

Historic Scripture Lessons for the 2nd-Last Sunday of Church Year

Historic Old Testament

Isaiah 40:9-11 NIV You who bring good tidings to Zion, go up on a high mountain. You who bring good tidings to Jerusalem, lift up your voice with a shout, lift it up, do not be afraid; say to the towns of Judah, "Here is your God!" 10 See, the Sovereign Lord comes with power, and His Arm rules for Him. See, His Reward is with Him, and His Recompense accompanies Him. 11 He tends His flock like a Shepherd: He gathers the lambs in His Arms and carries them close to His Heart; he gently leads those that have young.

Epistle

II Thessalonians 1:3-10 We ought always to thank God for you, brothers, and rightly so, because your faith is growing more and more, and the love every one of you has for each other is increasing. 4 Therefore, among God's churches we boast about your perseverance and faith in all the persecutions and trials you are enduring. 5 All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the Kingdom of God, for which you are suffering. 6 God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you 7 and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with His powerful angels. 8 He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the Gospel of our Lord Jesus. 9 They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the majesty of His power 10 on the day He comes to be glorified in His holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.

(Historic Gospel)

Matthew 25:31-46 "When the Son of Man comes in His glory, and all the angels with Him, He will sit on His throne in Heavenly glory. 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 in, 36 ... 40 The King will reply, 'I tell you the truth, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers 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 ... 45 He will reply, 'I tell you the truth, 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."

3-Year Gospel (Sermon Text)

Mark 13:24-31 "But in those days, following that distress, "the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light; 25 the stars will fall from the sky, and the heavenly bodies will be shaken.' 26 "At that time men will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. 27 And He will send His angels and gather His elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of the Heavens. 28 "Now learn this lesson from the fig tree: As soon as its twigs get tender and its leaves come out, you know that summer is near. 29 Even so, when you see these things happening, you know that it is near, right at the door. 30 I tell you the truth, this generation will certainly not pass away until all these things have happened. 31 Heaven and earth will pass away, but My Words will never pass away."

Our Savior Lutheran Church  Lakeland, FL  ELS
2nd-Last Sunday in Trinity  Judgment Day (Pictures)



OSL OUR SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH OSL

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

Phone: (863) 859-3400 ~ Web: www.OSLlakeland.org

BIBLE CLASS 8:30 AM WORSHIP 9:30 AM FELLOWSHIP 10:45 AM

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

November 18th, 2018 Trinity-2nd-Last Judgment

TODAY WE CELEBRATE THE LORD'S SUPPER: If you are new to the area or our worship and have never communed with us before, please speak with the pastor before the service. If you are not currently a member of an ELS or WELS congregation, we ask that you please **wait to take Communion until you can speak with our pastor.** Out of Christian love and consideration to you the guest, we want you to have the opportunity to learn what our church teaches about the Bible and Sacraments before you unite with us in taking Holy Communion. Thank you for your understanding. LORD's blessings to you.

OUR ORDER OF WORSHIP On silver liturgy sheets and in (red) Hymnal p.15 .

Suggested Hymn	TLH# (vv)	...First Line
Opening Hymn	604 (4v)	Great God, What Do I See and Hear?
<i>Psalm 25</i>	<i>Ps.25 '3v'</i>	<i>To You, O Lord, I Lift My Soul ... ↗</i>
Hymn of the Day	611 (7v)	Sing 1-6 The Day is Surely Drawing Near
<i>Offertory Verse</i>	611 (7v)	Sing v.7 <i>O Jesus Christ, do not delay ...</i>
Distribution Hymn	605 (5v)	The World Is Very Evil The Times Waxing
Closing Hymn	618 (6v)	(♩ <i>ELH 539</i>) Jerusalem, My Happy Home

Suggested Bible readings for the week of the 26th 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 2ND-LAST SUNDAY of CHURCH YEAR (TRINITY 25) ✘ NOV 18TH

INTROIT Save me, O God, by Your Name, and judge me by Your strength. Hear my prayer, O God; give ear to the words of my mouth. He shall reward evil to mine enemies; cut them off in Your truth. ...from **Psalm 54:1-2**

COLLECT O God, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, being ever mindful of the end of all things and the day of Your just Judgment, we may be stirred up to holiness of living here and dwell with You forever hereafter; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our LORD, Who lives, and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, One True God, now and forever. **A--men.**

GRADUAL C: He shall call to the Heavens from above and to the earth that He may judge the people. The Heavens shall declare His righteousness, for God is Judge Himself. Alleluia! Alleluia! The ransomed of the LORD shall come to Zion with everlasting joy upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and weeping shall fly away. Alleluia! ...from **Psalm 50:4,6 & Isaiah 5:10**

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

O.T. **Isaiah 40:9-11** Our LORD will come in *strength*, but (also) in *love*.
Epi. **II Thessalonians 1:3-10** God strengthens our faith in face of adversity.
Gos. **Matthew 25:31-46** The Son of Man *will come* and judge *all nations*.

Psalm 25 REFRAIN: To You, O LORD, I lift my soul; To You, I lift my soul.

Refrain C: ♪ To You, O Lord, I lift my soul; To You, I lift my soul.

Verse 1. ♪ Lord, _ Make me know Your ways, Teach me Your paths,
And keep me in the way of Your truth, _ For You are God, my Saviour.

Refrain C: ♪ To You, O Lord, I lift my soul; To You, I lift my soul.

Verse 2. ♪ For-the-Lord is good and righteous, _ Revealing His way,
To those who seek Him, _ Gently leading the poor, and the humble.

Refrain C: ♪ To You, O Lord, I lift my soul; To You, I lift my soul.

Verse 3. ♪ To-the-ones who seek the Lord, _ Who look to His Word,
Who live in His Love, _ He-will-always be near; He will show them His mercy.

Refrain C: ♪ To You, O Lord, I lift my soul; To You, I lift my soul.

**OFFERING #611 7. O Jesus Christ, do not delay, - But hasten our salvation;
We often tremble on our way - In fear and tribulation.
Then hear us when we cry to Thee; - Come, mighty Judge, and make us free
From every evil! Amen.**

PRAYER REQUESTS: (Member or Relation) Pray for...

Paradise, CA Survivors of the "Camp" Fire that devastated their homes/town
Dee Kurczewski (David) Dee - rehabbing. David back working
Carolyn Miner (Don) Carolyn had brain bleed stroke. Home recovering well
Jon & Andrea Sawyer Jon's heart, changing work. Andrea started new work
Ethel Wendt (Steve) Ethel had surgery. Recovering well at home. PTL
Barb Wolkens Barb seriously stiff neck. Doctors don't know cause yet
James Vanesky & Delores Platt Both at home rehabbing. We miss them

Volunteers	Today	Next Sunday
Greeters	Pat & Dave Wiesenauer	Bev & Don Wienke
Treaters	Shirley DuWayne Marquardt	

Statistics	Last week	Year To Date / Avg.
Sunday, Attendance (Communion)	25 / (--)	21 / 17
Bible Class Attendance: Sunday	13!	11
Sunday Offering (Needed) & YTD	\$. (\$1,350)	YTD\$, (\$62.K)

Calendar of Events		
Today November 18 (Trinity-25 Sunday)	8:30 am 9:30 am	Bible Study Figures of Christ: <i>Prophet</i> Divine Worship (WITH Communion)
2 nd -Last Sun. of Year	10:45 ff...	"FFF" = Food, Fun & Fellowship ... <i>Stay!</i>
Wednesday, 11/21	4:30 pm	OSL Special Thanksgiving Eve Worship
Saturday, 11/24	10:00 am	"Pre-"Decorate for Christmas (boxes...)
Next Sunday 11/25 Trinity(26) = Last Sunday of Church Yr.	8:30 am 9:30 am 10:45 ff...	Bible Study Figures of Christ: "Rock" Divine Worship (NO Communion) Decorate for Christmas; then light lunch

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

✘ **Special Worship Opportunity** this Wednesday 21st 4:30 Thanksgiving(Eve).

✘ Next Sunday, 24th (normally fellowship time, please stay &) help **decorate our church** for Advent/Christmas. Lunch follows. (Sat. 23rd can some come unpack?)

Next Sunday 11/26 Trinity-Last (No L.S. p.5) TLH #s 609 Ps.25 619 585,1,2 616 47

TRINITY 2nd LAST-B Mark 13:24-31 "JUDGMENT DAY - PICTURES" 11.18.18 OSL

LITTLE OF EVERYTHING Today's readings for the 2nd-to-Last Sunday of the Church Year have a little something for everyone.

4 THE LAWYER For the **lawyer**, we have a scene from (the book of **Daniel** and from) our Historic Gospel Lesson (**Matthew 25:31-46**) the Heavenly Courtroom. The Father, the "Ancient of Days," is seated on His throne, with brilliant white clothing, and white, wooly hair. His throne is flaming with fire, and a river of fire is coming out from before Him. He is attended by thousands and thousands of angels, the hosts of heaven. The court is seated, and the books are opened. There is silence. **Court is now in session.**

4 THE GARDENER And for the **naturalist and gardener**, we have the Gospel according to **St. Mark** and the continuation of Jesus' "little apocalypse" on His way to the Cross. The first (13) verses of **Mark 13** we heard about the "birth pangs" - earthquakes, famines, wars, rumors of wars, false Christs, false religions. Today Jesus talks about the cosmic signs - the sun and moon go dark, the stars fall from the sky, and the Son of Man - Jesus - appears to collect His own.

FIG TREE He gives a little sign of life in the midst of death straight out of the garden. **The fig tree in spring.** When its twigs get fat and tender, and it begins to bud, you know that summer is near. When you see the signs of the end - signs on earth, signs in the heavens, you know that Jesus' appearing is near. And there's a promise to go with this sign of life in the midst of death. Heaven and earth will pass away, but not Jesus' Words. "*My Words will never pass away.*" And that promise will **keep YOU forever in Him.**

1. COURT & 2. FIG Those are our **two end times images** for today - the courtroom and the fig tree. Let's spend a little time with each of them, and see where they take us on this **2nd-to-Last Sunday** of the church year.

1. COURT The courtroom. I don't know about you, but this is one court **I would not want to appear in, at least without decent representation.** Talk about intimidating, if not downright terrifying! If you've spent any time at all in court, you realize how intimidating the law can be. Judicial benches, black robes, solemn procedures, evidence, rules, the truth, the whole truth, and nothing but the truth.

(HERE COMES) **THE JUDGE** This Heavenly Court has a **Judge you don't want to mess with.** Wearing white robes, gleaming with heavenly glory, surrounded by tens of thousands of attendants and worshippers. And I don't know about you, but if there's anything written

about me in those books that are opened, I'm not sure I want to know about it.

PTA I remember the days of the **old parent teacher conferences.** This may date me a bit, but it was back in the days when parents were on the **teachers'** side. (no Helicopter, Blackhawk or Snowplow parents) No matter how good you were in school, you knew you weren't perfect, and you just knew they were plotting miserable things at those parent-teacher conferences. The anxiety was thick as I waited for Mom and Dad to come home with the report.

BOOK 'EM **What on earth is in those books?** Well, if there's any connection to the Revelation (and I think there is), those are the books of our works, all the stuff we've done. Would you want to be judged by what's written in those books? I sure wouldn't. Not only are there all the things you've done that you **shouldn't have done** (sins of **commission**), but there's all the stuff you **should have done** that you **didn't** do (sins of **omission**). Our commissions and our omissions add up to a whole mess of trouble under the Law. Would you want to argue your own case in this court? They say, "*He or she who represents themselves has a fool for an attorney.*" That saying holds **double in this court.** Foolish to the point of **damned foolish**, and I mean that quite literally. Try to argue your own case on the merits of what's written in those books, **and you'll have the book thrown at you.**

BEST DEFENSE/DEFENDANT Fortunately, that's not necessary. There is representation available. A **public Defender, an Advocate, One Who will speak in your defense.** (And,) **He's in cahoots with the Judge.** In fact, this Advocate, this **Son of Man** as **Daniel** describes Him, has been given all authority in Heaven and on earth. Imagine that - the defense attorney is also the judge. And more than that, He's already paid the price for your felonies and misdemeanors. He's (already) served your sentence - Three Days in the grave. And to top it all off, He's "taken out the prosecutor, the Devil, (the title Satan means accuser, BTW) and taken away his court credentials. **Now there's someone you would want on your side, arguing your case in this fiery courtroom!**

LET'S BE CLEAR Scripture clearly says that our works will be judged. The apostle Paul says that everyone must appear before the judgment throne of God to give an account of deeds done in the body. The good news is that you don't necessarily have to be judged by your works. You can plead the mercy of the court and let your Advocate do the talking for you. You can put your life in His hands (it's in His hands anyway, so you may as well acknowledge that and trust Him) and let His works be your works. His death is your death, His life is your life, His perfection is your righteousness. He became your sin so that in Him you

might become His righteousness. This isn't a plea bargain or some kind of a deal with the district attorney. No my friends, this is grace, pure and simple. Acquittal of the guilty thanks to Jesus.

2. FIG TREE From the courtroom **to the gardener**. We end with the **fig tree**. Jesus cursed a fig tree during holy week. Poor thing. There wasn't a fig on it, so He cursed it, and the next day it was dead as dead can be, a sign of judgment against unbelief and rejection. But here, Jesus gives the opposite sign. The **fig tree emerging out of winter**. It appears dead and lifeless. But when its branches begin to swell with sap, and its leaves begin to bud, you know that "Summer" (...Life) is just around the corner.

BAD TO WORSE The End Times can be terrifying times in which to live. Things go from bad to worse. Species go extinct. **Wars, earthquakes, floods, fires**, (...Paradise, CA & Helltown, CA) **famines, diseases**. The inclination is toward pessimism, even fatalism. W-T-H... let's eat and drink for tomorrow we die. But Jesus would have us see life even when things appear dead. The signs of the end are "birth pangs," He says. Labor contractions of the new creation. A budding fig tree reminds us that summer is near, even though by all appearances it is still the dead of winter.

BUT, HOPE! (**But!**) The tree has bud. The wood of the Cross has born its fruit. Jesus died, was buried, and on the Third Day **rose again**, the first-fruits of the Resurrection. Though we are now in creation's winter, the Resurrection of Jesus marks the turning point. The new creation has already come, and *"if anyone is in Christ, he is already a new creation. The old has gone, the new has come."*

WORD 4-EVER The cosmos as we know it is rapidly coming to its end. Soon, the sun, moon, and stars will be shaken and die. But there will be light. In Genesis, in the beginning, there was light before there were sun, moon, and stars. And there will be light even when the sun, moon, and stars go out. Jesus Christ is the Light of the world, the Light no darkness can overcome. Heaven and earth will one day pass away, but **His Words**, the Words that **forgive** you, that Words that **create and sustain your faith**, the Words that **WILL raise you from your grave**, those Words will never pass away.

ALL ABOUT JESUS In the End, **it's all about Jesus:**

Jesus - your Advocate, your Defender, your Judge.

Jesus - the Author and Perfector of your faith.

Jesus - the Son of Man, Who comes in glory to raise the dead and gather you together with all His people. **IJ'N, Amen. SDG**

Possible Prayer of Church for 2nd-Last Sunday of Trinity Nov. 18th 2018
Let us bring our petitions and prayers before the throne of God our Father for the needs of the Church, the world and all people. (Possible) Brief silence

Holy Father, in the midst of things that only seem stable, Your Son warns us to be prepared for great upheavals. Wherever chaos erupts, send Your people forth with the joyful message of what cannot be shaken or destroyed: the great love You have revealed for us in our Savior's death and resurrection. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Loving and gracious Master, we commend to You the care of Your Church throughout the world. Strengthen all pastors to proclaim Your Word with boldness and joy, and open the hearts of Your people to welcome that proclamation and share in the work of spreading Your Good News. Raise up new servants for Your Church, and guard and protect all missionaries, keeping them steadfast by Your Word. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

King of the nations, look in mercy on our country, our Congress and president, our judges and magistrates, and all those entrusted with civil authority among us. Make them a blessing of Yours. Take from them pride and contempt of Your Word, and fill them with wisdom, courage and integrity. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Holy One, the blood of Your Son gives us confidence to enter the holy places through the new and living way and to draw near to You with true hearts in the full assurance of faith. Hear us now as we offer our petitions before You for all who are in difficult and trying times, for those who are in prison, for the sick [*and especially **OSL Prayer List***], for those who mourn, for the lonely and homebound. Grant them healing and comfort, according to Your gracious will. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Kind Father, Your Son revealed Himself to be the Good Shepherd who goes in search of the lost and straying. Keep us all under His protection, that we may not neglect to meet together, but gathering attentively around His Word and His Supper, be ourselves encouraged and encourage each other. Send us out to call back all who have erred and strayed from His ways. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Author and Giver of all good things, as we come to Your Son's table and feast together upon the body and blood that purchased the redemption of the world on the cross, prepare our hearts and minds to welcome with thanksgiving the signs and seal of His new and eternal covenant, that we might ever enjoy the forgiveness of sins and look forward to the day of the Savior's return. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

O God, Fountain of life and immortality, to You we give thanks and praise for all who have fallen asleep in Christ and await the joyful Resurrection. Grant that we may also be wise as they were, turning many to righteousness, that on the day of Christ's appearing we may also shine like stars forever in the brightness of His eternal glory. Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen. Then Lord's Supper, p.24**