

Bay Pines Lutheran

(Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod)

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If you'd like to connect with one of our ministers, please don't hesitate to give them a call/text/email at your convenience; they'd consider it a blessing to meet with you. Thanks!

Proclaiming Christ in Pinellas County

The Second Weekend of End Times

~ Last Judgment ~

November 7 & 8, 2020

In the name of Jesus, our Savior & Lord, welcome!
Whether it's your first time with us or Bay Pines is
your church home, we're glad you're here! If you :



- . . . have questions, please ask – we'll do our best to answer;
- . . . need the restrooms, they're in the hallway in the northeast corner of our sanctuary (if you face the front of church, look back and left);
- . . . can stick around after worship, we'd love to get to know you;
- . . . would like a call from one of our staff, they'd love to meet with you!

If you brought young children today, thank you! Please know :

- . . . their wiggles don't bother us (their wiggles don't bother Jesus, either);
- . . . you can sit up front where little eyes & ears can see & hear easier;
- . . . we love to hear them sing, pray, and speak along, and this is a great setting to help them respond to church, to God, and to one another;
- . . . you're free to step out of the service if you need to (both the men's and women's restrooms have changing tables, and there's a cry-room adjacent the restrooms as well); but please come back – we'd love for you and for your family to feel at home in God's house!

To worship the God of Order in a fitting and orderly way (*I Corinthians 14:33, 40*), our path of worship is printed in this booklet. Today, mindful of our Savior's return, we hear his call to, ***"watch, therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming"*** (*Matthew 24:42*), as we consider the worship theme :

Lord, Keep Us Mindful!

Opening Song : Come, Now, Almighty King (RED HYMNAL, 193)

Even as we wait for Jesus' return, we celebrate the grace-victory with which he comes!



***Come, now, almighty King;
Help us your name to sing;
Help us to praise.
Father all-glorious,
O'er all victorious,
Come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.***

***Come, now incarnate Word;
Put on your mighty sword;
Our prayer attend.
Come and your people bless,
And give your Word success;
Grant us your righteousness,
Savior and Friend.***

***Come, holy Comforter;
Your sacred witness bear
In this glad hour.
Your sev'n-fold gifts impart;
Now rule in ev'ry heart;
Never from us depart,
Spirit of Pow'r.***

~ please stand if you are able ~



**To the great One in Three
Eternal praises be
Forever-more!
His sov'reign majesty
May we in glory see
And to eternity
Love and adore!**

The Invocation

Jesus promises that when we gather in his name, he's here to bless and be with us.

Minister : In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

All : **Amen!**

WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS

Dear friends, let us approach God with a true heart and confess our sins, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

Confession of Sins: Create In Me a Clean Heart, O God (COMMON SERVICE, PG. 20)

Sin offends God. Always. Aware of our own sin, we ask him for his forgiveness.



***Create in me a clean heart, O God,
And renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence,
And take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me
The joy of your salvation,
And uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen!***

*A moment of silence to recognize our own, individual sins
and our own, deep need for forgiveness.*

The Assurance of God's Forgiveness

Jesus lived, died, and rose to forgive the world's sins. In grace, you've been set free!

God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

Amen!

The Prayer of the Day

This petition appreciates Jesus' full forgiveness and asks for his guidance and blessing.

Lord God Almighty, in your grace and by your Spirit, rule and govern our hearts and minds so that we may always look forward to the end of this present, sin-filled age and ahead to the day of your righteous judgment. Until that day, keep

us steadfast in true and living faith and present us at last holy and blameless before you. Hear us, for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord; he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen!

A Childlike Illustration : God Set the Date!

This illustration & devotion are geared for the children & child-like with us today.

WE HEAR GOD SPEAK

Statement of Faith : The 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed & an Explanation

This statement of faith depicts and delights in the work of God's Son, Jesus Christ, by which he has redeemed us; gladly, then, that gospel truth applies to our daily lives.

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.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

A Reading from the Gospels : Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus promises to return; and he will. This gospel section isn't meant to confuse our hearts about his return, but to keep us glad and ready for it as we wait in his grace.

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² All 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.** ³³ He 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.** ³⁵ For 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

POINT TO PONDER :

Jesus' sheep-goat illustration emphasizes the reality: there's no third option available. What differentiates the two groups of people?

in, ³⁶ I 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? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When 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. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I 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."

This is the gospel of our Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

A Reading from the New Testament : I Thessalonians 5:1-11

Be aware. Be ready. Be alive and glad! As Paul encourages Christians then – and now! – with the certainty of Jesus’ return, he reminds us to live in the happy verdict.

Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ² for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, “Peace and safety,” destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

⁴ But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵ **You are all sons of the light and sons of the day.** We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶ So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. ⁹ **For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.** ¹⁰ He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ **Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.**

POINT TO PONDER :

In profound love, concerning the Last Day, God calls for constant vigilance. What aspects of this reading prepare our hearts for that Day?



Sung Response : Not Unto Us (RED HYMNAL, 392)

God’s grace. In the message of our forgiveness and in the certainty of our salvation, it always comes back to that. God’s grace. These happy verses adores him for it!



***Not unto us,
Not unto us be glory, Lord;
Not unto us,
But to your name be praise;
Not unto us
But to your name all honor be giv'n
For matchless mercy, forgiveness, and grace.***

***Amazing grace –
That chose us e'er the worlds were made;
Amazing grace –
That sent your Son to save;
Amazing grace –
That robed us in your righteousness
And taught our lips to sing glory and praise.***

***O faithful love –
That shepherded through faithless years;
Forgiving love –
That led us to your truth;
Unyielding love –
That would not let us turn from you
But sent us forth to speak pardon and peace.***

***Not unto us
But to your name be glory, Lord,
For grace so rich,***



So wide, so high, so free.

Abide with us

Till trav'ling days are over and done,

And pilgrim feet lead us home, Lord, to you.

A Sermon Founded on : I Thessalonians 5:1-11

Our God is the God faithful to every promise! Even the one concerning his return.

NO MORE "MAYBES"

sermon notes :

Consider the "maybes" that exist in your life. Identify the ones Satan uses to get you to question God's grace.

The Lord doesn't give "maybes" concerning his return. He's coming back. As you ponder that promised reality, is it Law or Gospel? Why?

Look carefully at our sermon Foundation. Identify our "no more maybes" confidence concerning:

- God's Day:
- God's Declaration of us :
- God's Decree for us :

Sung Response : Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See (RED HYMNAL, 219)

In glad confidence, we get to look forward to the Day we see our Savior in glory eternal.



***Lord, when your glory I shall see
And taste your kingdom's pleasure,
Your blood my royal robe shall be,
My joy beyond all measure!
When I appear before your throne,
Your righteousness shall be my crown;
With these I need not hide me.
And there, in garments richly wrought,
As your own bride I shall be brought
To stand in joy beside you!***

GOD ACCEPTS OUR GIFTS AND PRAYERS

The Offering (PLEASE USE THE AISLE-BASKET FOR PHYSICAL OFFERINGS & THE QR CODE FOR DIGITAL)

Concerning the offering, the Lord says “each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver” (II Cor. 9:7); whether the Gospel moves your heart to support our ministry with a gift, a prayer, a help, or an encouragement – thank you; please know we appreciate you for it!



GOD INVITES US

The Lord's Prayer & Prayer of the Church

This petition appreciates the prayer Jesus taught & asks for his guidance and blessing.

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.

A moment to offer today's prayer requests and our own, individual prayers

Lord God, heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth. Protect and comfort us in all temptation. Bestow on us your saving peace. Hear and answer us, for Jesus' sake.

Amen!

GOD ASSURES US

Concluding Benediction

Where the LORD's name is, there his blessing also is. Refreshed by his goodness, gifts, and grace, our service concludes with his promise to bless and be with us (Numb. 6).

Sisters and brothers, 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!

Final Song : Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending *(BLUE HYMNAL, 704)*

Jesus is coming back. That's a promise. And, strengthened by his Word of promise, we wait with eager, happy, and anxious hearts for the day we see our dear Savior!



***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 ridiculed and sold him,
Pierced and nailed him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
Shall the true Messiah see.***

***Those dear tokens of his passion
Still his dazzling body bears,
Cause of endless exultation
To his ransomed worshippers.
With what wonder, with what wonder,
with what wonder,
Gaze we on those glorious scars.***

***Yea, Amen, let all adore you
High on your eternal throne.***



*Ev'ry knee shall bow before you;
Come and take your people home!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
You shall reign and you alone!*



Bay Pines' Ministry Announcements :

for our prayers (please remember the family of these dear friends, too):

- Peggy Graef, as she recovers from health hurdles
 - Cyndi Priebe, as she deals with her health hurdles
 - Pastor Stern's mom, Pat, as she receives chemo to bout cancer
 - Jim Riley, as he continues his battle against cancer
 - Jim Smith (Charmeine's son), as he deals with a bout of cancer
 - Denise Dove (Diana Baldwin's sister), as she receives treatment for cancer
 - Sophia (the infant sister of one of our VPKers), who's been sick for a while
 - Pastor's friend, Kelli, as she lives her faith in the midst of terminal cancer
 - Monte Uchytel as he continues to rehab after knee surgery
 - Mary Meinke as she deals with a bout against cancer
 - our world and nation, as fires rage, anger hurts, and the gospel works
 - our ministry in church, school, & life as we go forth with the gospel!
- additionally, our sanctuary is open at 10:30a on Wednesdays for a midweek prayer-opportunity. Please speak with Chuck Woodard if you're interested, or if you have any prayer requests.

in our gratitude :

- Sarah Sell for edifying our worship with music
- the Priebe, Cicco, Cope, & Dryden families for cleaning & lawn-care
- Dan & Maria Buetzow for their tech support
- Gretchen & Mark Boehme, for today's altar flowers celebrating the wedding and birthday of their daughter, Jen Boehme-Decker
- all who help with Feeding God's People (the food is available in the altar kitchen & altar kitchen hallway just west of the sanctuary)
- all who make use of the SCRIP program to be a blessing for our ministry (for more info on SCRIP, or to purchase the gift cards, please speak with Sarah Sell and/or Mary Dryden)

on our calendars (please email additional dates to mary.dryden@baypineslutheran.org) :

- worship opportunities :
 - Saturdays at 7:00p
 - Sundays at 9:30a
 - Veterans' Day chapel service : November 11, 9:30a
 - Thanksgiving Eve worship : November 25, 5:00p
- spiritual growth opportunities:
 - Ladies' Bible Class : Mondays at 6:30
 - The Pieces of Peace : Thursdays at 10a & Sundays at 8a
 - The current *Forward in Christ* magazines are available
- next council meeting : Nov. 9 (tomorrow)
- Thanksgiving Food Drive : through Nov. 29
- Christmas evangelism & decoration day : Dec. 5
- next congregational meeting : Dec. 13

