

**Old Testament**

**Isaiah 65:17-19 NIV** "Behold, I will create new Heavens and a new earth. The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind. 18 But be glad and rejoice forever in what I will create, for I will create Jerusalem to be a delight and its people a joy. 19 I will rejoice over Jerusalem and take delight in My people; the sound of weeping and of crying will be heard in it no more."

**Historic Epistle**

**I Thessalonians 5:1-11** 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.

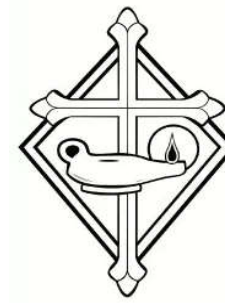
**Historic Gospel (Sermon)**

**Matthew 25:1-13** "At that time the Kingdom of Heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish and five were wise. 3 The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. 4 The wise, however, took

oil in jars along with their lamps. 5 The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. 6 At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' 7 Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.' 9 'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.' 10 But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the Bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with Him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. 11 Later the others also came. 'Sir! Sir!' they said. 'Open the door for us!' 12 But He replied, 'I tell you the truth, I don't know you.' 13 Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour."

**3-Year C "Luke" Gospel**

**Luke 12:42-48** The Lord answered, "Who then is the faithful and wise manager, whom the master puts in charge of his servants to give them their food allowance at the proper time? 43 It will be good for that servant whom the master finds doing so when he returns. 44 I tell you the truth, he will put him in charge of all his possessions. 45 But suppose the servant says to himself, 'My master is taking a long time in coming,' and he then begins to beat the menservants and maidservants and to eat and drink and get drunk. 46 The master of that servant will come on a day when he does not expect him and at an hour he is not aware of. He will cut him to pieces and assign him a place with the unbelievers. 47 "That servant who knows his master's will and does not get ready or does not do what his master wants will be beaten with many blows. 48 But the one who does not know and does things deserving punishment will be beaten with few blows. From everyone who has been given much, much will be demanded; and from the one who has been entrusted with much, much more will be asked."



# OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

6920 N Socrum Loop Road / (north) Lakeland, FL 33809 USA

Phone: (863) 859-3400 ~ Web: [www.osllakeland.org](http://www.osllakeland.org)

BIBLE CLASS 9:00 AM WORSHIP 10:00 AM FELLOWSHIP 11:15 AM

✧ Rev. Andrew R. Burmeister 863-430-5859 ✧ Organ: A.R. Burmeister

## November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2019 ✧ Trinity(-23) Last ☩ Heaven's Joy

**WELCOME to Our Savior!** We are so happy to have you worship with us today. If you are visiting us for the first time (or in a long time), we ask that that you please fill out a visitor card found in the pew cardholder and place it in the offering plate. Come and worship with us again! **The LORD bless you.**

**OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP** On gold liturgy sheets and in (red) TLH.ymnal p.5

|                    |             |  |
|--------------------|-------------|--|
| Opening Hymn       | 436 (5v)    | The LORD's My Shepherd I'll Not Want         |
| Psalm 100          | Ps.100 '4v' | We are His People, The Flock of the LORD ☩   |
| Hymn of the Day    | 609 (3v)    | Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying             |
| Offertory Verses   | 648 (3v)    | I Am Jesus' Little Lamb Ever glad at heart → |
| Third Hymn         | 464 (6v)    | Blest Be the Tie that Binds Our Hearts in... |
| Final Closing Hymn | 47 (4v)     | Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise      |

### Suggested Bible readings for the week of the 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Trinity

| Monday         | Tuesday        | Wednesday       | Thursday       | Friday         | Saturday    |
|----------------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|----------------|-------------|
| Isaiah 13:1-22 | Isaiah 3:14-21 | Isaiah          | Daniel 2:27-45 | Dan. 2:27-45   | Dan 9:1-28  |
| Rom. 11:1-33   | II Thes. 19:1  | II Thes. 3:1-18 | II Tim. 3:1-17 | II Tim. 9:1-23 | Ma. 24:1-14 |

### PROPERs for the LAST SUNDAY of CHURCH YEAR (TRINITY-23) ✧ NOV 24<sup>TH</sup>

**INTROIT** I know the thoughts that I think toward you, says the LORD, thoughts of peace and not of evil. Then you will call on Me and pray to Me, and I will listen to you; and I will turn your captivity and gather you from all nations and from all places. LORD, You have been favorable to Your land; You have brought back the captivity of Jacob. ...from Jeremiah 29:11,14

**COLLECT** LORD God, Heavenly Father, send forth Your Son, we pray, that He may lead home His Bride, the Church, that we with all Your saints may enter into Your eternal Kingdom; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our LORD, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit one true God now and forever

**GRADUAL** The King's daughter will be brought to the King; the virgins, her companions that follow her will be brought to You. They will be brought with gladness and rejoicing; they will enter the King's palace. Alleluia! Alleluia! I saw the Holy City, the New Jerusalem, come down from God out of Heaven, prepared like a bride adorned for her Husband. Alleluia! Ps.44

### SCRIPTURE LESSONS (printed on outside back page of the bulletin)

|                             |   |
|-----------------------------|---|
| O.T. Isaiah 65:17-19        | God will create a New Heaven & new earth.   |
| Epi. I Thessalonians 5:1-11 | Be ready for the LORD's (2nd) Coming.       |
| Gos. Matthew 25:1-13        | Jesus tells the Parable of the Ten Virgins. |

### Psalm 100 Refrain C: ♪ We are His People, – The Flock of the LORD.

Verse 1. ♪ Cry out with joy to the LORD, all you lands, all you lands.

Serve the LORD now with gladness, Come before Him singing with joy!

**Refrain C: ♪ We are His people, – The flock of the LORD.**

Verse 2. ♪ Know that the LORD- is God, Know that the LORD- is God.

He made us, We are His, His people, The sheep of His flock!

**Refrain C: ♪ We are His people, – The flock of the LORD.**

Verse 3. ♪ Go, now within- His gates, giving thanks, giving thanks.

Enter His courts singing praise, Give Him thanks and bless- His Name!

**Refrain C: ♪ We are His people, – The flock of the LORD.**

Verse 4. ♪ Indeed, How good is the LORD, His mercy endures forever.

For the LORD, He is faithful, He is faithful from age- to Age!

**(Final) Refrain C: ♪ We are His people, – the flock of the LORD!**

# 648 I am Jesus' little lamb, 2. Day by day, at home, away 3. Who so happy as I am, Ever glad at heart I am; Jesus is my Staff and Stay. Even now the Shepherd's lamb For my Shepherd gently guides me, When I hunger, Jesus feeds me, And when my short life is ended, Knows my need and well provides me, Into pleasant pastures leads me; By His angel host attended, Loves me every day the same, When I thirst, He bids me go He shall fold me to His breast, Even calls me by my name. Where the quiet waters flow. There within His arms to rest.

| PRAYER REQUESTS:                         | Member or Relation                                    | Pray for...                  |
|--|---|------------------------------|
| Pr. Burmeister & Our Savior Congregation | LORD, direct us                                       | both in the future           |
| Joan Patrick (Frank)                     | Joan has been battling health and insurance issues    |                              |
| Joe Thacker (Bev Foster)                 | Joe had health issues in MI. We're happy they're back |                              |
| Jim Vanesky & Delores Platt              | Jim and Delores both homebound, both rehab            |                              |
| Dave Wiesenuer (Pat)                     | Dave had major surgery. Rehabbing at home             |                              |
| Volunteers                               | Today   | Next Sunday                  |
| Greeters                                 | Joan Patrick  | Barb Wolkens                 |
| Treaters                                 | (Farewell) Vivian Temple                              | (Meet w/ Pr. Steve Petersen) |

| Statistics                     | Last week    | Year To Date / Avg. |
|--------------------------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Sunday, Attendance (Communion) | 21 / (19)    | 16 / 14             |
| Bible Class Attendance: Sunday | 7            | 7                   |
| Sunday Offering (Needed) & YTD | \$. (\$1.3K) | YTD \$./ \$58.6K    |

| Calendar of Events  |                                    |   |
|---|------------------------------------|---|
| Today November 24 (Trinity-23 Sunday) Last Sun. of Year/Pr. | 9:00 am<br>10:00 am<br>11:15 ff... | BibleStudy Messiah/I AM: Growing Seed<br>Divine Worship (NO Communion)<br>Pastor Burmeister's LAST Sunday here                    |
| Monday 11/25  | (all week)                         | Pastor leaves (Florida to California)   |
| Wednesday, 11/27  | 7:00 pm                            | Thanksgiving Eve Special Worship-MW   |
| Saturday, 11/30   | 10:00 am                           | Decorate for Christmas, inside and out  |
| Sunday, 12/1 First Sunday of Advent & New Year              | 9:00 am<br>10:00 am<br>11:15 ff... | BibleStudy Messiah/I AM: Mustard Seed<br>Divine Worship (WITH Communion)<br>Rev. Steve Petersen serves OSL (1 <sup>st</sup> time) |

Elders: Tom Temple 213-4622; John Weber 853-5458; Don Wienke 815-8892.

Next Sunday 12/1 Advent-1/C (L.S. p.15) Hymn #: 70 Ps. 25 55 68, 1, 2 58 34

It has been my extreme privilege & honor to serve OSL 6½ years. ~Pr. Burmeister

## TRINITY-LAST Matthew 25:1-13 "WISE OR FOOLISH"?(FAREWELL) 11.24.19 OSL

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.  
Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour. (Matt 25:1-13)

**FULFILLMENT** Today is the Sunday of the **Fulfillment of all things**; the last Sunday of the year on the church's calendar. The "**Omega**" of all things, the Last Day when Jesus appears in great glory as King and Judge, suddenly and without warning, like a thief in the night, like a groom arriving for the wedding party at midnight.

(ALSO) MY END @ OSL Today is also the "Fulfillment" of my time with you as Pastor of Our Savior. I had thought about preaching on an/other Text, (in Australia I preached Farewell on **Matthew 28:20 "Lo, I Am With You Always"**) but then I thought (No) this assigned text **Matthew 25:1-13** for the **Last Sunday of the Church Year** is (perfectly?) appropriate for OSL at this time.

**MEMORIES/STATISTICS:** I will be leaving with so many wonderful memories. I will not forget you and all the times we have had. You **will be in my thoughts AND MY PRAYERS.** Some (memories):

- **6 ½ years at OSL** (installed **April 10<sup>th</sup>, 2013**);
- **444 Sunday preaching services, 284 celebrations of L.S.;**
- **404 Bible Studies** (Sundays & midweeks);
- **5 Funerals/Memorials** members & relatives (PhilG, Janice, Viv's rel's.);
- **5 Weddings/Renewals** members & relatives (Koehlers, Pautz, Viv's rel's.);
- **3 (Teen) Confirmations** (Prescott, Jon, Mariah); **1 infant Baptism** (Blake);
- Played **Piano, Organ, (7) different Brass instruments, & (crazy) Bells?**;
- **82 Council-Elders meetings; & 76 Ladies' Guild meetings;**
- **22 Fellowship/Food Events** (FishFrys, Spaghetti, Oktob, ThxGvg, Xmas);
- I've played a little bit of **Softball** (Clermont);
- **75 blood plasma donations @ Biolife;**
- **2-3,000 church Pens & definitely >10,000 Vistaprint business cards;**
- **?How many? Different Tables & Chairs Arrangements—Fellowship hall;**
- Been through **some 3 or 4 whiteboards** (and **many markers**).

**PARABLE** Hear the Parable of the 10 Bridesmaids. They are **wise and foolish**. This isn't about morality, but rather about **faith**. In the language of the Scriptures, to be wise is to be **believing, trusting**. "*The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom.*" To be foolish is to be **unbelieving**. "*The fool says in his heart, 'There is no God.'*"

**SOPHISTICATED FOOLS** The **foolish bridesmaids look downright "sophisticated"** with their cute little wedding lamps nestled in their perfectly manicured fingers. They are confident and carefree. They go about their lives as though the wedding were **just another thing on their list of things to do**. Go to the mall, get your hair done, go to a movie, go the wedding.

(OSL) ARE WE SILLY? **The wise look kind of foolish**, if not **unfashionable**, lugging around those Mason jars full of oil. Silly girls. What kind of look is that, carrying jugs of extra oil? What were they thinking? They act **as if this wedding were the biggest thing in their lives, the only thing**. They look

as silly as little **Linus from the old Peanuts cartoon**, sitting in the field, waiting for the Great Pumpkin to appear in his pumpkin patch.

(OSL) FOOLISH?! **How foolish the waiting watchful church looks!** How foolish you Baptized believers appear, watching and waiting for Jesus! How foolish to get up on a Sunday morning to **hear God's Word preached** to you when you could just as easily read it on your own. How foolish to hear the **forgiveness** of your sins when you already know you are forgiven. How **foolish to eat and drink** a bit of bread and a sip of wine believing it to be the **Body and Blood** of Jesus your Savior. How foolish to **pray, praise, give thanks** when there are surely "more important" things to do. How foolish to **give offerings to God** when there are so many things to spend your money on.

(OSL) CHURCH'S MESSAGE How **foolish of the church**, to be more focused on the coming of the New Creation than the problems of the old creation. How unfashionable to speak of **sin and sacrifice, atoning Blood, forgiveness**, when the world wants to be purpose-driven and successful. How silly of the church to preach Christ Crucified for the sins of the world, knowing full well that the world clamors for miracles and celebrity and entertainment. **A Theology of the Cross?** That's as unfashionably silly and out of place in the world of religion as a Mason jar full of olive oil.

**RIDICULE** Get used to it. Christians are the "**village idiots**" of religion. The rest of the religious world thinks we're nuts for believing that we are **justified before God entirely by His undeserved kindness, all because of Jesus' Perfect Life and Death**, and **not** because of anything we do. That's crazy. Everyone knows you have to earn your own way, atone for your own sins, pursue your own path to enlightenment (...right?). ...**WRONG**.

**OUR MOTIVATION** We're a "**ship of fools**" who come to church not to be motivated, entertained, uplifted, challenged, ...but **forgiven. We esteem Christ** instead of ourselves. We bury our dead **in the hope and confidence of the Resurrection** of the body. And the world shakes its head at us, as we sit in our pumpkin patch waiting for our Great Pumpkin to appear.

**MIDNIGHT CRY** But in the end, when the midnight wake-up cry goes out, those who looked foolish turned out to be wise, while those who appeared so wise, wind up looking terribly foolish, running around in the middle of the night looking for oil that can't be found. Finding a closed door to a party for which they had an invitation. Hearing the terrible **word of exclusion, "I don't know you."** They were invited; they were part of the wedding party; they had a place at the Table. **But in their foolish unbelief, they are no longer in.**

**NO ONE KNOWS** "*You do not know the day or the hour.*" That is **Jesus' Last Word** on the timing of the Last Day. We're simply not given to know the times or the seasons. Every attempt to predict the day and the hour for this late, great planet earth has amounted to nothing but grasping at straws.

**NO COMPLACENCY** (But...) A delay can bring a **false sense of security**. Jesus didn't come **yesterday**. He hasn't appeared **today**, and maybe He won't appear **tomorrow. So there's always time, right?** Remember, God's way of

time is not the same as ours. God works (**instantaneously**); we work in chronology - days, months, years. *“With the Lord, a day is like a thousand years, and a thousands years are like a day.”* God isn't slow in coming; **He's patient and merciful**. He doesn't want anyone to perish; He wants all to come to repentance. But let no one say, *“There's always more time.”* You do not know the day or the hour. (Wake Up.) Jesus wants His Church on the **alert, wide awake, watchful, ready for the cry at any hour, day or night**.

**MUCH FORGIVENESS**      **God is rich in His mercy.** The forgiveness and life that Jesus hung on the Cross to win for the world, He gives out in not just one way, but many - **in Baptism**, in the spoken **Forgiveness** of our sins, in the **Lord's Supper**, in the **Word** as it is preached and read. There is more forgiveness and life and salvation than you and I could ever imagine.

**WORTH THE WAIT**      The wise bridesmaids knew **in Whom they hoped and for Whom they waited**. They lived and slept in the confidence of their Bridegroom's coming. They knew He was coming; they just didn't know when. And, **You know for Whom you wait, and He knows you**. He is the One Who died on a Cross for you, Who rose from the grave for you, Who sits enthroned in majesty for you. He is the One who **Baptized** you, Who **Forgives** you, Who feeds you His **Body and Blood**, Who anoints you with His Spirit. More oil than you can possibly burn in an eternity.

**FINAL CONCLUSION**      **Fellow Christians**, To live as the wise in faith is to live in the hope and expectation of Jesus' Coming Day, whether that Day is **today, tomorrow, or the next day**. You can live and sleep and die in the confidence of Him Who once came for you **by crib and Cross**, Who comes to you now **by Word and Sacrament**, Who will come **in glory** on the Last Day to **raise you from the dead to eternal life**.

**END IS NEW**      The Last Day is a New Day, the true Sabbath Day that embraces every day, from the Alpha to the Omega, the beginning to the end. A Day with neither evening or morning, an endless Day in which all creation rests in the light of Jesus Christ. *“Behold, I will create **NEW Heavens and a NEW Earth**.”* *“Behold, I make **all things new**.”* Sin and death are gone. *“The former things will not be remembered, nor will they come to mind.”*

**END IS NEAR**      **& That Day is coming soon.** Christ is coming soon and quickly. He comes without warning. But you don't need a warning. You know. Such faith may seem as foolish as little Linus in the pumpkin patch. But when Christ Who is God's Wisdom in the Flesh makes His appearance, **our faith will be proven wise**.

**FINAL THOUGHTS:**      To MEN: You have been faithful LEADERS of this Congregation. Continue now into this next phase in leading Our Savior. To LADIES: You really are the Bridesmaids of this Parable. You have been faithful. You have kept the OSL “lamp/s burning.” You have for years truly held this Congregation together. Continue faithfully; keep the MEN in line. To ALL: Keep the LAMP(S) OF OUR SAVIOR BURNING in patient waiting for the Final Wonderful Glorious Day when OUR BRIDEGROOM **WILL RETURN to take us to the Great Wedding Feast forever. IJ'N, Amen. SDG**

**Possible Prayer of Church for ☩ The Last Sunday of Trinity November 24<sup>th</sup>**  
*Almighty God, You have invited us to pray and promised to hear the prayers of Your people until You come again. We come before You this day in the Name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, to offer You petitions and supplications on behalf of ourselves and all people who have need. (Possible) Brief silence*

We give You thanks that You have granted us Your only Son and for His deliverance from the domain of sin and its darkness of death and for raising us up to be people of light. Give to us the courage we need to meet the troubled days ahead, and guard us against despair. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

As Christ is Head of the Church, so do we call upon You to guard His precious body against all the assaults of the enemy. Give to us faithful pastors and church workers who will not shrink from faithfulness in time of threat and who will deliver to us the whole counsel of Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

In Christ, You have revealed the fullness of Your saving will and purpose. As He has forgiven us, teach us to forgive one another, that no one may be hindered in faith by a guilty conscience, no conflict or division distract us from the work He has given us to do, and we may live at peace by the blood of His Cross. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Give to the nations and all who govern a sense of right and wrong and the courage to act decisively for good. Help us to honor the sacredness of life and to care for those least able to care for themselves, especially the unborn. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Preserve among us the fruits of Your creation for the well-being of all people, and teach us to care responsibly for all that You have made. Guide us to honor the vocations You have given us, that we may serve You faithfully in home and at work, in neighborhood and nation, in labor and in leisure. Accept from our hands the offerings we bring as tokens of our gratitude and signs of our trust in Your mercy. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Give to the sick healing and to the suffering relief, according to Your will. *[We pray especially for OSL Prayer List; and all those hospitalized; and all those recuperating at home; for all in nursing homes; and all those in pain of body, mind or spirit.]* Receive our thanks for the faithful who have gone before us and now rest from their labors. Bring us at last with them to die in peace and awaken in Your arms in paradise. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

When Your Son was revealed as the Son of God Who takes away the sin of the world, He did not shrink from the suffering that bore the fruit of our salvation. Keep us from the fear of our enemies, that we may not deny our Lord in the hour of trial but with good courage proclaim Jesus Christ to the end when we and all who live in Christ shall receive the great reward You have prepared for all who have loved His Appearing. We pray You, O Lord, to grant us all things needful and to keep from us all things harmful, even as we pray in the Name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord, Who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen. Then, Lord's Prayer p.14**