



THE
LAST JUDGMENT

Be welcome here! May you find what is most important, and may life change for the better for you! God has answers for life's most intriguing questions. They come with exploring his word, the Bible. First and foremost, discover and celebrate Christ Jesus with us!

What's next?

If you're just getting back to church or looking for a new church, let this be your road map on the journey.

- **Come back next week.**
Continue to strengthen your connection to God's Word and his people.
- **Sign up for The Four Key Concepts.** This short course gives you the very basics for a good relationship with God and an introduction to his precious Word, the Bible.
- **Sign up for Bible Inquirer's Class.** This comparative religions course digs into the Bible's basic teachings while letting you see how other religions and denominations, including ours, handle those teachings. You get to see the Bible's own word on these topics and let God's Spirit show you what the Bible says. This is a pre-requisite for membership here because we base membership not on feelings and style but on unity in God's precious truths.

- **Personal Hearing Devices** are available in the pass-through window near the elevator.
- **Please silence or turn off your cell**, for an undisturbed worship hour!
- **Restrooms are downstairs**, through doors on the west wall.
- **For Parents:** If your child is restless during the service, please use the lobby or lower level to quiet him/her down before rejoining worship. Children's worship bags, next to the elevator door, are available for use during the service.
- **Offerings:** Our offerings allow us to participate in God's kingdom work. If you are a guest, you are not expected to participate in the offering. We're just glad you can be here and listen to God's Word with us!
- **Sunday School** is a HUGE blessing for all ages at St. John's! Just after the announcements, children are encouraged to head for the lobby to meet up with their Sunday School teachers. They'll lead them to snacks and the start of Sunday School! Adults and teens can head downstairs after the announcements where the fun begins in a topic focused on growing your lifestyle and character.
- There are **resources for you and your family** to discover on the display tables in the narthex (lobby). Take home some helpful tools and news – free!

Our Mission Statement

Learn, love, live for Christ!

- **Holy Communion**

– *Guests:* Our Lord Jesus has given us this holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

Because of the differences in backgrounds and denominations, we ask guests who are not yet members of a WELS or ELS church **to wait** before communing. This will give you time to work with Pastor on joining our fellowship and communing in a way that truly fits God’s will and promises.

– *The List:* Those communing today, please find your name on the Communion lists by the main entry and indicate that you have communed today. This record helps us keep healthy, accurate statistics and an understanding of our communing members. If your name is not on the list, please write it in. Alternatively, you may use the red Friendship Registers to record your presence at the Lord’s table.

– *Procedure:* At the direction of the ushers, move up the side aisle nearest you, and form a line standing before the front pews. Pastor will distribute the bread. The elder will offer individual cups to all who wish one. Pastor will then bring the chalice to those without an individual cup. Take the chalice from his hands, drink from it, and then hand it back to him. He will then pronounce the blessing to all, before you return to your seat down the center aisle.

– *Gluten-free?* If you prefer gluten-free wafers, just point to the container in Pastor’s hand as he distributes the bread.

The Last Judgment

Judgment is a terrible thought in people’s minds. When it comes to the Final Judgment, however, it seems most minds stop functioning on a certain level. Is it stubbornness (“Nobody’s going to judge me!”)? Is it defensiveness that produces a kind of disbelief that there will ever be a real Judgment Day? Is it fear because we all sense none of us really measures up to what we should be?

Part four of our series, Revelation’s View of the End, centers on the book of Revelation and its depiction of the great white throne and the judgment that will take place there. If you approach it with a humbly inquisitive mind, you will go home happy and completely ready for the last day!

PASTOR’S WELCOME

OPENING HYMN – *My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less*

CW 382

Minister: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

Congregation: And also with you!

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

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.

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 AND PRAISE

M: The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.

O LORD, OUR LORD

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

The minister says the prayer.

C: Amen.

THE WORD

PSALM 47 – *Shouts before the throne*

The choir will sing the refrain, then the congregation may join on the refrains, and the choir will sing the verses.

Refrain

Refrain: Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.
How awesome is God almighty, how awesome is the Lord most high!

*God has ascended amid shouts of joy, the Lord amid the sounding of the trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises, sing praises to our King, sing praises!*

Refrain

*For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise.
God reigns over all the nations, God is seated on his holy throne.*

Refrain

*The nobles of the nations assemble as the people of the God of Abraham;
for the kings of the earth belong to God; he is greatly exalted.*

Refrain

FIRST LESSON: Malachi 4:1-3 – *A scene of Judgment Day*

“Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire,” says the LORD Almighty. “Not a root or a branch will be left to them. ²But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings. And you will go out and leap like calves released from the stall. ³Then you will trample down the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I do these things,” says the LORD Almighty.

SECOND LESSON: Matthew 25:31-46 – *Another scene of Judgment Day*

³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his throne in heavenly glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he

will separate the people 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.

³⁴“Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

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

⁴⁰“The King will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did for me.’

⁴¹“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave

(continued on the next page)

me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’

⁴⁴“They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

⁴⁵“He will reply, ‘I tell you the truth, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

⁴⁶“Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

CHILDREN’S LESSON

All children are invited to the front rows near the pulpit for a special message geared to them. Young ones who might not listen quietly can easily be accompanied by an older person!

HYMN – *The Day Is Surely Drawing Near*

CW 207, verses 1,3,4,5

Revelation's View of the End

Part Four: Judgment at the Great White Throne

Revelation 20:11-15

¹¹Then I saw a great white throne and him who was seated on it. Earth and sky fled from his presence, and there was no place for them. ¹²And I saw the dead, great and small, standing before the throne, and books were opened. Another book was opened, which is the book of life. The dead were judged according to what they had done as recorded in the books. ¹³The sea gave up the dead that were in it, and death and Hades gave up the dead that were in them, and each person was judged according to what he had done. ¹⁴Then death and Hades were thrown into the lake of fire. The lake of fire is the second death. ¹⁵If anyone's name was not found written in the book of life, he was thrown into the lake of fire.

The Setting

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-
-
-

Judgment by the Books

The Other Book

How can bad deeds and insufficiency of good deeds be overridden?!

- There is only one way to have full righteousness:

- There is only one way to cancel sins: _____

- There is only one way these can become yours:

Psalm 87 –

So how will you handle Judgment Day?

Answer: _____

OFFERING

At this time please use the red Friendship Registers to mark your presence today, as well as indicate if you communed and/or you have any requests or information updates to make.

As the offering is brought forward, the congregation rises to sing hymn 480, verses 4 and 5, Almighty Father, Heaven and Earth.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE SACRAMENT

Our Lord Jesus has given us a holy supper in which we receive his true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and the strengthening of our faith. In this supper we celebrate the gift of his redemption, we bear witness to the fellowship we share as confessors of the truth, and we proclaim his death until he returns.

Because of the differences in backgrounds and denominations, we ask guests who are not yet members of a WELS or ELS church to wait before communing. This will give you time to work with Pastor on joining our fellowship and communing in a way that truly fits God's will and promises.

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them up to the Lord.

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing. He protects and preserves his Church in every age and gives us confidence to lift up our heads and watch for Jesus with joy. Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

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, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD

DISTRIBUTION

During the distribution the congregation may sing the following hymns:

CW 361 – Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

CW 376 – Jesus, Your Blood and Righteousness

THANKSGIVING

THANK THE LORD

M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood – and in all your gospel messages today – the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

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 – *The King Will Come at Age's End*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After the announcements, children are invited to head into the lobby and meet up with the Sunday School teachers. They will lead the children to the snack area and the beginning of Sunday School!

Serving in God's House Today

Officiant Pastor Chris Cordes
Organist Rachel Cordes
Lector Jesse Cordes
Elder on Duty..... Jerry Dittbenner
Counters D. Guhlke/N. Houldson/C. Leopold

Special Prayers List: LaRae Grundmeyer; Chary Heideman; Arlene and Arnie Hinderman; Al Maasz; Konner Mathiowetz; Peyton Moldan; George Piotter; David Silfies; Lorelei Tauer; William Trebesch



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Bulletin Board

Bible Class: *Parenting with Love & Logic* – This practical, down-to-earth course helps parents, teachers, and grandparents discover how to deal with all sorts of challenges – and actually succeed!

Thanksgiving Worship: We have two opportunities to worship the Lord in thanksgiv-

ing: this Wednesday at 7pm, or Thursday at 9am. The worship theme is *Thanks Shared*.

Next Sunday's Worship Theme: Part Five of *Revelation's View of the End: The New Home of Righteousness*.

The Martin Luther College Wind Symphony is pleased to present *Collage: Music for Winds and Percussion* today at 3pm in the Wittenberg Collegiate Auditorium. It promises to be a very enjoyable program.

Poinsettia time is approaching! There's a signup sheet on the back table if you are interested in providing one or more poinsettia plants to beautify the sanctuary for the Christmas season.

Martin Luther College's annual Christmas Concert will be presented Saturday, December 1, at 7:30 pm and Sunday, December 2, at 4:00 pm in the MLC Chapel of the Christ. The combined choirs of Martin Luther College, the Wind Symphony, and the Hosanna Ringers invite you to join them in this musical celebration of the birth of Christ. This year's program, entitled *Peace Eternal Making*, offers a highly eclectic blend of music for choir, instruments, and congregation, while centering around the timeless message of the peace and salvation that Christ brings to the earth. Light refreshments will be served in the Chapel Fellowship Room after each concert. All are welcome as we open the Advent season with this joyous campus tradition!

The Music Department of Bethany Lutheran College, Mankato, presents their annual *Christmas at Bethany* concerts in Trinity Chapel Dec. 6-7 at 5 p.m., Dec. 8 at 1 and 5 p.m., and Dec. 9 at 3 p.m. The concert will include participation by the Concert Band and Chamber Orchestra directed by Benjamin Faugstad, the Mary Martha Singers and Handbell Choir directed by Ann Fredrickson, and the Concert Choir directed by Dennis Marzolf. Advance reservations are encouraged, especially for Saturday and Sunday, as concerts tend to fill and seating is general admission. Tickets available now, or call Fine Arts Coordinator Susan Harstad at 507-344-7365. Christmas at Bethany tickets are free, with a free-will offering received during the concert.

Save the Date: Come share "An Evening with Isaiah" on Sunday, December 9 at Trinity Lutheran Church, Nicollet. Registration will begin at 5pm and desserts will be served at 5:30pm. The opening prayer and service will begin at 6:00pm. To save your spot, please email office@trinitynicollet.org or call 507-232-3938, ext 0. Please leave a message if nobody answers.

Congregational Night at MVL: Tuesday, December 11 is Congregational Night at Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School. Come and support the girls' basketball teams as they play against GFW! The C squad game starts at 4:45pm, the JV at 5:45pm, and the varsity

game at 7:15pm. Tickets are **free**, and you can get yours from our church/school office.

Martin Luther College is now accepting applications for a regular full-time graphic arts worker and a part-time grounds worker. Comprehensive descriptions of these positions can be found at mlc-wels.edu/hr. Interested individuals should apply online. Applications will be accepted through 12:00 pm (noon) on Tuesday, November 20, 2018. Additional information and details can be obtained by contacting the Martin Luther College Human Resources Office at 507-354-8221.

Speech Coach Wanted: MVL is looking for a speech coach for the 2018-19 season which will run from December-early April. Practices will be determined by the coach's availability. This is a paid position. For further information, contact Craig Morgan at cmorgan@mvlhs.org or 507-233-8658.

Thrivent Open House: All are invited to a Holiday Cheer Open House on Tuesday, November 27, from 11am-1pm in support of Thrivent's "Giving Tuesday" initiative. Thrivent will **double** donations received, up to \$10,000, made on November 27th. 100% of the donations will go to **Minnesota Valley Lutheran High School**. MVL was one of two recipients of Thrivent's "Giving Tuesday" campaign. The address is 108 S Minnesota St. in New Ulm. If you have any questions, please call 507-354-4413.

The Southwest Area Lutheran Choral invites you to participate in their 2019 season. The first rehearsal is scheduled for Sunday, January 13th at St. John in Redwood Falls from 2-5pm. Concerts will be held on Sunday, April 7th, in Fairfax (St. John) at 2pm and St. James (St. Paul's) at 7pm. A complete schedule will be distributed at the first rehearsal. You can also learn more by contacting Jim Renz 507-327-7222 (director), Linette Scharlemann 507-227-2161 (director), or Pastor Scott Muske 507-426-7007 (pastoral advisor). New members are always welcome!

COMING EVENTS

Sun Nov 18

- 9:00am Worship w/Communion – Theme: *Judgment at the Great White Throne*
- 10:15am Spiritual growth for kids, teens, and adults

Mon Nov 19

- **Newsletter deadline**
- 7:00pm Worship w/Communion
- 7:05pm St. John's on TV - Channel 8, Springfield
- 7:45pm Spiritual growth for adults and teens

Tue Nov 20

- 8:10am Catechism class
- 1:00pm Early school dismissal
- 6:00pm St. John's on TV - Channel 8, Sleepy Eye
- 7:00pm Choir practice

Wed Nov 21

- No school - Thanksgiving break
- 1:30pm St. John's on TV - Channel 8, Sleepy Eye
- 4:00pm Worship service at Sleepy Eye Care Center

- 7:00pm Thanksgiving Worship - Theme: *Thanks Shared*

Thu Nov 22

- No school - Thanksgiving break
- 9:00am Thanksgiving Worship - Theme: *Thanks Shared*
- 10:00am St. John's on TV - Channel 8, Springfield

Fri Nov 23

- No school - Thanksgiving break

Sun Nov 25

- 9:00am Worship – Theme: *The New Home of Righteousness*
- 10:15am Spiritual growth for kids, teens, and adults

Mon Nov 26

- 7:00pm Worship
- 7:05pm St. John's on TV - Channel 8, Springfield
- 7:45pm Spiritual growth for adults and teens

St. John's Lutheran Church and School

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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