

LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

November 23, 2025

As We Gather

The final message in At the End looks not at destruction but at the new creation. Revelation unveils Christ—Alpha and Omega, Lamb and King of Kings. The vision that once frightened believers now comforts them: the Lord who conquered death reigns forever and says, "Behold, I am making all things new."

✠ WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP ✠

Hymn Crown Him with Many Crowns (LSB 525) *sts. 1, 4–5*

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ✢ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

Opening Sentences *Psalm 118:24; Psalm 22:27; Isaiah 43:1*

P This is the day that the LORD has made;
C **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

P All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
C **and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.**

P Now thus says the LORD, "Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
C **I have called you by name, you are Mine."**

Confession and Absolution *Colossians 1:13–14*

P The Lord has delivered us from the domain of darkness
C **and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.**

P Almighty God and King,

C **we confess that we have broken trust with You. We have doubted Your goodness, neglected Your ways, and sought to satisfy our sinful nature. We do not think, speak, or act like Your treasured possession. We bring before You our faults and failures, honestly and humbly recognizing that we deserve to be cast out of Your kingdom. Have mercy, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Spare us from Your wrath, deliver us from death and darkness, and cleanse us from sin, that we serve You in righteousness, innocence, and blessedness now and always. Amen.**

P On His cross, Jesus Christ, your Savior, was crowned with shame and given unto death for You. His blood pays the price Your sins deserve. Now crowned with glory, the risen and reigning Christ lives to declare sins forgiven. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

WORD

Introit for Last Sunday *Psalm 134; antiphon: Psalm 33:8*

C **Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him!**

P Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD,
who stand by night in the house of the LORD!
Lift up your hands to the holy place
and bless the LORD!
May the LORD bless you from Zion,
He who made heaven and earth!

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son
and to the Holy Spirit;
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him!

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Kyrie *LSB 204*

C **Lord, have mercy;**
Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis *LSB 204*

C **1 To God on high be glory**
And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven
Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father;
Your holy name, we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory,
Lord God, our heav'nly King.

2 To You, O sole-begotten,
The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior,
You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus;
Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated
At God's right hand on high—

3 For You alone are holy;
You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever,
Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit
Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory.
"Amen!" our glad reply.
Text: Stephen P. Starke

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.
O Holy Trinity, You are God from everlasting to everlasting, Your kingdom stretches from shore to shore, and by the cross of Christ, You are reconciling all things to Yourself. Surround us with Your expansive Gospel, that just as You separate us from our sin as far as the east is from the west, You would gather those from every language and locale to confess You: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, and join You in paradise. In Your holy name we pray.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading *Malachi 3:13–18*

"Your words have been hard against me, says the LORD. But you say, 'How have we spoken against you?' You have said, 'It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping his charge or of walking as in mourning before the LORD of hosts? And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evildoers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape.'"

Then those who feared the LORD spoke with one another. The LORD paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before him of those who feared the LORD and esteemed his name. "They shall be mine, says the LORD of hosts, in the day when I make up my treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve him."

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle *Colossians 1:13–20*

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel *Luke 23:27–43*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-third chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

And there followed [Jesus] a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. But turning to them Jesus said, "Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. For behold, the days are coming when they will say, 'Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!' Then they will begin to say to the mountains, 'Fall on us,' and to the hills, 'Cover us.' For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?"

Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with him. And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified him, and the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. And Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." And they cast lots to divide his garments. And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself, if he is the Christ of God, his Chosen One!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged railed at him, saying, "Are you not the Christ? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this man has done nothing wrong."
And he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." And he said to him, "Truly, I say to you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Hymn All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (LSB 549) *sts. 1, 7*

Sermon Series: At the End

Sermon Title: Revelation: A New Beginning *Luke 23:27–43*

Apostles' Creed (Found on the back cover of hymnal)

C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty,**
maker of heaven …

Prayer of the Church (Your steadfast love endures forever)

P We thank You,

C **for Your steadfast love endures forever.**

Offering

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less (LSB 575) *sts. 1, ref, 4*

1 My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim
But wholly lean on Jesus' name.

ref On Christ, the solid rock, I stand;
All other ground is sinking sand.

4 When He shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh, may I then in Him be found,
Clothed in His righteousness alone,
Redeemed to stand before His throne! Refrain

Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt.
Text: Public domain



✠ THE LORD'S SUPPER ✠

We follow the liturgy on Pages 208-212 in the hymnal.

Preface *Hymnal p. 208*

Proper Preface

Sanctus *LSB 208*

Prayer of Thanksgiving *Luke 23:43*

Lord's Prayer

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei *LSB 210*

Distribution Hymns

Alleluia! Let Praises Ring (LSB 822)
Glory Be to God the Father (LSB 506)
Lord, Enthroned in Heavenly Splendor (LSB 534)

Sit

Lord's Supper Dismissal

P Now may this eating and drinking, of our Savior's precious body and blood, Strengthen you, preserve you, and keep you in the one true Christian faith that leads you to eternal life. Know in peace, and joy, that your sins are ✢ forgiven you.

C **Amen.**

Stand

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 211*

Post- Communion Thanksgiving

Benediction

P To God—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—be all honor and glory in His holy church, forever and ever.

C **Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ shall come again!**

P Lift up your heads and open your eyes,

C **for He is coming!**

P Who is coming?

C **The King of glory!**

P Who is this King of glory?

C **The Lord of hosts; He is the King of glory!**

P Blessings on Him who comes as King,

C **who comes in the name of the Lord!**

P The almighty and merciful God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless and preserve you, and lead you into everlasting life.

C **Amen, amen, and amen!**

Closing Hymn

Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise (LSB 680) *sts. 1, 5*

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