

† **NEW YEAR'S EVE** †
December 31, 2009

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

- *The order of worship is printed in the bulletin and the hymnal, “Lutheran Service Book” (LSB), is located in the pew racks in front of you.*
- *We extend a special word of welcome to first-time visitors and invite you to take a welcome kit located by the Jesus Fountain in the church entrance.*
- *To provide visitor information, member updates, or submit comments/requests to the pastors or church office, please use the sign-up sheet in the bulletin or the welcome cards in the pew racks. Church offerings and any other information will be collected during the offering time or may be left in the wicker basket by the Jesus Fountain after the service.*

COMMUNION STATEMENT

- *The congregation of Village Lutheran Church welcomes to Holy Communion those baptized Christians who: †Know Jesus Christ as their Savior (John 20:31); †Recognize that the body and blood of Christ are truly present in the bread and wine (1 Cor. 11:29); †Are able to examine themselves and repent of their sins (1 Cor. 11:28); and †Look to God’s Holy Spirit for help in living the Christian life (Col. 1:10). Persons not receiving Communion may come forward to receive a blessing.*
- *Non-Alcoholic Fruit of the Vine: Persons who are sensitive to alcohol are welcome to receive the blood of Christ in the sacrament using non-alcoholic grape juice. The juice is located in the center circle of each individual tray and is lighter in color. Wine is always available with the Common Cup or Individual Cups.*
- *Gluten-free consecrated hosts (the bread of Holy Communion) are available for all those with allergies or intolerance to gluten. Simply say “Gluten-Free” to the minister or bring your bulletin forward and point to the Gluten-Free symbol prior to receiving the bread.*
- *Communion may be brought to those with limited mobility. Please alert a Pastor or usher if you wish to commune in this way.*



TO KNOW LIVE AND SHARE THE LOVE OF CHRIST

- *Under the blessing of God, the mission of Village Lutheran Church is a ministry of the Word and Sacraments. This ministry gives opportunities for mission, witness, nurture, fellowship, stewardship, and service. It focuses on the specific needs of individuals and groups within the congregation and extends to the church-at-large, the community, and the world.*
- *The Chapel School is an integral part of the congregation’s ministry directed specifically to children. It provides a distinctive Christian education enabling children to evidence a Christian lifestyle and to achieve academic success.*

TO GOD ALONE BE GLORY

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP AT 5:30 p.m.
Service of Hymnic Holy Communion

PRELUDE Variations on *O God, Our Help in Ages Past* - Paul Manz

OPENING HYMN Great is Thy Faithfulness LSB **Hymn #809**

INVOCATION and CONFESSION

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. (*A brief time of silence for reflection*)

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: **who made heaven and earth.** (*Psalm 124:8*)

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** (*Psalm 32:5*)

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE (LSB Hymn #358, v. 8, 13, 15)

Welcome to earth, O noble Guest, through whom the sinful world is blest!
You came to share my misery that You might share Your joy with me.

Ah, dearest Jesus, holy Child, make Thee a bed, soft, undefiled,
Within my heart that it may be a quiet chamber kept for Thee.

Glory to God in highest heav'n, who unto us His Son has giv'n!
While angels sing with pious mirth a glad new year to all the earth.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray. Eternal God, You have placed us in a world of space and time, and through the events of our lives You bless us with Your love. Grant that in the new year we may know Your presence, see Your love at work, and live in the light of the event that gives us joy forever – the coming of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT LESSON

Revelation 21:1-6

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

VERSE (Congregation rising)

P: Alleluia. “See, I am making all things new.”

C: “I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end.” Alleluia. (*Rev. 21:5, 6*)

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31-46

P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read)

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Let Us All With Gladsome Voice

LSB **Hymn #390**

SERMON

“Finding Time to Take the Time”

Rev. Dr. Robert Hartwell

APOSTLES’ CREED

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

A: For Your Word of life, O God,

C: **we give You thanks and praise.**

OFFERING/VOLUNTARY

Musique Royale

- Michel-Richard Delalande

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY (*Congregation rising*)

(LW Hymn #956)

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

†HOLY COMMUNION†

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly good, right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given us Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. Grant us Your Spirit, gracious Father, that we may give heed to the testament of Your Son in true faith and, above all, firmly take to heart the words with which Christ gives to us His body and blood for our forgiveness. By Your grace, lead us to remember and give thanks for the boundless love which He manifested to us when, by pouring out His precious blood, He saved us from Your righteous wrath and from sin, death and hell. Grant that we may receive the bread and wine, that is, His body and blood, as a gift, guarantee and pledge of His salvation. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

P: And now, in the words of our Lord, we are bold to pray:

C: **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. (Matt. 6:9-13)**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION and SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

AGNUS DEI (*sung to the hymn "On Jordan's Bank"*)

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, who takes the sin of the world away,
Have mercy on us, grant us peace, and fill us with Your love and grace.

DISTRIBUTION

CLOSING PRAYER

A: Eternal God, we commit to Your mercy and forgiveness the year now ending and commend to Your blessing and love the times yet to come. In the new year, abide among us with Your Holy Spirit that we may always trust in the saving name of our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

RECESSIONAL HYMN

O God, Our Help in Ages Past

LSB Hymn #733

SILENT MEDITATION (Congregation seated)

DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

Jubilate Deo Omnis Terra

- Paul Benoit

* * * * *

VLC NEWS AND NOTES

PRAYER LINE: Please remember those members or friends who are hospitalized or recovering from an illness especially Dawn Galloway, Sheila Giglio, Carroll Hanson, Lyn Hartwell, Adrienne Hiddleston, Scott James, David Just, Madison Klein, Irene Krolides, Gene Lunog, Janet Lunog, Evan Meyer, Warren Podszus, Sylvia Puig, John Rapillo, Julio Sanchez. Also keep our shut-in/ homebound members & friends in your prayers. **Names are listed for 3 weeks.**

PASTORAL VISITS TO THE SICK: HIPAA legislation prohibits hospitals from sharing names of those receiving care, even to clergy. If you are hospitalized or learn of a fellow VLC member who is hospitalized, please call the church office at 914-337-0207 x 1003, so a visit can be made.

BEREAVEMENT PRAYER LINE: We include in our prayers all those in our community that have recently lost a loved one, especially: The family of Lois Hoffmann, friend of Pastor Hartwell and singer at the Good News Coffee House, who passed away on December 24, 2009. Please share the information on the tear-off sheet in the bulletin or call the church office 337-0207 x1003

Let us continue to pray for the soldiers, Marines, airmen, sailors and special forces who put their lives in harm's way, especially Joshua Alvarado AFSOS, Maj. Daniel Cahill, Sgt. Marco Cerbone, Chris Finocchio, Andrew Flink AFSOS, Bill Kavanagh, Chris Lena, Nick Lion, Olivia Lion, Ben Millarch, Dan Miller, Maj. Bradley Rakov, LCDR Christopher Rakov, Brent Smith.

CHURCH NEWS

VLC MUSIC MINISTRY: Updated scheduling information for **Round-the-Table Carol Sing!! Chancel Choir** will rehearse with the strings at **6:15pm on Wednesday, Jan. 6**; there will be no rehearsal on Thursday, Jan. 7, but we will sing at 9:00am on Sunday, January 10; **Youth Choir** will rehearse at 7:00pm on Wednesday, Jan. 6; **High School Choir** will resume on Sunday, Jan. 10, at 10:15am; **Village Brass** will play for the rescheduled Round-the-Table Carol Sing on Jan. 6 at 7:30pm; **Village Bells** will rehearse at **7:00pm on Wednesday, Jan. 6** and play for the service at 7:30; **FaithWalk** will look for a service date in January or February; watch for further updates.

Wednesday morning Bible Study will not meet on December 30; the next session will be on **January 6** at 10:45 a.m., when we will complete Isaiah 40.

EPIPHANY ROUND-THE-TABLE CAROL SING - Our annual choir service had to be postponed because of the snowstorm on December 20. We will now offer this service of lessons and carols as a **special Epiphany service on Wednesday, January 6, 2010, at 7:30 p.m.** Come and celebrate "Little Christmas" with music by the Chancel Choir, Youth Choir, Village Bells, Village Brass and string quartet.

The Village Lutheran Church will host the **Good News Christian Coffee House on Saturday, January 9, 2010** with music by Psalm 96. The Coffee House opens at 7 p.m. with gourmet coffee and pastries, and the concert begins at 7:30 p.m. Cost is \$5/Adult, Seniors, Students. Children \$2 (ages 5-12). A love offering will be taken to offset expenses.

Join us for monthly worship at Sprain Brook Manor Rehabilitation in Scarsdale. Services are normally held at 2:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Future service: **January 12, February 9.**

Women's Bible Study/LWML - January 16 at 8:30 a.m. Please read Chapter 5 of [Slightly Bad Girls of the Bible: Using Her Wits, Rebekah the Mother](#). We will also be discussing a new mission project. If you are able, please bring a breakfast item to share. Questions? Call Julie Taylor, 793-9075.

PRAYER SERVICES are held regularly on the last Saturday of the month. Beginning at 6:30 p.m. (following the regular Saturday service), these brief moments for meditation & prayer offer personal prayers at the altar and the ancient tradition of anointing with oil. **The next service is Saturday, January 30, at 6:30 p.m.**

LISTEN TO WORSHIP WHILE TENDING TO CHILDREN - The Care Room is now equipped with remote speakers so that children and caretakers can hear what's going on in the service. There are also speakers in the Friendship Room for families who need to take upset children out for a break. You don't have to miss a thing!

Each week we will share a thought from the book, *Life's Little Book of Wisdom For Kids* (Barbour Publishing, www.barbourbooks.com). This week, remind that special child in your life: **If you don't have something nice to say, don't say anything at all.**

LWML Mite Box Report: Mission Grant #10 has been completed thanks to all who have so generously to the Mite Box collection. The next Mission Grant to be met is #11 (Beautiful Feet). This Mission Grant will bring hundreds of college students together to learn about missions around the world, how they can be involved, and build them up to both lead mission education on their campuses and serve the Lord and Churches around the world on the mission field. Mite Boxes can be obtained in the Multi-Purpose Room on the piano. You can take home a Mite Box, fill it with loose change and return it to the big Mite Box.

The women of VLC have started a PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY. A Prayer Shawl is a soft, warm shawl, knitted or crocheted, which is given to persons who are ill, have suffered a loss, or are in the midst of a crisis. The shawl is intended to provide warmth, comfort, a "hug", and to be a reminder of God's embracing arms, which are always around us. When the prayer shawl is completed, it will be turned into the church office where it will be blessed with special prayer and delivered by the Pastors or Deacons to someone in need. Anyone that can participate by knitting or crocheting a shawl or to assist in this endeavor, please contact Shawl Coordinator, Erika Doherty, at 914-337-1080. For more information, see the pamphlets in the Tract Rack, in the Narthex of the church.

GATHERING OF FRIENDS X - Save the date & get involved! Friday, March 12, 2010. Gala Dinner and Auction benefitting Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School. For more information or to get involved, please contact: Ellen Bryceland, Event Chair at 914-439-2911 / e-mail eobb46@gmail.com. or Jeanette Van Duyne, Development Assistant at 914-337-0207 x 1040 / e-mail jvandyne@vlc-ny.org.

Village Lutheran Church & The Chapel School Stays Green with X3 Clean! VLC/TCS is now providing alcohol-free foam hand sanitizers in all classrooms and offices, and now has wall-mount units posted throughout the building. X3 Clean is "green", but we have seen test results wherein it has proven effective against H1N1 (Swine-like flu).

SENIOR NEWS

Upcoming Seniors' Luncheons - Save the dates!

January 12 - Deacon Carol Pfizenmaier discusses her recent mission trip to Malawi, Africa..

February 9 - BINGO and Chinese Banquet.

March 9 - Rich O'Donnell, Appraiser for Eastchester shares tax issues for seniors.

Doors open at 11:30 a.m. and lunch begins at 12 noon. All VLC Seniors, Loehman Village Residents and community Members welcome!

FELLOWSHIP NEWS

Church and School Undecorating Party - Sunday, January 3, 2010 at 12 noon. Bring your left-over Christmas Cookies/Treats. Pizza and soda provided.

STEWARDSHIP NEWS

End of Year Giving: Would you like to make an end of year gift to Village Lutheran Church or The Chapel School? Gifts may be mailed in to: 172 White Plains Road, Bronxville, New York 10708 or made electronically on-line (up to Dec. 31, 2009 at www.VLC-NY.ORG (Click on "GIVING") or www.THECHAPELSCHOOL.ORG (Click "Giving" and then "Giving on Line").

Our free gift of forgiveness of sins and eternal life cost Jesus His life. "*Greater love has no one than this, that he lay down his life for his friends*" (John 15:13). Because of His great love for us, He willingly suffered and died on our behalf. Christ made us righteous in the sight of God. When we give faithfully, we express our thanks and gratitude for our new lives in Jesus. We give to worship and glorify Him. Jesus said, "*It is more blessed to give than to receive*" (Acts 20:35).

The Simply Giving Program - Just as you rely upon receiving income on a regular basis, Village Lutheran Church relies upon your regular contributions. Village Lutheran Church deeply appreciates the efforts of congregation members to make consistent donations throughout the year. To assist you, the church provides a convenient electronic giving option for setting up regular contributions: This program is offered by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans. Contact Jeanette Van Duyne (914) 337-0207, x1040.

SOCIAL MINISTRY NEWS

The **Blessing Basket** collection will continue under the piano in the Friendship Room. Non-perishable items will be taken to ECAP.

PARISH HEALTH NEWS

Health tip from your Parish Health Practitioner Joy Elwell - "Hearty home-made vegetable soups are great for cold days. They not only provide vitamins that aid the immune system, but these foods are also rich in antioxidants, substances known to counteract the effect on the body of free radicals (this may help to prevent some cancers)."

Yoga is held on **Mondays at 7 p.m.** in the Multi-Purpose Rm. Cost \$10. If you need more information call Faith Forliano 725-8035. No pre-registration required.

St. Monica's Circle: St. Monica (b.333, d.387), the mother of St. Augustine, is a patron saint of mothers. A caring initiative for families growing through childbirth and adoption, St. Monica's Circle will provide 5 meals to benefit the growing family.

If you are expecting a child through pregnancy or adoption, please notify the church office at 337-0207 when your child is expected to come home, so that we may coordinate volunteers.

St. Monica's Circle has become aware of a family in need. This young family will suddenly and unexpectedly be adopting a newborn baby boy in the next few weeks from a family member who is not well. They have no baby supplies, clothes, etc. If you have baby supplies or baby clothes, up to size 18 months, that you would like to donate, please call the church office (914)337-0207 x 1003 and speak with Kim Rاپillo. She will be helping to identify what is needed for this family.

AED: Village Lutheran Church and The Chapel School have three **Automated External Defibrillators** (AED) located on each level of our campus: by the lunchroom, outside the gym and outside the sanctuary (in the closet marked AED) in the Friendship Room. These life saving devices are easy to use in the event that someone on our campus experiences distress and their heart stops beating.

Lutheran Counseling Center provides caring, Christian professional counseling right on our campus. Under LCC's Membership Assistance Program (MAP), VLC members & friends can access these services at the rate of only \$25 per session (for up to 4 sessions). Major health care insurance companies reimburse for LCC services and LCC uses a sliding scale. Call Pastor Hartwell at 337-0207 (1022).

CHAPEL SCHOOL NEWS

The next **Chapel School Open House** will take place on **Friday, January 8**, with a presentation for Grades K-8 at 9:00 a.m. and a Preschool presentation at 1:15 p.m. Invite families with young or elementary school-aged children to see how much The Chapel School has to offer!

YOUTH NEWS

Voyagers (3rd-6th) - Meetings are held in the Multi-Purpose Room 6 - 7 p.m. on Thursdays. The next meeting will be held on **January 14, 2010**. Questions, call Erika (914)395-1954 or e-mail tyandbash@aol.com.

Lifers (7th-8th) - Meet on Thursdays from 6 - 7 p.m. for Confirmation. Please visit our VLC website under the youth section for more information or contact Pastor Taylor at (914)337-0207 (1021) or e-mail Dtaylor@VLC-ny.org.

Crusaders (9th-12th) - **LC-MS Gathering Check Up meeting, Jan. 10** in the Lunch room at 10:30 a.m. Watch the bulletin board and our Facebook page (vlccrw10) for upcoming events! Be a part of Crusader Youth! For questions/concerns about our Crusader Youth, please contact Mindy at VLCcrw10@optonline.net.

COMMUNITY NEWS

ARE YOU LOOKING FOR A GREAT NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION... Help others learn English. The Adult Learning Center, located at 138 Centre Avenue in New Rochelle, is looking for volunteers who would be willing to give two or more hours a week teaching basic English to adult students. We will provide all books & training. No prior experience needed. Classes begin Feb. 3, 2010. Call Sister Eileen/Sister Mary (914)633-7298.

MEALS ON WHEELS 10708, INC. NEEDS VOLUNTEERS! Can you spare approximately 1 ½ hours one day a week (or at least a month) to assist us in the delivery of the noon-day meal to our clients, located mainly in the Bronxville area? Meals are delivered every day of the week, including weekends and holidays - 365 days per year. Our clients, most of whom are homebound, elderly or disabled, will be most appreciative of your help. To volunteer or obtain more information, call the Meals-On-Wheels Office at 787-3027 or e-mail MOW1973@aol.com.

An Invitation to Join the District's "Stop, Drop and Pray" Team - Do you believe in God's power through prayer to dramatically increase the effectiveness of our mission and kingdom work? Are you a member of the Atlantic District Mission Society's "Stop, drop and pray" network? If not, I invite you to join our prayer team today in seeking out God's blessing and provision for all our outreach efforts. We seek to faithfully partner with the Lord in the essential work of extending the kingdom of God on earth. When you join "Stop, drop and pray," you'll receive a free weekly E-Letter reminding you to stop what you are doing and take time out to pray for specific mission projects and events throughout the District. To enroll, simply contact me at carol.mittelstaedt@ad-lcms.org or call Carol at 914-337-5700 x 6.

PARTICIPANTS IN THE SERVICES

Assisting Minister:	5:30 p.m.	Morris Mayer
Organist:	5:30 p.m.	Kevin Warnken
Lector:	5:30 p.m.	Peter Kollmann
Youth Wor. Assts:	5:30 p.m.	Stefanie Introcaso
Ushers:	5:30 p.m.	Carolyn Driessnack, Mindy Warnken
Altar Guild:	5:30 p.m.	Deacon Ann Terenzio
Altar Flowers:		Kim Rapillo
Sextons:		Greta & Rebecca Kollmann

THIS WEEK IN WORSHIP

SAT., Jan. 2, 2010 *5:30 p.m.* Spoken Divine Service
SUN., Jan. 3, 2010 *9:00 a.m.* Worship Service and Sunday School
 10:45 a.m. Worship Service and Holy Communion

SERMON: “Children of God”
 Rev. Deric Taylor, preaching

LESSONS: Jeremiah 31:7-14
 Ephesians 1: 3-14
 John 1:10-18

Stewardship Update

Amount received last week: \$8,449
Amount received to date: \$163,665
Amount needed to date: \$172,510
\$6,635 average weekly need to meet our 09-10 commitment

Ecclesiastes 3:1-13

¹For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven: ²a time to be born, and a time to die; a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted; ³a time to kill, and a time to heal; a time to break down, and a time to build up; ⁴a time to weep, and a time to laugh; a time to mourn, and a time to dance; ⁵a time to throw away stones, and a time to gather stones together; a time to embrace, and a time to refrain from embracing; ⁶a time to seek, and a time to lose; a time to keep, and a time to throw away; ⁷a time to tear, and a time to sew; a time to keep silence, and a time to speak; ⁸a time to love, and a time to hate; a time for war, and a time for peace. ⁹What gain have the workers from their toil? ¹⁰I have seen the business that God has given to everyone to be busy with.

¹¹He has made everything suitable for its time; moreover he has put a sense of past and future into their minds, yet they cannot find out what God has done from the beginning to the end. ¹²I know that there is nothing better for them than to be happy and enjoy themselves as long as they live;

¹³moreover, it is God's gift that all should eat and drink and take pleasure in all their toil.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Revelation 21:1-6a

¹Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. ²And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. ³And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; ⁴he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away." ⁵And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." ⁶Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end."

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Matthew 25:31-46

³¹"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to You, O Christ.**