



GRACE ALONE

Last Judgment

November 12, 2017

WELCOME TO SHEPHERD OF THE LAKES! We're here to shepherd Christ's flock and seek the lost sheep by sharing the good news of Jesus Christ with all. Come, let us worship!

FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, in the back corner of the sanctuary there is a room for any parents with children in need of a quiet place. The restrooms are located on the lower level. Please ask if you have any questions or concerns.

LORD JESUS, you alone sought us out, forgave us, bought us, made us your own. Fix our eyes on your grace & mercy to us, so that we may joyfully be ready for your triumphant return; AMEN.

ACCOUNTED RIGHTEOUS FOR THE SAKE OF CHRIST:

...through faith, as St. Peter says, we have a new and clean heart [Acts 15:9-11], and God will and does account us entirely righteous and holy for the sake of Christ, our Mediator [1 Timothy 2:5]. Although sin in the flesh has not yet been completely removed or become dead [Romans 7:18], yet He will not punish or remember it.

2 Such faith, renewal, and forgiveness of sins are followed by good works [Ephesians 2:8-9]. What is still sinful or imperfect in them will not be counted as sin or defect, for Christ's sake [Psalm 32:1-2; Romans 4:7-8]. The entire individual, both his person and his works, is declared to be righteous and holy from pure grace and mercy, shed upon us and spread over us in Christ. 3 Therefore, we cannot boast of many merits and works, if they are viewed apart from grace and mercy. As it is written, "Let the one who boasts, boast in the Lord" (1 Corinthians 1:31); namely, that he has a gracious God.

Smalcald Articles, Part 3, Article 13 (Concordia p. 283)

GRACE AND JUDGMENT:

At the end of time, Christ will return and put an end to all sickness, sadness, pain, and death. His return could be at any time - and what a gracious promise for believers!

How does a look at the Last Day change our today?

OPENING HYMN: 384 – *By Grace I’m Saved*

LITURGY: *CW p. 38*

Please rise.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

M: Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts & minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age, and to the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith, and present us at last holy and blameless before you; 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 READING: *Jeremiah 8:4-7*

In the blindness of unbelief, Israel refuses to repent:

4Tell them, “This is what the LORD says: Do people fall and not get up again? Does someone turn away and not turn back? 5Then why has this people turned away? Why is Jerusalem always turning away? They take hold of deceit and refuse to turn back.

6I have paid attention and listened, but they do not say what is right. No one repents of his wickedness, asking, “What have I done?” Everyone pursues his own course like a horse charging into battle. 7Even the stork in the sky knows her seasons. The turtledove, the swallow, and the crane observe the time of their migration.

But my people do not know the judgment of the LORD.

PSALM OF THE DAY: 24, *CW p. 73*

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18


The day of judgment is the day of deliverance & reunion:

13We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you do not grieve in the same way as the others, who have no hope. 14Indeed, if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, then in the same way we also believe that God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus.

15In fact, we tell you this by the word of the Lord: We who are alive and left until the coming of the Lord will certainly not go on ahead of those who have fallen asleep. 16For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will always be with the Lord. 18Therefore, encourage one another with these words.

THEME VERSE: Matthew 24:42

Alleluia. Watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Alleluia.

 **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25:31-46

The day of judgment is the day of final separation:

31“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. 32All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. 34Then 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. 35For I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. 36I was lacking clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.’

37“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? 38When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or lacking clothes and clothe you? 39When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’

40“‘The King will answer them, ‘Amen I tell you: Just as you did it for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for me.’

41“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire, which is prepared for the Devil and his angels. 42For I was hungry and you did not give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you did not give me anything to drink. 43I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, lacking clothes and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not take care of me.’

44“Then they will also answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or lacking clothes or sick or in prison and did not serve you?’

45“‘At that time he will answer them, ‘Amen I tell you: Just as you did not do it for one of the least of these, you did not do it for me.’ 46And they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus.

♪ **Praise be to you, O Christ!**

CHILDREN’S DEVOTION: *The End*

HYMN OF THE DAY: 379 - *Amazing Grace*

SERMON based on 1 Thessalonians 4: *A Look at the End Changes Today*

CONFESSION OF FAITH: *Sung Apostles’ Creed, next page*

OFFERING

RESPONSIVE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: *p. 131*

Please rise.



1 I be - lieve in God the Fa - ther, Mak - er of the heav'ns and earth.
2 Cru - ci - fied, was dead and bur - ied, Down to hell in vic - to - ry;
3 I be - lieve in God the Spir - it, In his church, his cho - sen band.



And in Je - sus Christ, our Sav - ior, God's own Son, of hu - man birth.
From the dead he rose the third day; Up to heav'n tri - um - phant - ly.
They are joined in close com - mun - ion, Ho - ly in his sight they stand.



Vir - gin - born, the Lord's in - car - nate, Whom the Spir - it did con - ceive,
There at God's right hand he's rul - ing, By his will the world is led.
I be - lieve in sin for - giv - en; That the dead will rise a - gain;



Suf - fered un - der Pon - tius Pi - late; Our sal - va - tion to a - chieve.
He will come to judge the na - tions, Both the liv - ing and the dead.
I be - lieve in life e - ter - nal. A - men! And a - gain, A - men!



CLOSING PRAYER: *CW p. 43*

CLOSING HYMN: *62 - Joy to the World*

NOTES

This Saturday, November 18 - wedding shower for Ventura Ulrich, 11 AM at church. Wedding service planned for Dec 2 at church.

Decorating the church for Christmas, Nov 26 after Bible class.

LWMS Mission box is at the back table.

As winter approaches: We'll always have worship services. Use discretion if conditions are hazardous.

THIS WEEK

Today	John 18 9:30 AM - End Times 2: Last Judgment 10:57 AM - Bible Class: OT for Today - Genesis 2
Monday	John 19
Tuesday	John 20 Pastors' Conference 6:30 PM - Elders 7 PM - Council
Wednesday	John 21 5-6:45 - Small Catechism Class: Christ's Exalted State
Thursday	Acts 1 6 PM - Choir 7 PM - Chimes
Friday	Acts 2
Saturday	Acts 3 9 AM - Bible Basics: Holy Communion 11 AM - Ulrich Wedding Shower at Church
Sunday	Acts 4 9:30 AM - End Times 3: Saints Triumphant 10:58 AM - Bible Class: OT for Today - Genesis 2

Easy Invite Idea:

- 1) **Buy a copy** of this weekend's Sentinel.
- 2) **Share it** with an acquaintance.
- 3) **"Our church** was on the front page! Check out what we're doing at [our website, podcast, Instagram, Facebook]. If you'd like, I can pick you up & we can sit together for [Bible class, worship].

Looking Ahead to Next Sunday:

Theme Saints Triumphant

Color White

Liturgy Divine Service 1 (Christian Worship Supplement)

Hymns 768, 550, 311, 211; Psalm 27

Readings from Isaiah 65, 1 Thess 5, Matthew 25.

Verse of the Day Revelation 7:15



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