

LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR
NOVEMBER 25, 2018

Introit  *Psalm 39:4–5a, 7–8, 12a;*
antiphon: 2 Peter 3:13b NIV

We are looking forward to a new heaven and a | new earth,*
the home of | righteousness.
O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure | of my days;*
let me know how fleeting | I am!
Behold, you have made my days a few | handbreadths,*
and my lifetime is as nothing be- | fore you.
And now, O Lord, for what | do I wait?*

My hope | is in you.
Deliver me from all my trans- | gressions.*
Do not make me the scorn | of the fool!
Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear | to my cry;*
hold not your peace | at my tears!

Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

We are looking forward to a new heaven and a | new earth,*
the home of | righteousness.

Collect of the Day

Lord Jesus Christ, so govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your glorious return, we may persevere in both faith and holiness of living; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Gradual

C

Revelation 7:14b; Psalm 84:5

These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.
They have washed their robes and made them white in the
blood of the Lamb.
Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,
in whose heart are the highways to Zion.

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Old Testament*Isaiah 51:4–6*

⁴“Give attention to me, my people,
and give ear to me, my nation;
for a law will go out from me,
and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.
⁵My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will judge the peoples;
the coastlands hope for me,
and for my arm they wait.
⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my righteousness will never be dismayed.

Epistle*Jude 20–25*

²⁰But you, beloved, build yourselves up in your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit; ²¹keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. ²²And have mercy on those who doubt; ²³save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

²⁴Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, ²⁵to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Holy Gospel*Mark 13:24–37*

²⁴[Jesus said:] “In those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning— ³⁶lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

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