



God's Harvest of Righteousness

Shines Like the Sun on the Last Day

*Last Judgment Sunday
November 13, 2022*



*Gathering around Grace – Growing in Grace – Going with Grace
In the land of gracious living*

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Welcome

- † If you would like to know more about Grace, visit our **website** at gracelutheran.church. A **membership** class, a class that covers the basic teachings of the Bible and what it means to be a Christian is beginning after Christmas. Contact Pastor Sievert or Vicar for more information. We would also love to share information with you about our Sunday worship services, our weekly Bible Classes, and our youth programs.
- † Restrooms are across the breezeway, in our Grace Hall... a cry room is available in the back left corner of our church.
- † Coffee and treats are available after church. We would love to visit with you and answer your questions.



*Grace Lutheran Church
is a member of the
Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod
and California Lutheran High School*





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LAST JUDGMENT

No one likes to talk about judgment. You probably wouldn't get a "like" on your Facebook post about it. Even when our world talks about it, it laughs it off. Yet, the end of the church year is the time to talk about the very things no one likes to talk about. Today we focus on God's sure and certain coming judgment and how to prepare to face it with Christian confidence and the Christian life.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and 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.

Amen.

✠ The Word ✠

FIRST READING

Malachi 4:1-6

The Lord's judgment will be a day of fire... but for those who fear the Lord there is healing and joy and victory. May the sun or the SON, shine on us with warmth and light and life!

"Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and the 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 rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves. ³Then you will trample on the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I act," says the LORD Almighty.

⁴"Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel.

⁵"See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. ⁶He will turn the hearts of the parents to their

children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction.”

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 90

Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

From everlasting to everlasting you are God.

You turn men back to dust, saying, “Return to dust, O sons of men.”

For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has just gone by.

You sweep men away in the sleep of death.

We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation.

You have set our iniquities before you,

our secret sins in the light of your presence.

The length of our days is seventy years—or eighty, if we have the strength;
**yet their span is but trouble and sorrow, for they quickly pass, and we fly
away.**

Teach us to number our days aright, that we may gain a heart of wisdom.
**Satisfy us in the morning with your unfailing love,
that we may sing for joy and be glad all our days.**

May the favor of the Lord our God rest upon us.

Establish the work of our hands for us. Yes, establish the work of our hands.

*Judgment Day is a
glorious day for
those who have
faith in Jesus – we
are safe because of
his glory.*

SECOND READING

2 Thessalonians 1:5–10

⁵All this is evidence that God’s judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering.⁶ God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you⁷ and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels.⁸ He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus.⁹ They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might¹⁰ on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Revelation 2:10

Alleluia. Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor’s crown. Alleluia.

*This hymn is
usually associated
with Thanksgiving,
but it clearly
echoes the Gospel
for today – a
parable about the
final harvest on the
Last Day...*

HYMN OF THE DAY **Come, You Thankful People, Come 491**

The Harvest is Coming

Be Prepared

Recognize the
weeds around
you

Rely on God's
promise for you

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

²⁴ Jesus told them another parable: "The kingdom of heaven is like a man who sowed good seed in his field. ²⁵ But while everyone was sleeping, his enemy came and sowed weeds among the wheat, and went away. ²⁶ When the wheat sprouted and formed heads, then the weeds also appeared.

²⁷ "The owner's servants came to him and said, 'Sir, didn't you sow good seed in your field? Where then did the weeds come from?'

²⁸ "'An enemy did this,' he replied.

"The servants asked him, 'Do you want us to go and pull them up?'

²⁹ "'No,' he answered, 'because while you are pulling the weeds, you may uproot the wheat with them. ³⁰ Let both grow together until the harvest. At that time I will tell the harvesters: First collect the weeds and tie them in bundles to be burned; then gather the wheat and bring it into my barn.'"

³⁶ Then he left the crowd and went into the house. His disciples came to him and said, "Explain to us the parable of the weeds in the field."

³⁷ He answered, "The one who sowed the good seed is the Son of Man. ³⁸ The field is the world, and the good seed stands for the people of the kingdom. The weeds are the people of the evil one, ³⁹ and the enemy who sows them is the devil. The harvest is the end of the age, and the harvesters are angels.

⁴⁰ "As the weeds are pulled up and burned in the fire, so it will be at the end of the age. ⁴¹ The Son of Man will send out his angels, and they will weed out of his kingdom everything that causes sin and all who do evil. ⁴² They will throw them into the blazing furnace, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth. ⁴³ Then the righteous will shine like the sun in the kingdom of their Father. Whoever has ears, let them hear.

L: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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.

BLESSING

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.

Amen.