

Divine Service Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 22, 2020

“Therefore, since we are receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, let us be thankful, and so worship God acceptably with reverence and awe...” (Heb. 12:28)

The Opening Hymn: 941 ss 1-4

1. We praise You and acknowledge You, O God, to be the Lord,

The Father everlasting, by all the earth adored.

To You all angel powers cry aloud, the heavens sing,

The cherubim and seraphim their praises to You bring:

“O holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;

Your majesty and glory fill the heavens and the earth!”

2. The band of the apostles in glory sing Your praise;

The fellowship of prophets their deathless voices raise.

The martyrs of Your kingdom, a great and noble throng,

Sing with the holy Church throughout all the world this song:

“O all-majestic Father, Your true and only Son,

And Holy Spirit, Comforter—forever Three in One!”

3. You, Christ, are King of glory, the everlasting Son,

Yet You, with boundless love, sought to rescue ev’ryone:

You laid aside Your glory, were born of virgin’s womb,

Were crucified for us and were placed into a tomb;

Then by Your resurrection You won for us reprieve—

You opened heaven’s kingdom to all who would believe.

4. You sit in splendid glory, enthroned at God’s right hand,

Upholding earth and heaven by forces You command.

We know that You will come as our Judge that final day,

So help Your servants You have redeemed by blood, we

pray;

May we with saints be numbered where praises never end,

In glory everlasting. Amen, O Lord, amen!

The Invocation

PASTOR: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CONG: Amen.

Call to Confession

PASTOR: Beloved in the LORD. Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, imploring him in the name of our LORD Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

The Confession

PASTOR: Our help is in the name of the LORD.

CONG: Who made heaven and earth.

PASTOR: I said, I will confess my transgressions to the LORD.

CONG: And Thou forgavest the iniquity of my sin.

PASTOR: Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to 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 boundless mercy, seeking and imploring your grace for the sake of our LORD Jesus Christ.

ALL: O most merciful God, since you have given your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy on us and for his sake grant us forgiveness 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.

The Absolution

PASTOR: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you

all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

CONG: Amen.

The Introit of the Day 2 Peter 3:13; Ps. 39:4-5, 7-8, 12a

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 before you.

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!

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.

Gloria Patri

CONG: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Kyrie

CONG: Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Gloria in Excelsis

CONG: Glory be to God on high; and on earth peace, good will toward men.

We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,

We glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

That takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

PASTOR: 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.

CONG: Amen.

The Old Testament Reading: EZEKIEL 34:11-16

11 “For thus says the Lord God: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out.

12 As 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.

13 And 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.

14 I 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.

15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord God.

16 I 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.

The Gradual REV 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.

The Epistle: I CORINTHIANS 15:20-28

20 But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep.

21 For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead.

22 For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

23 But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.

24 Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power.

25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet.

26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

27 For “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.

28 When 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.

The Verse REV 22:13

Alleluia. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Alleluia.

The Holy Gospel: ST. MATTHEW 25:31-46

31 “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne.

32 Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats.

33 And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left.

34 Then 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.

35 For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me,
36 I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.’

37 Then the righteous will answer him, saying, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink?’

38 And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you?’

39 And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’

40 And 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.

42 For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink,

43 I 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.'

44 Then 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?'

45 Then 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.'

46 And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Choir: "Abide With Me" ss. 1-2, 4-6

1. Abide with me! Fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O, abide with me!

2. I need Thy presence every passing hour;
What but Thy grace can foil the Tempter's pow'r?
Who like Thyself my guide and stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, O, abide with me!

4. Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day;
Earth's joys grow dim, its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see.
O Thou, who changest not, abide with me!

5. I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless;
Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, thy victory?
I triumph still if Thou abide with me.

6. Hold Thou Thy cross before my closing eyes,

Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.

Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee;

In life, in death, O Lord, abide with me!

The Nicene Creed (We Confess Together)

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 sits at the right hand of the Father. And he will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will 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 in 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 the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Sermon Hymn: 508 ss. 1-7

1. The day is surely drawing near When Jesus, God's
Anointed,

In all His power shall appear As Judge whom God appointed.
Then fright shall banish idle mirth, And flames on flames shall
ravage earth

As Scripture long has warned us.

2. The final trumpet then shall sound And all the earth be
shaken.

And all who rest beneath the ground Shall from their sleep
awaken;
But all who live will in that hour By God's almighty boundless
pow'r
Be changed at His commanding.

3. The books are opened then to all, A record truly telling
What each has done, both great and small, When he on earth
was dwelling;
And ev'ry heart be clearly seen, And all be known as they
have been
In thoughts and words and actions.

4. Then woe to those who scorned the Lord And sought but
carnal pleasures,
Who here despised His precious Word And loved their earthly
treasures!
With shame and trembling they will stand And at the Judge's
stern command
To Satan be delivered.

5. My Savior paid the debt I owe And for my sin was smitten,
Within the Book of Life I know My name has now been written!
I will not doubt, for I am free, And Satan cannot threaten me;
There is no condemnation.

6. May Christ our intercessor be And through His blood and
merit
Read from His book that we are free With all who life inherit,
Then we shall see Him face to face With all His saints in that
blest place
Which He has purchased for us.

7. O Jesus Christ, do not delay, But hasten our salvation;
We often tremble on our way In fear and tribulation.
O hear and grant our fervent plea; Come, mighty judge, and

set us free
From death and ev'ry evil.

The Sermon: This World's Last Moment MATTHEW 25:31-46

The Offertory

CONG: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a
right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take
not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and
uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

The Prayers and The LORD's Prayer

The Closing Hymn: 672 ss 1-4

1. Jerusalem the golden, With milk and honey blest,
The promise of salvation, The place of peace and rest--
We know not, oh, we know not What joys await us there,
The radiancy of glory, The bliss beyond compare!

2. Within those walls of Zion, Sounds forth the joyful song
As saints join with the angels And all the martyr throng.
The Prince is ever with them; The daylight is serene;
The city of the blessed Shines bright with glorious sheen.

3. Around is the throne of David, The saints, from care
released,
Raise loud their songs of triumph, To celebrate the feast.
They sing to Christ their leader Who conquered in the fight,
Who won for them forever Their gleaming robes of white.

4. Oh, sweet and blessed country, The home of God's elect!
Oh, sweet and blessed country That faithful hearts expect!
In mercy, Jesus, bring us To that eternal rest
With You and God the Father And Spirit, ever blest.

The Benediction

PASTOR: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord
make His face shine on you and be gracious
to you. The Lord look upon you with favor
and † give you peace.

CONG: Amen.

Liturgist: Pastor Brock Abbott

Preacher: Pastor Bill Abbott

Videographer: Lucas Abbott