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son ✠ and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

THE GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO (*Glory to God in the Highest*)

P: Glory be to God in the highest.

C: [sing p. 44] **And on earth peace, good will toward men.
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!**

THE SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: [sing, p. 45] **And with your spirit.**

THE COLLECT (*Prayer of the Day*)

C: **O almighty, eternal and merciful God, by Your beloved Son, our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, You established the kingdom of grace for us in Your Holy Church here on earth, that we might believe the forgiveness of sins, since You are a God who has no pleasure in the death of the wicked, but that the wicked turn from his way and live: We beseech You, graciously forgive us all our sins; through the same, Your Son, Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.**

[sing, p. 45] Amen.

II. The Service of The Word

THE OLD TESTAMENT — Isaiah 40:9-11

The Coming Lord

O Zion,
You who bring good tidings,
Get up into the high mountain;
O Jerusalem,

You who bring good tidings,
Lift up your voice with strength,
Lift it up, be not afraid;
Say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

Behold, the Lord GOD shall come with a strong hand,
And His arm shall rule for Him;
Behold, His reward is with Him,
And His work before Him.
He will feed His flock like a shepherd;
He will gather the lambs with His arm,
And carry them in His bosom,
And gently lead those who are with young. ^{NKJV}

GRADUAL

P: He shall call to the heavens from above,

C: And to the earth, that He may judge His people.

P: Let the heavens declare His righteousness,

C: For God Himself is Judge.

P: The ransomed of the LORD shall return, and come to Zion with singing, with everlasting joy on their heads.

C: They shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

P: Behold, I am coming quickly.

C: Amen. Even so, come, Lord Jesus!

THE EPISTLE — 2 Thessalonians 1:3-10

The Coming Lord Strengthens His Church

We are bound to thank God always for you, brethren, as it is fitting, because your faith grows exceedingly, and the love of every one of you all abounds toward each other, so that we ourselves boast of you among the churches of God for your patience and faith in all your persecutions and tribulations that you endure, which is manifest evidence of the righteous judgment of God, that you may be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you also suffer; since it is a righteous thing with God to repay with tribulation those who trouble you, and to give you who are troubled rest with us when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven with His mighty angels, in flaming fire taking vengeance on those who do not know God, and on those who do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ. These shall be punished with everlasting destruction from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of

His power, when He comes, in that Day, to be glorified in His saints and to be admired among all those who believe, because our testimony among you was believed. ^{NKJV}

THE HOLY GOSPEL — St. Matthew 25:31-46

The Separation of the Sheep and the Goats

“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. 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. And He will set the sheep on His right hand, but the goats on the left. 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: 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; I was naked and you clothed Me; I was sick and you visited Me; I was in prison and you came to Me.’

“Then the righteous will answer Him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see You hungry and feed You, or thirsty and give You drink? When did we see You a stranger and take You in, or naked and clothe You? Or when did we see You sick, or in prison, and come to You?’ 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.’

“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: for I was hungry and you gave Me no food; I was thirsty and you gave Me no drink; 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.’

“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?’ 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.’ And these will go away into everlasting punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.” ^{NKJV}

RESPONSE

P: Here end the Scripture readings.

C: [sing, p. 46] **God be prais-éd for His glad tidings.**

THE CREED

P: Having heard God's Word, we confess our Christian faith using the words of the 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;

From there he shall 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.**

C: [sing, p. 46] Amen.

THE CHIEF HYMN

538, Vss. 1-5: **The Day Is Surely Drawing Near**

THE SERMON

"Come, You Blessed of My Father"

Matthew 25:31-46

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

THE 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.

THE APOSTOLIC BENEDICTION

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

THE OFFERING — *Basket placed at entrance to the Sanctuary*

HYMN VERSE

C: [sing] **We give Thee but Thine own, Whate’re the gift may be;
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.**

A HYMN

537, Vss. 1-5: Day of Wrath

THE COLLECT

P: Lord God, our heavenly Father, we thank You, that of Your great mercy You have given us Your holy and blessed Word, by which You gather Your people into Your Christian Church. We humbly ask, grant us Your Holy Spirit, that we receive Your Word with thankful hearts, and live according to it, and ever increase in Christian faith, and hope, and love, and finally obtain eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, Your beloved Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

C: [sing p. 58] **Amen.**

THE BENEDICTION

P: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look on you with favor and give ✠ you His peace.

C: [sing p. 59] **Amen, amen, amen.**

THE CLOSING HYMN

459: Lord of Glory, Who Hast Bought Us

THE 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.

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