

The Time In Between: A Time to Yearn For the End

CHRIST THE KING
November 26, 2023



Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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{Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod}
5600 W. Palmyra Avenue
Glendale, AZ 85301
Sunday 8:00 & 10:30 AM
623-937-2010

Principal Joel D. Walker, x302
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School Office Manager, Monica, x326
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WELCOME...

- *May the Word of God bring you comfort in Christ alone.*
 - *Check our website at www.graceglendale.org for more information.*
 - *Please reserve **the BACK PEWS for parents with SMALL CHILDREN.***
 - *Ask an usher to receive a **RECEIVER** if you need hearing assistance.*
-

HYMN: 487 LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING

Lo! He comes with clouds descending,
once for ev'ry sinner slain;
thousand thousand saints attending
swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!
Christ reveals his endless reign.

Ev'ry eye shall now behold him
robed in glorious majesty;
those who set at naught and sold him,
pierced and nailed him to the tree,
deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
shall their true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of his passion
still his dazzling body bears,
cause of endless exultation
to his ransomed worshipers.

With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture,
gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, amen, let all adore thee
high on thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the pow'r and glory,
claim the kingdom as thine own.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Thou shalt reign, and thou alone!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Text: Public domain

BAPTISM (10:30)

CW 151

Samson Michael Walentiny

(Please stand)

INVOCATION

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy
Spirit.

Amen.

CONFESSION

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins
are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against
them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Almighty and merciful Father, we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep. We have followed what we have devised and desired in our hearts. We have offended you and sinned against your holy law. We have done those things that we should not have done, and we have not done those things that we should have done. Have mercy on us, Lord! Spare us, forgive us, and restore us, according to your promises in Christ Jesus.

(Silence for meditation and reflection)

God, our merciful Father, has forgiven all our sins. He sent his Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Redeemer and Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for our guilt by his death on the cross and freed us from death by his resurrection from the grave. We have peace with God now and forever.

Amen.

LORD, HAVE MERCY

CW 174

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST

CW 176



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



peo - ple on earth. Lord God,



heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we



wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your



glo - ry. Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and



peace to his peo - ple on earth.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,



Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. You are seat - ed at the



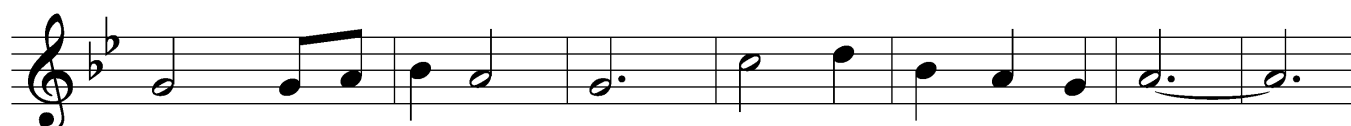
right hand of the Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer.



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his



peo - ple on earth. For you a -



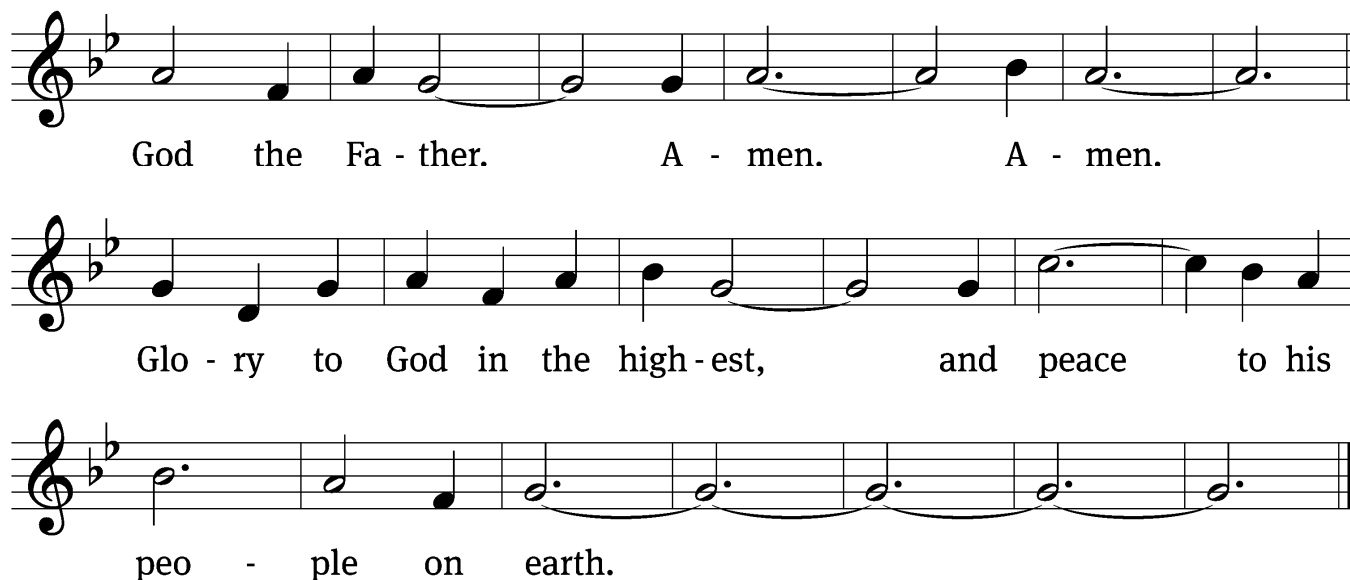
lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ,



with the Ho - ly Spir - it in the glo - ry of



God the Fa - ther. A - men. A - men.

Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his

peo - ple on earth.

Tune: Marty Haugen

Tune: © 1984 GIA Publications, Inc. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 705990

SALUTATION

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY: LAST SUNDAY (YEAR A)

Let us pray.

Eternal God, merciful Father, you have appointed your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of his return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for your own from the foundation of the world; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(Please be seated)

FIRST READING: DANIEL 7:9-10,13-14

Daniel 7:9-10,13-14

⁹“As I looked,

“thrones were set in place,
and the Ancient of Days took his seat.
His clothing was as white as snow;
the hair of his head was white like wool.
His throne was flaming with fire,
and its wheels were all ablaze.
¹⁰A river of fire was flowing,
coming out from before him.
Thousands upon thousands attended him;
ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him.
The court was seated,
and the books were opened.

¹³“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence.

¹⁴He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

ADULT CHOIR (8:00)

"In Heavenly Love Abiding"

MEN'S CHORUS (10:30)

"Great is Thy Faithfulness"

SECOND READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13–18 *1 Thessalonians 4:13–18*

¹³Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the

rest of mankind, who have no hope. ¹⁴For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him. ¹⁵According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

(Please stand)

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: GOSPEL ACCLAMATION - SETTING 2

Revelation 22:13



Refrain



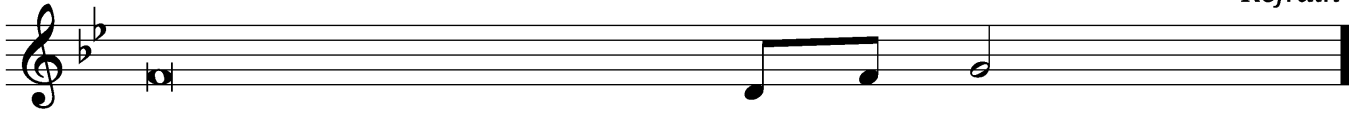
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Tone



I am the Alpha and the O - me - ga,

Refrain



the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End.

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GOSPEL: MATTHEW 25:31–46

Matthew 25:31–46

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 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, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters 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 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, 'Truly I tell you, 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."

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise be to you, O Christ!

(Please be seated)

HYMN OF THE DAY: 840 ALL MEN LIVING ARE BUT MORTAL *sts.*
1-4

All men living are but mortal
and will surely fade as grass;
only through death's gloomy portal
to eternal life we pass.
When this body here has perished,
then will heav'nly joys be cherished
where the saints, in glorious dress,
live and reign in righteousness.

Therefore, when my God shall choose it,
willingly I'll yield my life,
nor will grieve that I should lose it,

with its sorrow, pain, and strife.
In my dear Redeemer's merit
peace has found my troubled spirit,
and in death my comfort this:
Jesus' death my source of bliss.

Jesus for my sake descended
my salvation to obtain:
death and hell for me are ended,
peace and hope are now my gain.
With great joy I leave earth's sadness
for the home of heav'nly gladness,
where I shall forever see
God, the Holy Trinity.

There is joy beyond our telling,
where so many saints have gone;
thousands, thousands, there are dwelling,
worshiping before the throne.
There the angel hosts are shining,
evermore in chorus joining:
"Holy, holy, holy, Lord!
Triune God, by all adored!"

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; J. G. Albinus, 1624–1679
Text: Public domain

SERMON

Matthew 25:31-46

THE LAST DAY HAS NO SHADES OF GRAY

1. One red fire
2. One bright light

(Please stand)

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

(Please be seated)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

OFFERINGS OF LOVE TO OUR LORD

Please fill out the “Welcome to Grace” register in your pew at this time!

HYMN: 840 ALL MEN LIVING ARE BUT MORTAL

sts. 5–7

Patriarchs of sacred story
and the prophets there are found;
twelve apostles, bright with glory,
on twelve seats are there enthroned.
All the saints that have ascended
age on age, through time extended,

there in blissful concert sing
hallelujahs to their King.

O Jerusalem, how glorious
are your heav'nly mansions fair!
I can hear the tones victorious
ever sweetly sounding there.
Oh, the bliss that there surprises!
Look, my soul, the sun now rises,
and the breaking day I see
that shall never end for me.

Now I see what here was told me,
see that wondrous glory shine,
feel the spotless robes enfold me,
know a golden crown is mine.
Thus before the throne so glorious
now I stand, a soul victorious,
filled with purest joy and peace
that in Christ shall never cease.

Text: J. G. Albinus, 1624–1679; (st. 5): unknown, alt.; (sts. 6–7): tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.

Text: Public domain

(Please stand)

PRAYER

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us

today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

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.

(Please be seated)

HYMN: 850 IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
when sorrows like sea billows roll—
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,
it is well, it is well with my soul. (Refrain)

It is well with my soul,
it is well, it is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
let this blest assurance control,
that Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
and hath shed his own blood for my soul. (Refrain)

My sin—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought—
my sin, not in part, but the whole,
is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more:
praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! (Refrain)

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
the clouds be rolled back as a scroll;
the trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend;
even so, it is well with my soul. (Refrain)

Text: Horatio G. Spafford, 1828–1888, alt.

Text: Public domain

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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ATTENDANCE LAST WEEK:

Worship: 8:00 AM – 118 10:30 AM – 142
Communion: 8:00 AM – 98 10:30 AM – 111
Sunday School: Adults: 90 – Children: 23
Thanksgiving Worship: 302

SERVING THIS MORNING:

Senior ushers: 8:00 AM: Eoghan Hill
10:30 AM: AJ McDunn/Tristan McDunn
Organist: Rachel Kulhanek

HOSPITALIZED OR RECUPERATING AT HOME:

Janet Brussman
Dixie Carpenter
Sandra Lederer

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS:

1. *Forward in Christ* and November Bible-reading and activity calendars are in the Narthex and south entrance to the church.

2. Thank you to the crew that cleaned the church last week. The cleaning crew for December 2nd will be captained by Janet Brussman with George Bivens, Brenda Hepper, Brian Klingener, Veneva Lincoln, Rosie Ortiz, Alice Thiesfeldt, and Melina Thiesfeldt.

THIS WEEK AT GRACE:

TODAY: WORSHIP, 8:00 & 10:30 AM

Bible Class & Sunday School, 9:30 AM

Christmas Decorating, 11:30 AM (After 2nd Service)

Ladies Advent by Candlelight, 5:00 PM

MON - Handbells, 6:15 PM

Boy Pioneers, 6:30 PM

Choir Practice, 7:00 PM

TUE - Bible class, 2:00 PM

WED - Public School Confirmation, 6:00 PM

Bible Class, 7:00 PM

FRI - Bible Class, 10:00 AM

SAT - Donald Bonkosky Memorial, 11:00 AM

Adult Choir Caroling to Shut-ins, 12:00 PM

SUN - **COMMUNION WORSHIP, 8:00 & 10:30 AM**

Bible Class & Sunday School, 9:30 AM

DONALD BONKOSKY MEMORIAL... will be held at 11:00am on December 2. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Grace Education Assistance Fund or the Stain Glass Project. A light lunch will follow in the Fellowship Hall.

CHRISTMAS CAROLING... Please join Grace's Adult Choir as we go caroling to some of our members who are on the shut-in list. Meet at the School at Noon on Saturday, December 2, 2023. Please call or text Keith Feldt for additional information at (602) 568-4786.

OTHER EVENTS COMING SOON...

ABC... Adult Breakfast and Coffee Group will meet on December 6, 8:30 AM at Village Inn, 9490 W Northern Ave. For more information, please text Pat Walker, at 480-717-0131 or email patwalker1950@gmail.com. Hope to see you there!

ALRC ADVENT SERVICES... Arizona Lutheran Retirement Center (1928 W. Orangewood Ave., Phoenix, 85021) will be hosting Advent services on Wednesday mornings at 10:00 AM, beginning 12/6. The theme for the season is "The Clothing of the King". Services will be in the activity room. All are welcome.

THINGS OF NOTE...

ALTAR FLOWER SIGN-UP SHEETS... Please sign up for altar flower donations by filling out the Altar Flower binder in the narthex. Altar bouquets cost \$35 each. Enclose payment in a pink envelope (checks payable to Grace Ladies Aid) and place it in the collection plate.

2024 SCRIPTURAL WALL CALENDARS... are available for purchase in the Fellowship Hall before Bible Class for \$9.00 each. The proceeds support the Grace Ladies' Aid.

SCRIPTURAL CHRISTMAS, & GREETING CARDS... are available for purchase before Bible Class in the Fellowship Hall. Cards are \$6.00 per box or \$1.00 per card. Proceeds support the ministry of Grace Ladies' Aid.

ARIZONA PRISON MINISTRY... is a WELS ministry devoted to mentoring returning citizens and others requiring spiritual guidance with the Gospel so that they have the Lord's help in

obtaining a healthy spiritual lifestyle. For more information please call Pastor James Ruppel at (509) 800-5018.

DONATE FROM YOUR SMARTPHONE! Scan this image using your phone’s QR code reader! Contact Debbie at ext. 322 if you have any questions or need help with setting this up. Automatic or one-time deductions for offerings may also be accessed from the graceglendale.org site with the “Click Here to Donate Online” button. A phone app is also available for donations: install Vanco Mobile Faith Engagement. Search organizations for Grace Ev Lutheran Church. Please use checking or savings account information rather than a credit or debit card to save the processing fees.



FINANCIAL UPDATE:

Need amounts are based on a goal of **\$947,436.00** by **6/30/2024**.

Week ending 11/19/2023: **YTD 7/1/2023 thru 11/19/2023:**

Weekly Need:	17,000.00		YTD Need:	362,300.00
Weekly Actual:	14,479.12		YTD Actual:	352,235.80
Weekly +/-:	-2,520.88		YTD +/-:	-10,064.20