

# **The Season of End Times**

*Scripture Selections from the Evangelical Heritage Version<sup>®</sup>  
following the Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A*

*Revised March 27, 2017*

# Reformation Sunday (The First Sunday of End Times)

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### Daniel 6:10-12, 16-23

<sup>10</sup>Now, when Daniel learned that the document had been signed, he went to his house. It had windows on its upper story that opened toward Jerusalem. Three times each day he would get on his knees and pray and offer praise before his God. He continued to do that just as he had been doing before this. <sup>11</sup>Then these men came as a group and found Daniel praying and seeking favor from his God.

<sup>12</sup>Then they went and said to the king concerning the decree, “Your Majesty, did you not sign a decree that anyone who prays to any god or person for thirty days except to you, Your Majesty, would be thrown into the den of lions?”

The king answered, “Indeed I did. The command is like the law of the Medes and the Persians that cannot be revoked.”

<sup>16</sup>Then the king gave the order, and Daniel was brought and thrown into the lions’ den. The king said to Daniel, “May your God, whom you serve continually, rescue you.” <sup>17</sup>A stone was brought and placed over the mouth of the pit and the king sealed it with his signet ring and the signet rings of his nobles so that nothing could be changed with regard to Daniel’s situation. <sup>18</sup>Then the king went to his palace. He spent the night without food, and no entertainment was brought before him, and he could not sleep.

<sup>19</sup>Then at dawn the king arose as soon as it was light and hurried to the lions’ den. <sup>20</sup>As he came near the pit, he cried out in a fearful voice. The king said to Daniel, “Daniel, servant of the living God, your God whom you serve continually: Was he able to rescue you from the lions’ den?”

<sup>21</sup>Then Daniel spoke with the king, “Your Majesty, may you live forever! <sup>22</sup>My God sent his angel and shut the mouth of the lions, and they have not hurt me because he found me innocent before him. Also before you, Your Majesty, I have committed no crime.”

<sup>23</sup>Then the king was very glad, and said that Daniel should be brought up from the pit. So Daniel was brought up from the pit, and he was unharmed because he trusted in his God.

## Second Lesson

### Galatians 5:1–6

It is for freedom that Christ has set us free. Stand firm, then, and do not allow anyone to put the yoke of slavery on you again. <sup>2</sup>Look, I, Paul, tell you that if you allow yourselves to be circumcised, Christ will be of no benefit to you. <sup>3</sup>I testify again to every man who allows himself to be circumcised that he is obligated to do the whole law. <sup>4</sup>You who are trying to be declared righteous by the law are completely separated from Christ. You have fallen from grace.

<sup>5</sup>Indeed, through the Spirit, we by faith are eagerly waiting for the sure hope of righteousness. <sup>6</sup>For in Christ Jesus neither circumcision nor uncircumcision matters. Rather, it is faith working through love that matters.

## Gospel

### Matthew 10:16–23

<sup>16</sup>“Look, I am sending you out as sheep among wolves. So be as shrewd as snakes and as innocent as doves. <sup>17</sup>Be on guard against people. They will hand you over to councils, and they will whip you in their synagogues. <sup>18</sup>You will be brought into the presence of governors and kings for my sake, as a testimony to them and to the Gentiles. <sup>19</sup>Whenever they hand you over, do not be worried about how you will respond or what you will say, because what you say will be given to you in that hour. <sup>20</sup>In fact you will not be the ones speaking, but the Spirit of your Father will be speaking through you.

<sup>21</sup>“Brother will hand over his brother to death, and a father will do the same with his child. Children will rise up against parents and have them put to death. <sup>22</sup>You will be hated by all people because of my name, but whoever endures to the end will be saved. <sup>23</sup>And when they persecute you in one town, flee to the next. Amen<sup>a</sup> I tell you: You will not finish going through the cities of Israel before the Son of Man comes.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

---

<sup>a</sup> Usually, people say *Amen* at the end of a prayer. But Jesus used this Hebrew word at the beginning of a statement, which was unique. The inspired writer simply transliterated the Hebrew word that Jesus spoke, instead of using a Greek term. This translation does the same in English. The basic meaning is *I solemnly tell you the truth*. For more information about this, see FAQ #1 at [wartburgproject.org/faqs](http://wartburgproject.org/faqs)

# Last Judgment (The Second Sunday of End Times)

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### Daniel 7:9-10

<sup>9</sup>I continued to watch until thrones were set up,  
and the Ancient of Days was seated.  
His clothes were white as snow,  
and the hair on his head was like pure wool.  
His throne was flames of fire.  
Its wheels were burning fire.  
<sup>10</sup>A river of fire flowed out from his presence.  
Thousands upon thousands served him,  
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him.  
The court was seated,  
and books were opened.

## Second Lesson

### 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

<sup>1</sup>Concerning the times and dates, brothers, there is no need to write to you, <sup>2</sup>for you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When people are saying, “Peace and security,” destruction will suddenly come on them, like labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will certainly not escape. <sup>4</sup>But you, brothers, are not in the dark so that this day takes you by surprise like a thief, <sup>5</sup>for you are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or the darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not sleep like everyone else, but rather let us remain alert and sober.

<sup>7</sup>To be sure, those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. <sup>9</sup>You see, God did not appoint us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>10</sup>He died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as you are also doing.

## Gospel

### Matthew 25:31–46

<sup>31</sup>“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered in his presence, and he will separate them one from another, as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup>He will put the sheep on his right and the goats

on his left. <sup>34</sup>Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. <sup>35</sup>For I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. <sup>36</sup>I was lacking clothes and you clothed me. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.’

<sup>37</sup>“Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? <sup>38</sup>When did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or lacking clothes and clothe you? <sup>39</sup>When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?’

<sup>40</sup>“The King will answer them, ‘Amen<sup>a</sup> I tell you: Just as you did it for one of the least of these brothers of mine, you did it for me.’

<sup>41</sup>“Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire, which is prepared for the Devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup>For I was hungry and you did not give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you did not give me anything to drink. <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, lacking clothes and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not take care of me.’

<sup>44</sup>“Then they will also answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or lacking clothes or sick or in prison and did not serve you?’

<sup>45</sup>“At that time he will answer them, ‘Amen I tell you: Just as you did not do it for one of the least of these, you did not do it for me.’ <sup>46</sup>And they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

---

<sup>a</sup> Usually, people say *Amen* at the end of a prayer. But Jesus used this Hebrew word at the beginning of a statement, which was unique. The inspired writer simply transliterated the Hebrew word that Jesus spoke, instead of using a Greek term. This translation does the same in English. The basic meaning is *I solemnly tell you the truth*. For more information about this, see FAQ #1 at [wartburgproject.org/faqs](http://wartburgproject.org/faqs)

# Saints Triumphant (The Third Sunday of End Times)

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

### Isaiah 52:1-6

Awake, awake,  
Clothe yourself with strength, O Zion.  
Put on your beautiful garments,  
O Jerusalem, you holy city,  
for never again will the uncircumcised  
and the unclean enter into you.

<sup>2</sup>Shake off the dust.

Get up and take your seat, O Jerusalem.  
Loosen the chains from your neck,  
O captive daughter of Zion.

<sup>3</sup>Indeed, this is what the LORD says:

You were sold for nothing,  
so you will be redeemed without money.

<sup>4</sup>For this is what the LORD God says:

In the beginning, my people went down to Egypt to stay there for a while. Later Assyria oppressed them without cause.

<sup>5</sup>“Now what do I have here?” asks the LORD.

Yes, my people have been taken away for nothing. Their rulers howl in mockery, says the LORD. My name is continually despised all day. <sup>6</sup>Therefore my people will know my name. So on that day, they will know that I am the one—the one who is saying, “Here I am!”

## Second Lesson

### 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

<sup>13</sup>We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who have fallen asleep, so that you do not grieve in the same way as the others, who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>Indeed, if we believe that Jesus died and rose again, then in the same way we also believe that God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep through Jesus.

<sup>15</sup>In fact, we tell you this by the word of the Lord: We who are alive and left until the coming of the Lord will certainly not go on ahead of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself will come down from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them, to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will always be with the Lord. <sup>18</sup>Therefore, encourage one another with these words.

# Gospel

## 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. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>When the foolish ones took their lamps, they did not take any oil with them; <sup>4</sup>but the wise took oil in their containers with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>While the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>The foolish ones said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise answered, ‘No, there may not be enough for us and for you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>But while they were away buying oil, the bridegroom came. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Later, the other virgins also came and said, ‘Lord, Lord, let us in.’ <sup>12</sup>But he answered, ‘Amen<sup>a</sup> I tell you: I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Therefore, keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.”

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*

---

<sup>a</sup> Usually, people say *Amen* at the end of a prayer. But Jesus used this Hebrew word at the beginning of a statement, which was unique. The inspired writer simply transliterated the Hebrew word that Jesus spoke, instead of using a Greek term. This translation does the same in English. The basic meaning is *I solemnly tell you the truth*. For more information about this, see FAQ #1 at [wartburgproject.org/faqs](http://wartburgproject.org/faqs)

# Christ the King (The Fourth Sunday of End Times)

*Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal 3-Year Lectionary, Year A  
Evangelical Heritage Version®*

## First Lesson

**Ezekiel 34:11-16, 23-24**

<sup>11</sup>For this is what the LORD God says: I myself will seek the welfare of my flock and examine them carefully. <sup>12</sup>As a shepherd examines his flock when he is with his sheep that have been scattered, so I will examine my flock and rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them to their own land. I will shepherd them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys, and in all the settlements of the land. <sup>14</sup>I will pasture them in good pasture, and their grazing land will be on the high mountains of Israel. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and they will pasture on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will shepherd my flock, and I myself will let them lie down, declares the LORD God. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost. I will bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured. I will strengthen the weak. I will destroy the fat and the strong, and I will shepherd them in justice.

<sup>20</sup>Therefore, this is what the LORD God says to them. I myself am going to judge between the fat sheep and the skinny sheep. <sup>21</sup>Because you have shoved them with your side and shoulder and knocked down all the weak with your horns until you had scattered them abroad, <sup>22</sup>I will save my flock so that they will not become plunder any more. I will judge between one sheep and another.

<sup>23</sup>Then I will raise up over them one Shepherd, and he will tend them, my servant David. He will tend them, and he will be their Shepherd. <sup>24</sup>I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David will be the Prince among them. I, the LORD, have spoken.

## Second Lesson

**1 Corinthians 15:20–28 (EHV)**

<sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup>For since death came by a man, the resurrection of the dead also is going to come by a man. <sup>22</sup>For as in Adam they all die, so also in Christ they all will be made alive. <sup>23</sup>But each in his own order: Christ as the firstfruits and then Christ's people, at his coming. <sup>24</sup>Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has done away with every other ruler and every other authority and power. <sup>25</sup>For he must reign "until he has put all his enemies under his feet." <sup>26</sup>Death is the last enemy to be done away with. <sup>27</sup>Certainly, "he has put all things in subjection under his feet." Now when it says that all things have been put in subjection, obviously that does not include the one who subjected all things to him. <sup>28</sup>But when all things have been subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected all things to him, in order that God may be all in all.



# Gospel

## Matthew 27:27–31

<sup>27</sup>Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole cohort of soldiers around him. <sup>28</sup>They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him. <sup>29</sup>They twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand, knelt in front of him, and mocked him by saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" <sup>30</sup>They spit on him, took the staff, and hit him repeatedly on his head.

<sup>31</sup>After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

*The Holy Bible, Evangelical Heritage Version® (EHV®) copyright © 2017 The Wartburg Project. All rights reserved.  
www.wartburgproject.org*

*Some quotations from the Old Testament are samples and may not reflect the final wording.  
Comments and suggestions may be submitted at: [wartburgproject.org/contact/](http://wartburgproject.org/contact/)*

*Lectionary listings from Christian Worship: A Lutheran Hymnal © 1993 Northwestern Publishing House. All rights reserved.*