

# THE THIRD SUNDAY OF END TIME: SAINTS TRIUMPHANT

November 15, 2020

## Worship Focus

Lord, keep us watchful for our triumph!



*Precious*  
in the sight of the Lord  
is the death of his  
*saints.*

Psalm 116:15, ESV

**CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH**  
**9807 CHURCH ROAD**  
**DALLAS, TX 75238 + 214-348-5567**  
**churchsec@calvarydallas.org**



# Order of Service for THIRD SUNDAY OF END TIME

*Divine Service I with Communion*

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## ✠ Gathering ✠

**OPENING HYMN**

**776 - Sing with All the Saints in Glory**



1 Sing with all the saints in glo - ry;  
2 Oh, what glo - ry far ex - ceed - ing  
3 Life e - ter - nal! Heav'n re - joic - es:



Sing the res - ur - rec - tion song!  
All that eye has yet per - ceived!  
Je - sus lives who once was dead.



Death and sor - row, earth's dark sto - ry,  
Ho - liest hearts for a - ges plead - ing  
Shout with joy, O death - less voic - es!



To the for - mer days be - long.  
Nev - er that full joy con - ceived.  
Child of God, lift up your head!



All a - round the clouds are break - ing.  
God has prom - ised, Christ pre - pares it,  
Life e - ter - nal! Oh, what won - ders



Soon the storms of time shall cease.  
 There on high our wel - come waits.  
 Crowd on faith, what joy un - known,



In God's like - ness we a - wak - en,  
 Ev - 'ry hum - ble spir - it shares it.  
 When a - mid earth's clos - ing thun - ders,



Know - ing ev - er - last - ing peace.  
 Christ has passed th' e - ter - nal gates.  
 Saints shall stand be - fore the throne!

Text: William Josiah Irons, 1812–1883, alt.

Tune: MISSISSIPPI (87 87 D) William B. Roberts, b. 1949 ©1995 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.  
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## INVOCATION

**Minister** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation** Amen.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

**M** 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.**

## LORD HAVE MERCY (*Kyrie*)

Two staves of musical notation in G minor (one flat) and common time (C). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics: "Lord, have mer - cy on us. Christ, have mer - cy". The second staff contains the melody for the second line of lyrics: "on us. Lord, have mer - cy on us. A - men." The lyrics are written below the notes, with hyphens indicating syllables that span across notes.

## ABSOLUTION

**M** God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given His only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**M** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**M** Let us pray. Almighty God and Savior, you have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## ✠ The Word ✠

## FIRST LESSON

ISAIAH 52:1 Awake, awake, O Zion,  
clothe yourself with strength.  
Put on your garments of splendor,  
O Jerusalem, the holy city.  
The uncircumcised and defiled  
will not enter you again.

Isaiah 52:1-6

*Be awake, the Day of the Lord is coming!*

<sup>2</sup> Shake off your dust;  
rise up, sit enthroned, O Jerusalem.  
Free yourself from the chains on your neck,  
O captive Daughter of Zion.

<sup>3</sup> For this is what the LORD says:  
“You were sold for nothing,  
and without money you will be redeemed.”

<sup>4</sup> For this is what the Sovereign LORD says:  
“At first my people went down to Egypt to live;  
lately, Assyria has oppressed them.

<sup>5</sup> “And now what do I have here?” declares the LORD.  
“For my people have been taken away for nothing,  
and those who rule them mock, “  
declares the LORD.  
“And all day long  
my name is constantly blasphemed.

<sup>6</sup> Therefore my people will know my name;  
therefore in that day they will know  
that it is I who foretold it.  
Yes, it is I.”

## SECOND LESSON

## 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

*Paul speaks of the hope of the resurrection we hold both for ourselves and for the saints who have gone before us.*

<sup>1</sup> THESSALONIANS 4:13 Brothers, we do not want you to be ignorant about those who fall asleep, or to grieve like the rest of men, who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> We believe that Jesus died and rose again and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. <sup>15</sup> According to the Lord’s own word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left till the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup> After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. <sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage each other with these words.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the announcement of the Gospel the congregation responds:



Glo-ry be to you, O Lord! Glo-ry be to you, O Lord!

## GOSPEL

### Matthew 25:1-13

*The parable of the Ten Virgins addresses us about our readiness for the Last Day.*

MATTHEW 25:1 “At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Five of them were foolish and five were wise. <sup>3</sup> The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. <sup>4</sup> The wise, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

<sup>6</sup> “At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

<sup>7</sup> “Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’

<sup>9</sup> “‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’

<sup>10</sup> “But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

<sup>11</sup> “Later the others also came. ‘Sir! Sir!’ they said. ‘Open the door for us!’

<sup>12</sup> “But he replied, ‘I tell you the truth, I don’t know you.’

<sup>13</sup> “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

After the reading of the Gospel the congregation responds:



**C** Praise be to you, O Christ! Praise be to you, O Christ!

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

The Nicene Creed

**C** We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried,

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.



HYMN OF THE DAY

206 - Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



1 "Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing,"  
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing,  
 3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore you;



The watch-men on the heights are cry - ing, "A - wake, Je -  
 And all her heart with joy is spring-ing; She wakes, she  
 Let saints and an - gels sing be - fore you With harp and



ru - sa - lem, a - rise!" Mid - night hears the  
 ris - es from her gloom, For her Lord comes  
 cym-bal's clear - est tone. Of one pearl each



wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing  
 down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in  
 shin - ing por - tal, Where, dwell - ing with the



cry re - joic - es: "Oh, where are all you vir - gins wise?  
 truth vic - to - rious; Her Star is ris'n, her Light is come.  
 choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round your ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes— a - wake! Your lamps with  
 "Now come, O Bless - ed One, Christ Je - sus,  
 No vi - sion ev - er brought, No ear has



glad - ness take! Al - le - lu - ia! With bri - dal care  
 God's own Son. Hail! Ho - san - na! The joy - ful call  
 ev - er caught Such great glo - ry; There - fore will we



Your-selves pre - pare To meet the Bride-groom who is near."  
 We an - swer all And fol - low to the wed - ding hall."  
 In vic - to - ry Sing hymns of praise e - ter - nal - ly.



✠ Sermon ✠

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

**You Know What to Say at the Death of God's Saints**

✠ Praise and Prayers ✠

C Cre - ate in me a pure heart, O God, and re -  
new a right spir - it with - in me.  
Do not cast me a - way from your pres - ence or  
take your Ho - ly Spir - it from me. Re -  
store to me the joy of your sal - va - tion, and up -  
hold, up - hold me with your free Spir - it.

**OFFERING ANNOUCEMENT and MUSICAL OFFERTORY**

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Lord of eternity and King of saints, all the heavens adore you. Saints and angels sing before you.  
We too join them to praise your majesty.

You clothe us with garments of splendor. You bless us with grace and mercy in this life and eternal glory forever. What undeserved love you show us!

**We thank you, Lord, that you have made us your saints.**

Encourage us by your gracious promises. Forgive our failures to live as you desire. Strengthen the faith of all who are weak and wandering.

**Give us power to live as your faithful people.**

Your saints will triumph forever in new heavens and a new earth. The sound of weeping and crying will be heard no more. We anticipate with joy an eternity of perfect fellowship with you.

**Be with us as we work and witness for Christ, so that many more people can join us before your throne.**

Lord of life, the day is coming when you will come down from heaven with the voice of the archangel and the trumpet call of God. On that glorious day, the saints triumphant will rise in bright array, clothed in your perfect righteousness.

**Give us strength until that day when we will share fully in the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**M** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**M** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C Amen.**

## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

## 220 – O'er the Distant Mountains Breaking



1 O'er the dis - tant moun - tains break - ing Comes the red -  
2 Come, O Long - Ex - spect - ed; wea - ry Waits my spir -  
3 Near - er is my soul's sal - va - tion; Spent the night,  
4 With my lamp well - trimmed and burn - ing, Swift to hear



d'ning dawn of day. Rise, my soul, from sleep a - wak - ing;  
it anx - ious - ly. Life is dark and earth is drear - y  
the day at hand. Keep me in my hum - ble sta - tion,  
and slow to stray, Watch - ing for your glad re - turn - ing,



Rise and sing and watch and pray. 'Tis your Sav - ior,  
Where your light I can - not see. O my Sav - ior,  
Watch - ing for you till I stand, O my Sav - ior,  
Wait - ing for the bless - ed day. Come, my Sav - ior,



'Tis your Sav - ior, On his bright re - turn - ing way.  
O my Sav - ior, When will you re - turn to me?  
O my Sav - ior, In your bright, your prom - ised, land,  
Come, my Sav - ior, O my Sav - ior, quick - ly come!

## PRAYER AND BLESSING

**M** O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**M** 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 peace.

**C** Amen.

# CLOSING HYMN

# 729 - There Is a Blessed Home



1 There is a bless - ed home be - yond this land of  
 2 There is a land of peace, good an - gels know it  
 3 O joy all joys be - yond, to see the Lamb who  
 4 Look up, you saints of God, nor fear to tread be -



woe, Where tri - als nev - er come, nor tears of  
 well; Glad songs that nev - er cease with - in its  
 died, And count each sa - cred wound in hands and  
 low The path your Sav - ior trod of dai - ly



sor - row flow; Where faith is ful - ly lost in  
 por - tals swell. A - round the glo - rious throne of  
 feet and side; To give to him e - ter - nal  
 toil and woe: Wait on - ly for a lit - tle



sight, and pa - tient hope is crowned, And ev - er -  
 God the count - less saints a - dore Christ, with the  
 praise for ev - 'ry tri - umph won, And sing through  
 while in un - com - plain - ing love. His own most



last - ing light its glo - ry casts a - round.  
 Fa - ther one, and Spir - it ev - er - more.  
 end - less days the great things he has done!  
 gra - cious smile will wel - come you a - bove.

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877, alt.

Tune: ARIC (12 12 14 12) John C. Reim, b. 1958 © 2002 John C. Reim. All rights reserved. Used by permission.