

TRINITY EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

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(A member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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Saints Triumphant

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The church year officially comes to a close on Sunday, November 21. So, these last Sundays have a theme focusing on the end times before Christ returns on Judgment Day. These Sundays of the End Times have specific themes to do so.

For instance, last Sunday was known as "Last Judgment." This particular Sunday is known as "Saints Triumphant." Our readings for this Sunday will focus on God's goal and promise for us: to deliver us from this sinful world to our home in heaven. In heaven, we will enjoy perfection of body, soul and environment. No longer will the effects of living in a sinful world in any way corrupt us or our heavenly home. God's ultimate goal for us, then, will commence on Judgment Day, when He will raise up the bodies of those who have died and rejoin their glorified souls to be in heaven forevermore (Philippians 3:12-21).

Order of Worship: ELH Page 60, The Common Service "Rite Two"

Hymns: 554 (1-6), 553, 552 (1-5), 551 (7-8)

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

Old Testament: Daniel 12:1-3. The God who protected His elect in this life will certainly not abandon them in death and on the Day of Judgment. Those who lived following their Savior in faith will rise in triumph and live with Him forever in glory. The fate of the damned, who do not know or who still despise His gracious word, impels us to labor with all our might to bring them to the righteousness of the gospel.

Psalms of the Day: Psalm 118. Because the LORD's mercy and grace remain everlasting, we look forward with all joy and confidence to the Day of Judgment. Therefore, give thanks, even now, for the triumph of grace, which we shall see on that day (*Supplement*).

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18. St. Paul addresses a false rumor troubling the Thessalonians. It seems that some spread the idea that Christ returned to earth and they missed their delivery to heaven. Paul gives us a glimpse of what will happen, when our Jesus returns on Judgment Day.

Verse of the Day: Alleluia. They are in front of the throne of God, and they serve him day and night in his temple. Alleluia. (Revelation 7:15a, EHV)

Gospel: John 5:25-29. The basis of the judgment was already set in the last serve of last Sunday's gospel lesson (verse 24... "will not come into judgment"). Our joyful certainty of the outcome of that judgment moves us to live that confidence by good works which reflect our saint status.

Sermon: Daniel 12:1-3

Theme - "In The End...The LORD Will Deliver"

Points to ponder from the day's Scripture readings:

- Old Testament: How does Revelation 12:7 help us understand who Michael (v.1) is?
- Old Testament: Daniel brings us a vision of "the end times." Out of great distress whom will God deliver?
- Old Testament: Compare v. 2 with the John 5:25, 28 and 1 Corinthians 15:26.
- Old Testament: Study the section previous to these verses: Daniel 11:36-45. How does the New Testament (2 Thessalonians 2:3ff; 1 John 2:18; 4:3, 2 John 7) shed light on this section?
- Epistle: What did Jesus do unlike an earthly high priest (v.12)?
- Epistle: We know Jesus isn't locally "trapped" in heaven. So, when the Bible speaks of Jesus "sitting at God the Father's right hand," what does that mean? (See Philippians 2:9-11)
- Gospel lesson: What is the basis for the Christian's confidence on Judgment Day?

Announcements:

+ Please join us for Bible class on Sunday mornings at 8:00 a.m. We are studying the Book of Psalms.

+ Confirmation class: 3:15-5:00 p.m. at the church on?

+ Sunday school on Sunday mornings from 8-8:30 a.m.

Daniel 12:1-3 – Then at that time, Michael, the great prince who stands over your people, will arise. There will be a time of distress that has not happened from the first time that there was a nation until that time. At that time your people will be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. Many who are sleeping in the dusty ground will awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame, to everlasting contempt. Those who have insight will shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who bring many to righteousness will shine like the stars forever and ever. (EHVTM)

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 – We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you do not grieve in the same way as the others, who have no hope. Indeed, if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, then in the same way we also believe that God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus. In fact, we tell you this by the word of the Lord: We who are alive and left until the coming of the Lord will certainly not go on ahead of those who have fallen asleep. For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught

up in the clouds together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will always be with the Lord. Therefore, encourage one another with these words. (EHV™)

John 5:25-29 – “But after that distress in those days, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light. The stars will be falling from the sky, and the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then you will see the Son of Man coming on clouds with great power and glory. At that time, he will send out his angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the farthest end of the earth to the farthest end of the sky. (EHV™)