



God's love, Our service.

St. Mark's Lutheran Church

Sunday, November 19, 2023

25th Sunday after Pentecost

INTRODUCTION

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

The November Noisy Offering collection will go to the Great Plains SPCA, chosen by the 3rd and 4th grade class.



Confession and Forgiveness

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,

we confess that we are not awake for you.

We are not faithful in using your gifts.

We forget the least of our siblings.

We do not see your beautiful image in one another.

We are infected by sin

that divides your beloved community.

Open our hearts to your coming,

open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,

open our hands to serve your creation.

Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through ✝ Jesus you are forgiven,

by Jesus you are welcome,

in Jesus you are called to rejoice!

Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world.

Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN ELW 693, vs. 1 & 4

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

1 Come, ye thankful people, come;
raise the song of harvest home.
All be safely gathered in
ere the winter storms begin.
God, our maker, doth provide
for our wants to be supplied.
Come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.

4 Even so, Lord, quickly come
to thy final harvest home.
Gather then thy people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there, forever purified,
in thy garner to abide.
Come, with all thine angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest home!

Text: Henry Alford, 1810-1871, alt.

Greeting page 147

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

KYRIE Pg. 147

HYMN OF PRAISE page 149

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Righteous God, our merciful master,

you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

CARILLON RINGERS "Battle Hymn of the Republic" arranged by Cynthia Dobrinski

Organ- Tom Watgen

Trumpets- Will Conner, Jaimee Shell

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the LORD as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the LORD.

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,

and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,
“The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do harm.”

¹³Their wealth shall be plundered,
and their houses laid waste.
Though they build houses,
they shall not inhabit them;
though they plant vineyards,
they shall not drink wine from them.

¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near,
near and hastening fast;
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,
the warrior cries aloud there.

¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath,
a day of distress and anguish,
a day of ruin and devastation,
a day of darkness and gloom,
a day of clouds and thick darkness,
¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.

¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD’s wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Psalm: Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. (Ps. 90:12)

¹Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.

²**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,**

from age to age you are God.

³You turn us back to the dust and say,
“Turn back, O children of earth.”

⁴**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;**

⁵you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:

⁶**in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

⁷For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.

⁸**Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

[⁹When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

¹⁰**The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**

¹¹Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?

] ¹²**So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION page 151

Holy Gospel, according to Matthew, the 25th Chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away.

¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them.

²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying,



‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’
²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’²² And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’
²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’²⁴ Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’²⁶ But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?’²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest.²⁸ So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents.²⁹ For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away.³⁰ As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

CHILDREN’S SERMON Pastor Kris Dietzen

SERMON Pastor Kris Dietzen

HYMN OF THE DAY ELW 815

I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

1 I want to walk as a child of the light.
 I want to follow Jesus.
 God set the stars to give light to the world.
 The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain

In him there is no darkness at all.
 The night and the day are both alike.
 The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
 Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2 I want to see the brightness of God.
 I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
 and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*

3 I'm looking for the coming of Christ.
 I want to be with Jesus.
 When we have run with patience the race,
 we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934
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APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.***

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of Intercession

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, you give talents and gifts to all your people, and you equip the church to serve. Turn us from fear and self-serving ways, that we use our talents to glorify you and encourage our neighbor. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have been our dwelling place from one generation to another. Sustain the life of the planet; protect farmlands and harvests. Direct all people in wise stewardship of all the earth's resources. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call us to honesty and integrity. Instill these values in the hearts of all nations and their leaders. Free any who are oppressed, expose all corruption, and bring redemption to victims of injustice. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. Where there is sickness or sorrow, bring healing, and where there is loneliness, reveal your love in community. We remember before you (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the faith formation ministries of our church. Give to all children, youth, and adults who study your word the breastplate of faith and love. Shape us by your love and show us how to encourage one another. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious God, you are faithful in all generations. For the promise of life and rest and for the witness of those who have died in faith (*especially*) we praise your goodness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

In Jesus Christ, God has made his peace with us.

The peace of the Lord be with you always,

And also with you

Let us share God's peace with one another.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn.

Holy, Holy pg. 153

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

There is a place for you at the banquet.
Come and feast at Jesus' table.



COMMUNION

COMMUNION SONG pg. 154

COMMUNION HYMNS ELW 461

All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly

1 All who hunger gather gladly;
holy manna is our bread.
Come from wilderness and wand'ring.
Here in truth we will be fed.
You that yearn for days of fullness,
all around us is our food.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

2 All who hunger, never strangers;
seeker, be a welcome guest.
Come from restlessness and roaming.
Here in joy we keep the feast.
We that once were lost and scattered
in communion's love have stood.
Taste and see the grace eternal.

Taste and see that God is good.

3 All who hunger, sing together,
Jesus Christ is living bread.
Come from loneliness and longing.
Here in peace we have been fed.
Blest are those who from this table
live their days in gratitude.
Taste and see the grace eternal.
Taste and see that God is good.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993
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ELW 491

Come, Let Us Eat

[The words in parentheses may be sung by a leader or by all.]

- 1 (Come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread,)
come, let us eat, for now the feast is spread.
(Our Lord's body let us take together,)
our Lord's body let us take together.
- 2 (Come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured,)
come, let us drink, for now the wine is poured.
(Jesus' blood poured let us drink together,)
Jesus' blood poured let us drink together.

- 3 (In Jesus' presence now we meet and rest,)
in Jesus' presence now we meet and rest.
(In the presence of our Lord we gather,)
in the presence of our Lord we gather.
- 4 (Rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word,)
rise, then, to spread abroad God's mighty word.
(Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom,)
Jesus risen will bring in the kingdom.

Text: Billema Kwillia, b. c. 1925, sts. 1-3; Gilbert E. Doan Jr., b. 1930, st. 4, alt.; tr. Margaret D. Miller, b. 1927, sts. 1-3, alt.

Text sts. 1-3 © Lutheran World Federation. Text st. 4 © 1972 *Contemporary Worship 4: Hymns for Baptism and Holy Communion*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

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The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in his grace.
Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord Jesus,
in this simple meal you have set a banquet.
Sustain us on the journey,
strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,
and give us glad and generous hearts
as we meet you on the way.

Amen.

SENDING

As we depart your house Eternal God, your love is steadfast.
A sure guardian, a rock of defense and comfort to all.
Grant us courage to face the future and to share your message;

Through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BLESSING

May the God of all creation,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved,
who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

The blessing of God,

Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit,
be with you today and always.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL HYMN ELW 826, vs. 1 & 5

Thine the Amen

1 Thine the amen thine the praise
alleluias angels raise
thine the everlasting head
thine the breaking of the bread
thine the glory thine the story
thine the harvest then the cup
thine the vineyard then the cup
is lifted up lifted up.

5 Thine the glory in the night
no more dying only light
thine the river thine the tree

then the Lamb eternally
then the holy holy holy
celebration jubilee
thine the splendor thine the brightness
only thee only thee.

Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926
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DISMISSAL

Beloved of God,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



PRAYER REQUESTS & CONDOLENCES

Contact Janet Anderson at 913.638-9331 to add names to the prayer chain or to join the prayer chain.

Please contact the church office to make changes to this list.

St. Mark's members:

Henry Moore,
Janet Nichols,
Sheila Mutschelknaus,
Barbara Strampe,
Ruth Ann Hackler,
Chuck Vandenberg,
Susan & Bill Roberts,
George McElroy,
Janet Schmidt,
Phyllis Dettmer,

Family & friends:

Family of Judy Wendt, Jeannine Matthew's sister-in-law,
Sydney, daughter of Tom & Nancy Bryer,
Harry Cagle, brother of Pete Cagle,
Deb & family, sister of Nancy Bryer,
Timothy Anderson, son of Don & Janet Anderson,
Family of Hazel Hendrix, friend of St. Mark's,
Janice, sister of Jenny Wheeler,
Trae Allen, nephew of friend of Susan Fetsch,
Family of Craig Downing, Father of Joni Benz,
Dr. Owens, friend of Kathy Hinkle,
Mike and Susan Becker, friends of St. Mark's,
Sheryl Aldersen, friend of Dale Albers,
Elizabeth Applebaum, friend of Kathy Hinkle
Charles, brother of Joe VanKempen,
Scott, son-in-law of Jane & Mike Scherrer,
Hugo B Gibson, friend of Pete Cagle,
Kai son Davis, friend of Pete Cagle,
Cameron Leckliter, neighbor of Ginny Schwartzbeck,
Alyssa, niece-in-law of Mike and Jane Scherrer,
Tim Sullivan, friend of the VanKempens,
Stan, friend of Pete Cagle,
Chris, brother of Pete Cagle,
Joetta Eagle & family, friends of Linda Bayer,
Kara Campbell, niece of Pete Cagle,
Bill Benne, friend of Joyce and Louis Johnson,
Lynn, Dennis & Sharon Thee, relatives of Barbara Strampe,
Candy, sister of Tom Bryer,
Craig Aldag, Uncle of Ali Luin,

Manuel & family, friend of Jenny Wheeler's grandson,
Donna McCarthy, friend of Ginny Schwartzbeck,
Andrew, friend of the Scherrers,
Jenny Mack, Niece of Jenny Wheeler,
Chris, Brother of Pete Cagle,
Amber Smith, friend of Pete Cagle,
Family of Kathy, cousin of Barb Nail,
Leo Patton, Grandfather of Jason Howe,
Gary Stepenson, Uncle of Jason Howe,
Rowan Espey, family of Barbara Strampe,
Peggy Hinkle, Step-Mother of Kathy Hinkle,
Tim Eiter, Father of Todd Eiter,
Rebeka Gillette, friend of Janet Nichols,
Jackie Warriner, Sister-in-law of Linda Goodheart,
Don Thun, Father of Matt Thun,
Katherine Gile, sister of Anne Gardner,
Matt Warriner, Great Nephew of Linda Goodheart,
Joanne, Amy Fisher's sister,
Neil Warriner, Linda Goodheart's brother,
Donna Poppe, friend of St. Marks,
Rosemary Williams & her sons Wayne & Wade Beck,
Brooke Harris, friend of Gretchen Goodheart Stewart,
Bruce Dawson, friend of the Goodhearts,
Kirk Wheeler, cousin of Verna McMullin,
All People affected by natural disasters

Those in the Military:

A.J. Simons, nephew of Stan and Karen Thompson,