



# LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

November 21, 2021

901-373-4486

[www.ilcmemphis.org](http://www.ilcmemphis.org)

[f](#) [@ilcmemphis](#)

## AS WE GATHER

The Last Sunday of the Church Year is here as we prepare to celebrate the return of Christ our King. When will it be? How will we know so that we are ready? There are the signs in nature, the sight of the Son of Man, and the angels. For these things, we keep an eye on the sky while we watch and wait, living our lives under God's grace as His righteousness draws near.

## WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

### HYMN "O Savior, Precious Savior" LSB 527

1 O Savior, precious Savior,  
Whom yet unseen we love;  
O name of might and favor,  
All other names above,  
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,  
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
We praise Thee and confess Thee,  
Our holy Lord and King.

2 O bringer of salvation,  
Who wondrously hast wrought  
Thyself the revelation  
Of love beyond our thought,  
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,  
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
We praise Thee and confess Thee,  
Our gracious Lord and King.

3 In Thee all fullness dwelleth,  
All grace and pow'r divine;  
The glory that excelleth,  
O Son of God, is Thine.  
We worship Thee, we bless Thee,  
To Thee, O Christ, we sing;  
We praise Thee and confess Thee,  
Our glorious Lord and King.

4 O grant the consummation  
Of this our song above  
In endless adoration  
And everlasting love;  
Then shall we praise and bless Thee  
Where perfect praises ring,  
And evermore confess Thee,  
Our Savior and our King!

Public domain

## INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES *Isaiah 51:4, 6; Psalm 39:7; 93:2, 5; Mark 13:33*

P Give attention to Me, My people, and give ear to Me, My nation; for a law will go out from Me, and I will set My justice for a light to the peoples.

C **And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in You.**

P Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but My salvation will be forever, and My righteousness will never be dismayed.

C **Your throne is established from of old; You are from everlasting.**

P Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits Your house, O LORD, forevermore.

C **Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come.**

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *Luke 23:42; Philippians 1:6*

P As we live in the last days, waiting for Jesus to return, we are called to remember His promises and that we are His people. Yet, sometimes we forget what He has asked us to do. As God's beloved, we are called to build ourselves up in our most holy faith.

C **Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect being built up by Your Word and Spirit. Forgive us and remember us.**

# LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

- P As God's beloved, we are urged to pray in the Holy Spirit.  
C **Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect to converse with You in prayer and to guide our prayer life according to Your Word and Your will. Forgive us and remember us.**
- P As God's beloved, we are urged to keep ourselves in the love of God.  
C **Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect to remember our Baptism. Forgive us and remember us.**
- P As God's beloved, we are urged to wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
C **Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect to embrace the mercy that is ours in You as we look forward to Your return. Forgive us and remember us.**
- P As God's beloved, we are urged to have mercy on those who doubt.  
C **Lord Jesus, we confess that we fail to love others as You have first loved us. Forgive us and remember us.**
- P As God's beloved, we are urged to share our faith with others.  
C **Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect opportunities to share Your saving grace with others. Forgive us and remember us.**

*Silence for private confession*

- P As Jesus was on the cross, the thief next to Him asked, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." As Jesus remembered the thief, He remembers you are His beloved child, and He remembers your sin no more. As a called and ordained servant of Jesus the 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.**
- P And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.  
C **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

*HYMN OF PRAISE This is the Feast*

*(p. 171 in hymnal)*

- L *This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.*  
C **Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. Power and riches and wisdom and strength and honor and blessing and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia. Sing with all the people of God and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing and honor and glory and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

## *SALUTATION*

- P The Lord be with you.  
C **And also with you.**

## *PRAYER OF THE DAY*

- P Let us pray. Lord God, the Omega, the beginning and the end. As we wait for Your triumphant return, keep us steadfast in the one true faith and lead us to live lives that reflect Your presence so that You may work through us as You save others by snatching them from the fire; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
C **Amen.**

## *CHILDREN'S MESSAGE*

*OLD TESTAMENT READING Daniel 7:9–10, 13–14 (The Ancient of Days reigns; the Son of Man is given dominion.)*

<sup>9</sup>“As I looked, thrones were placed, and the Ancient of Days took his seat; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames; its wheels were burning fire. <sup>10</sup>A stream of fire issued and came out from before him; a thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. <sup>13</sup>“I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him.

# LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

<sup>14</sup> And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*EPISTLE* Jude 20–25 (Remember your identity in Christ.)

<sup>20</sup> But you, beloved, building yourselves up in your most holy faith and praying in the Holy Spirit, <sup>21</sup> keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. <sup>22</sup> And have mercy on those who doubt; <sup>23</sup> save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh. <sup>24</sup> Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, <sup>25</sup> to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

*HOLY GOSPEL* John 18:33–38 (My Kingdom is not of this world.)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>33</sup> So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” <sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” <sup>35</sup> Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” <sup>36</sup> Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” <sup>37</sup> Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.” <sup>38</sup> Pilate said to him, “What is truth?” After he had said this, he went back outside to the Jews and told them, “I find no guilt in him.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

*HYMN OF THE DAY* “Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending” LSB 336

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <p>1 <b>Lo! He comes with clouds descending,<br/>Once for ev’ry sinner slain;<br/>Thousand thousand saints attending<br/>Swell the triumph of His train:<br/>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!<br/>Christ the Lord returns to reign.</b></p> <p>3 <b>Those dear tokens of His passion<br/>Still His dazzling body bears,<br/>Cause of endless exultation<br/>To His ransomed worshipers.<br/>With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture<br/>Gaze we on those glorious scars!</b></p> | <p>2 <b>Ev’ry eye shall now behold Him<br/>Robed in glorious majesty;<br/>Those who set at naught and sold Him,<br/>Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,<br/>Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,<br/>Shall their true Messiah see.</b></p> <p>4 <b>Yea, amen, let all adore Thee,<br/>High on Thine eternal throne;<br/>Savior, take the pow’r and glory,<br/>Claim the kingdom as Thine own.<br/>Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!<br/>Thou shalt reign, and Thou alone!</b></p> |
|---|--|

Public domain

*SERMON* “What is Truth?” Rev Jim Belles

*NICENE CREED*

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.

# LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

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  $\infty$  of the world to come. Amen.

## OFFERING and CONNECTION CARDS

Offering plates are available outside the sanctuary, or you can [click here](#) to give online. [Click here](#) to fill out a connection card

## OFFERTORY *LSB 781, verses 1-2*

**1** We give Thee but Thine own,  
Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone,  
A trust, O Lord, from Thee.

**2** May we Thy bounties thus  
As stewards true receive  
And gladly, as Thou blessest us,  
To Thee our firstfruits give!

Public domain

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. Lord Jesus, You reign, robed in majesty. Keep us awake, alert, and blameless as we wait for Your return so we may join You in Your kingdom. Your salvation will be forever,

**C** **and Your righteousness will never be dismayed.**

**P** As we make our pilgrimage through this world, we are attacked in heart, soul, strength, and mind. We remember those among us who are struggling, [*especially . . .*], and we place them in Your healing hands. Your salvation will be forever,

**C** **and Your righteousness will never be dismayed.**

**P** You are the Lord of all and the ruler above all rulers. Give wisdom to those who govern our country. Guide and protect those who serve as first responders in our communities. Your salvation will be forever,

**C** **and Your righteousness will never be dismayed.**

**P** As You have saved us and brought us to faith in You, work Your saving work through us and all of Your missionary people around the globe so others experience Your mercy. Your salvation will be forever,

**C** **and Your righteousness will never be dismayed. Amen.**

## PREFACE *2 Timothy 4:22*

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, Lord God, King of the universe, for You are the ruler of all things and are enthroned in majesty. As we lift our eyes to the heavens, we are reminded that You came to earth in the person of Your Son, Jesus, who came to give us life to the fullest through His perfect life, death, and resurrection. As we watch and wait for His return, we thank You for Your Spirit, who calls us by the Gospel, enlightens us with His gifts, makes us holy, and keeps us in the one true faith. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

**SANCTUS** (*p. 178 in hymnal*)

# LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:**

**Heav'n and earth are full of Your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

## *PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING*

**P** Blessed are You, the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end, for You have had mercy on us and given Yourself so that whoever believes in You will not perish but have life everlasting with You in Your kingdom. In Your righteous judgment, You condemned Adam and Eve's sin and have rightly judged their rebellious children. Yet, in Your great mercy, You have promised salvation through the sacrifice of Your life on the cross and Your glorious resurrection. Thank You for the Table You have set for us with the very body and blood of Jesus, the Christ. Give us Your Holy Spirit, that we may faithfully enjoy the fruits of His labors and be presented blameless before the presence of Your glory with great joy. To the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## *THE WORDS OF OUR LORD*

*Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me." In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## *PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST*

*1 Corinthians 11:26; Revelation 22:20*

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## *LORD'S PRAYER* *Matthew 6:9–13*

**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.**

## *PAX DOMINI*

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

**C** **Amen.**

## *AGNUS DEI* *(p. 180 in hymnal)*

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.**

**Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.**

## *DISTRIBUTION HYMNS*

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence" *LSB 621*

**1** **Let all mortal flesh keep silence  
And with fear and trembling stand;  
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,  
For with blessing in His hand  
Christ our God to earth descending  
Comes our homage to demand.**

**2** **King of kings yet born of Mary,  
As of old on earth He stood,  
Lord of lords in human vesture,  
In the body and the blood,  
He will give to all the faithful  
His own self for heav'nly food.**

**4** **At His feet the six-winged seraph,  
Cherubim with sleepless eye,  
Veil their faces to the presence**

# LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

**3 Rank on rank the host of heaven  
Spreads its vanguard on the way  
As the Light of Light, descending  
From the realms of endless day,  
Comes the pow'rs of hell to vanquish  
As the darkness clears away.**

“How Great Thou Art”

*LSB 801*

**1 O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder  
Consider all the works Thy hand hath made,  
I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,  
Thy pow'r throughout the universe displayed;  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!**

**3 But when I think that God, His Son not sparing,  
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in—  
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing  
He bled and died to take away my sin;  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!**

**4 When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation  
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!  
Then I shall bow in humble adoration  
And there proclaim: “My God, how great Thou art!”  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!  
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to Thee,  
How great Thou art! How great Thou art!**

© 1953, renewed 1981 Manna Music. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License .NET, no. 100012963.

## *POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE*

*(p. 181 in hymnal)*

**Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell everyone what He has done.  
Let everyone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.  
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving.  
Alleluia, alleluia.**

## *POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING*

**P Let us pray. O Lord, our righteousness and our salvation, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.**

**C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

## *BENEDICTION*

**P The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.**

**C Amen.**

**P Now to Him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of His glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time now and forever.**

**C Amen.**

# LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

## HYMN

*“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*

LSB 525

- 1 Crown Him with many crowns,  
The Lamb upon His throne;  
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns  
All music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing  
Of Him who died for thee,  
And hail Him as thy matchless king  
Through all eternity.
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life,  
Who triumphed o'er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife  
For those He came to save.  
His glories now we sing,  
Who died and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring  
And lives that death may die.Public domain

- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love.  
Behold His hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above,  
In beauty glorified.  
No angels in the sky  
Can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes  
At mysteries so bright.
- 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n,  
Enthroned in worlds above,  
Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n  
The wondrous name of Love.  
Crown Him with many crowns  
As thrones before Him fall;  
Crown Him, ye kings, with many  
crowns,  
For He is king of all.

## POSTLUDE

Organ – Kris Pudwell

Vocal Leader – Mathilda Doorley

Preaching – Pastor Jim Belles