

## The Last Sunday of the Church Year (2020)

Holy Spirit, Light Divine: Shine upon this heart of mine;  
Chase the shades of night away; turn the darkness into day;  
Let me see my Savior's face; let me all His beauties trace;  
Show those glorious truths to me which are only known to  
Thee. Amen.

**Matthew 25:31–46** *“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left.*”

In the Name of Jesus.

The kingdom prepared for us, dear disciples of Jesus, is the Kingdom HE prepares: the King Whose Father calls us blessed! It is NOT the one WE prepare. And I'll fall asleep at once and in good cheer one more night. Follow me.

Oh! If Jesus keeps talking this way! What will happen?!  
'When the Son of Man comes in His glory,' and so on. He did talk that way, to the End! He does still, to the End!  
Blessed are you, the righteous!

And the high priest said to him, “I adjure you by the living God, tell us if you are the Christ, the Son of God.” <sup>64</sup> Jesus said to him, “You have said so. But I tell you, from now on you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of Power and coming on the clouds of heaven.” <sup>65</sup> Then the high priest tore his robes and said, “He has uttered blasphemy. What further witnesses do we need? You have now heard his blasphemy. <sup>66</sup> What is your judgment?” They answered, “He deserves death.” <sup>67</sup> Then they spit in his face and struck him. And some slapped him, <sup>68</sup> saying, “Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?” <sup>1</sup>

Just the start.

<sup>35</sup> And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. <sup>36</sup> Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. <sup>37</sup> And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.” <sup>38</sup> Then two robbers were crucified with him, one on the right and one on the left. <sup>39</sup> And those who passed by derided him, wagging their heads <sup>40</sup> and saying, “You who would destroy the temple and rebuild it in three days, save yourself! If you are the Son of God, come down from the cross.” <sup>41</sup> So also the chief priests, with the scribes and elders, mocked him, saying, <sup>42</sup> “He

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<sup>1</sup> [\*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version\*](#). (2016). (Mt 26:63–68). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

saved others; he cannot save himself. He is the King of Israel; let him come down now from the cross, and we will believe in him. <sup>43</sup> He trusts in God; let God deliver him now, if he desires him. For he said, ‘I am the Son of God.’ ” <sup>44</sup> And the robbers who were crucified with him also reviled him in the same way. <sup>2</sup>

TWO robbers: one on His right and one on His left.

THAT was the Son of Man come in His glory. ‘You are My God and yet YOU have forsaken ME!’

Jesus confessed the Last Day. His best friend could not:

“Prophecy to us, you Christ! Who is it that struck you?”

<sup>69</sup> Now Peter was sitting outside in the courtyard. And a servant girl came up to him and said, “You also were with Jesus the Galilean.” <sup>70</sup> But he denied it before them all...<sup>3</sup>

What a King! What a Kingdom! What sheep!

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<sup>2</sup> [\*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version\*](#). (2016). (Mt 27:35–44). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

<sup>3</sup> [\*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version\*](#). (2016). (Mt 26:68–70). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

The authority Jesus shares with your pastor—all authority in heaven and earth given to me, and to Jesus—is what backs up our cleansing with water and the Word. And He bids us eat and drink His Body with the Bread and His Wine with the Blood, ‘In remembrance of Him.’ Dr Luther teaches us that that simply means with the glad news of the Gospel ringing in our ears!

HEAVEN, my dear ones, is gonna be a whole lotta what YOU...DO...NOT...DESIRE! At least not right now. Me neither! That’s what the righteous confess, when put on the spot!

The RIGHTEOUS would EXCLUDE from the eternal life and blessing of the Father and the kingdom prepared from the foundation of the world: exclude THEMSELVES! ‘When did WE do YOU a single good turn?!’

See?! They’re looking for a Kingdom and a King that’s like what this awful mess we’re in is like! If you are a full-throated supporter of the abortion lobby in our world, you can sit on the throne. The king likes the killers and the killers like the king. If not...watch out!

The King of the Jews—Crucified;

M...E...A...N...I...N...G: just ANYONE’S King  
NOW.....—

No one would move Him to the throne, the White House,  
our daily agenda: not priests, not bullies, not the voters, not  
Peter. And, CLEARLY, not His God. Thus, the cross.

And thus, a Kingdom come of blessing and life eternal—  
M...E...A...N...I...N...G: a life forgiven, a life of no  
regrets, of life of no explanations, a life of no ‘catching-  
up.’

For whom? For those who, if THEY wuz in charge, would  
exclude: themselves. ‘When did WE....’

But HE includes just them. ‘Oh! I’m sure you were there,  
if even only once.’

Dearly beloved, ignore all the other voices except my  
lonely voice. Just be a Lutheran. Live without regrets,  
explanations, catching-up or sins. From MY word over  
you: I forgive you all your sins. And from Jesus’ Word  
too; which His Spirit gave me to speak to you right now.

<sup>38</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘An eye for an eye and a tooth for a tooth.’ <sup>39</sup>But I say to you, Do not resist the one who is evil. But if anyone slaps you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also. <sup>40</sup>And if anyone would sue you and take your tunic, let him have your cloak as well. <sup>41</sup>And if anyone forces you to go one mile, go with him two miles. <sup>42</sup>Give to the one who begs from you, and do not refuse the one who would borrow from you.

<sup>43</sup>“You have heard that it was said, ‘You shall love your neighbor and hate your enemy.’ <sup>44</sup>But I say to you, Love your enemies and pray for those who persecute you, <sup>45</sup>so that you may be sons of your Father who is in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the evil and on the good, and sends rain on the just and on the unjust. <sup>46</sup>For if you love those who love you, what reward do you have? Do not even the tax collectors do the same? <sup>47</sup>And if you greet only your brothers, what more are you doing than others? Do not even the Gentiles do the same? <sup>48</sup>You therefore must be perfect, as your heavenly Father is perfect. <sup>4</sup>

Is THAT our GOAL? Our RELIGION? The HOPE of our final—final WHAT?

Give it a GO, my dear ones! Nothing better to set UP our faith and hope than the LOVE to which He calls us and raises us. But don’t forget to ....be...A...LUTHERAN!

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<sup>4</sup> [\*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version\*](#). (2016). (Mt 5:38–48). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

MEANING: KEEP READING THE WORD! MY WORD is the final word on you! Jesus knows to match His Word with MY word:

<sup>9</sup> As Jesus passed on from there, he saw a man called Matthew sitting at the tax booth, and he said to him, “Follow me.” And he rose and followed him. <sup>510</sup> And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. <sup>11</sup> And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, “Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?” <sup>12</sup> But when he heard it, he said, “Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. <sup>13</sup> Go and learn what this means: ‘I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.’ For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners.” <sup>6</sup>

THAT is His KINGDOM?! Nothing BUT!

My dear ones: if you’ve never been to a prison to visit a poor soul—other than your own DNA group!—Jesus seems to be expecting us to go there. Repent, maybe? But He is also CERTAIN that we are not going to like the experience.

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<sup>5</sup> [\*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version\*](#). (2016). (Mt 9:9). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

<sup>6</sup> [\*The Holy Bible: English Standard Version\*](#). (2016). (Mt 9:10–13). Wheaton, IL: Crossway Bibles.

Yessss! Gooooodddd!

Or try to bust in to a hospital in these days of panic.

And if you can find a naked man to clothe and a starving man to feed in our land—dontcha see? SOMETHING has gone TERRIBLY wrong!

These things upset the idol we erect called ‘the comfortable life.’

Right, right. ‘Follow Me!’ Matthew did it. His thieving friends did. And enough run-of-the-mill people who admit that OTHERS are trying a LOT harder to gain heaven! Those who call THEMSELVES ‘righteous.’ As do the poor, conscience-struck sinners. ‘Yeah. I’m not as good as those people. No argument here. I am not as good as they are good.’

The King calls them goats; and you will see them on His left.

When the Son of Man comes in all His glory, He is going to come with the pardon that I deliver to you. This ‘least of



all His brothers' was put here by the Spirit of Jesus to assure you that if you are NOT in the kingdom ALREADY you are never going to get there.

But if you can just keep on sinning, until the End, then I've got just the Father, just the heaven, just the life, just the right doctor, just the PRAYER to our Father in heaven: in the Name of Jesus.