A Guide to The Divine Service

9:00 a.m.

November 24, 2024

<u>Last Sunday of the Church Year</u> By Faith We Are Prepared for Christ's Return

"The day of the Lord will come like 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" when the Son of Man is to return (St. 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 the Word and the blessed Sacraments (Holy Baptism and The Holy 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).

<u>Lessons for Next Sunday:</u> First Sunday in Advent (*Ad Te Levavi*)

Prophecy of the Day:

Epistle of the Day:

Holy Gospel of the Day:

St. Matthew 21:1-9

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Redempti a Domino convertentur "The ransomed of the Lord shall return"

Trinity 27 Last Sunday of the Church Year

Shepherd of the Springs Lutheran Church 6755 Earl Drive, Suite #100 Colorado Springs CO 80918

A Confessional, Evangelical, Sacramental, and Liturgical Congregation of the Lutheran Confessions --Where the Lutheran Reformation Lives!

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NOTE ON PARTICIPATING IN THE LORD'S SUPPER

As intended by Christ and as practiced by the one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church throughout history, "closed communion" is observed here, in which the Lord's Supper is distributed only to those who:

- (a) are baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit;
- (b) have been instructed in the truth of Holy Scriptures as taught in the Lutheran Confessions, have been confirmed in this Lutheran faith and practice, and now embrace this same Lutheran faith in the same way that it is believed, taught, confessed, and practiced in this congregation;
- (c) believe that in this Sacrament the real Body and Blood of Christ are truly distributed to them and orally received by them, bestowing on them the forgiveness of sins, life and salvation;
- (d) repent of all their sins, and desire to receive God's forgiveness in this holy meal.

Guests at our services who are able to affirm these facts should speak to our pastor or the elder on duty before receiving the Sacrament. To other guests with us today, we express to you our sincere interest, friendship, and concern, and we assure you that it is for the spiritual welfare of all that we practice closed communion. Those desiring to learn more about our beliefs are asked to speak with our pastor.

[We rise and face the Processional Cross]

Processional Hymn

"Rise, My Soul, To Watch and Pray"

#663

Confession of Sins and Holy Absolution p. 184

The Service of the Word begins with the Introit

The ransomed of the LORD shall return and come to Zion with singing;

everlasting joy shall be upon their heads.

They shall obtain gladness and joy,

and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

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 before You.

Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath!

And now, O LORD, for what do I wait?

My hope is in You.

Deliver me from all my transgressions.

Do not make me the scorn of the fool.

(Ps. 39:4-5, 7-8; antiphon: Is. 35:10)

Gloria Patri, Kyrie p. 186 Gloria in Excelsis p. 187 Salutation p. 189

Collect for the Last Sunday of the Church Year – Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son, we pray, to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One God, now and forever. A – – – men!

[We are seated]

Prophecy of the Day

Isaiah 65:17-25

[New Heavens and a New Earth]

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

Gradual

In many-colored robes [the king's daughter] is led to the king, with her virgin companions following behind her.

With joy and gladness they are led along

as they enter the palace of the king.

(Ps. 45:14-15)

Epistle of the Day

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

[The Day of the Lord]

~/ Therefore

This is the Word of the Lord

Thanks be to God!

[We rise]

Triple Alleluia

p. 190

The Lord be with you. Holy Gospel of the Day And with thy spirit. St. Matthew 25:1-13

[The Parable of the Ten Virgins]

Responses to the Holy Gospel

p. 190

Nicene Creed

p. 191

[We are seated]

Hymn of the Day

"Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying"

#516

Sermon

[We rise]

Offertory

p. 192

[We are seated]

The offering is received

God richly bless you for your support of His work among us!

[We rise]

Prayer of the Church

[Please review our Communion Policy inside this Guide]

The Service of the Sacrament

p. 194

[We are seated for the Distribution of the Body & Blood of Christ]

Hymn

"Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray"

#623 #805

[We rise]

Doxology

Dismissal, *Nunc Dimittis*, Thanksgiving, p. 199 Salutation, *Benedicamus*, Benediction

[We are seated for announcements]

[We rise for the Final Hymn]

Final

Hymn "The Day is Surely Drawing Near"

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