

**November 19, 2023**

*Twenty Fifth Sunday  
After Pentecost*



**GRACE  
LUTHERAN  
CHURCH**

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+

Worship:  
Divine Service

8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am

Adult Bible Study &  
Sunday School:

9:30 am  
(Grace Hall)

+

Pastor:  
Richard Willsea

Deaconess:  
Karen Suter

Organist  
Patty Barnes

# TWENTY FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 19, 2023

## ✠ PREPARATION ✠

**Today we will observe The Lord's Supper...***The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Grace Lutheran Church in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes. Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked you first to speak with the pastor, an elder or an usher. (For further study, see Matthew 5:23f; 10:32f; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34). Wine is used in the individual and common cup. It may also be received by intinction. A gluten free wafer is available upon request.*

### PRELUDE

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

arr. D. Johnson

"Come, thou Long-Expected Jesus"

setting: R. Powell

### WELCOME

*Stand*

### HYMN

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

**LSB 338**



1 Come, Thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, Born to set Thy peo - ple free;  
2 Born Thy peo - ple to de - liv - er; Born a child and yet a king!



From our fears and sins re - lease us; Let us find our rest in Thee.  
Born to reign in us for - ev - er, Now Thy gra - cious king - dom bring.



Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth Thou art,  
By Thine own e - ter - nal Spir - it Rule in all our hearts a - lone;



Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.  
By Thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it Raise us to Thy glo - rious throne.

## INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

## OPENING SENTENCES

- A** The LORD has prepared a sacrifice
- C** and consecrated His guests.
  
- A** Encourage one another
- C** and build one another up.
  
- A** To everyone who has will more be given,
- C** and he will have an abundance.

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- C** But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
  
- P** Let us in all honesty hear His Word again and confess our sins.  
The Lord has consecrated His guests,
- C** but we have been more attentive to the things of this world. Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us.
  
- P** Build one another up,
- C** but we are used to the darkness of this world and fear His coming like a thief in the night. Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us.
  
- P** To everyone who has will more be given,
- C** but we seldom recognize the abilities and opportunities He has given. Let the favor of the Lord our God be upon us.

**P** The favor of the Lord is on you! Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**G** Amen.

† SERVICE OF THE WORD †

HYMN

“How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds”

LSB 524



1 How sweet the name of Je - sus sounds In  
 2 It makes the wound - ed spir - it whole And  
 3 Dear name! The rock on which I build, My  
 4 O Je - sus, shep - herd, guard - ian, friend, My



a be - liev - er's ear! It soothes our sor - rows,  
 calms the heart's un - rest; 'Tis man - na to the  
 shield and hid - ing place; My nev - er - fail - ing  
 Proph - et, Priest, and King, My Lord, my life, my



heals our wounds, And drives a - way our fear.  
 hun - gry soul And to the wea - ry, rest.  
 trea - sury filled With bound - less stores of grace.  
 way, my end, Ac - cept the praise I bring.

5 How weak the effort of my heart,  
 How cold my warmest thought!  
 But when I see Thee as Thou art,  
 I'll praise Thee as I ought.

6 Till then I would Thy love proclaim  
 With ev'ry fleeting breath;  
 And may the music of Thy name  
 Refresh my soul in death!

*Stand*

**SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You.

**C** **Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting;**

**P** through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

## FIRST READING

*Zephaniah 1:7–16*

The word is read...

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## EPISTLE READING

*1 Thessalonians 5:1–11*

The word is read...

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

## VERSE

*Hebrews 12:1a, 2a*

**P** Alleluia. For to everyone who has will more be given,

**C** **and he will have an abundance. Alleluia.**

## HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 25:14–30*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

**C** **Glory You, O Lord.**

The word is read...

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** **Praise to You, O Christ.**



1 The clouds of judg - ment gath - er, The  
 2 A - rise, O true dis - ci - ples; Let  
 3 The home of fade - less splen - dor, Of  
 4 Oh, hap - py, ho - ly por - tion, Re -



time is grow - ing late; Be so - ber and be  
 wrong give way to right, And pen - i - ten - tial  
 blooms that bear no thorn, Where they shall dwell as  
 lief for all dis - tressed, True vi - sion of true



watch - ful, Our judge is at the gate:  
 shad - ow To Je - sus' bless - ed light:  
 chil - dren Who here as ex - iles mourn;  
 beau - ty, Re - fresh - ment for the blest!



The judge who comes in mer - cy, The  
 The light that has no eve - ning, That  
 The peace of all the faith - ful, The  
 Strive now to win that glo - ry, Toil



judge who comes in might To put an end to  
 knows no moon or sun, The light so new and  
 calm of all the blest, In - vi - o - late, un -  
 now to gain that light; Send hope a - head to



e - vil And di - a - dem the right.  
 gold - en, The light that is but one.  
 fad - ing, Di - vin - est, sweet - est, best.  
 grasp it Till hope be lost in sight.

## RECEPTION OF MEMBERS BY TRANSFER OR PROFESSION OF FAITH

John and Linda Storm, Lynn Jones, Dawson Haight

- P** Beloved in the Lord, our Lord Jesus Christ said to His apostles: "Whoever confesses Me before men, I will also confess before My Father who is in heaven. But whoever denies Me before men, I will also deny before My Father who is in heaven." Lift up your hearts, therefore, to the God of all grace and joyfully give answer to what I now ask you in the name of the Lord.
- P** Do you this day in the presence of God and of this congregation acknowledge the gifts that God gave you in your Baptism?
- R** *Yes, I do.*
- P** Do you renounce the devil and all his works and all his ways?
- R** *Yes, I renounce them.*
- P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, and in the Holy Spirit?
- R** *Yes, I believe in God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*
- P** Do you hold all the prophetic and apostolic Scriptures to be the inspired Word of God and the doctrine of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, drawn from them and confessed in the Small Catechism, to be faithful and true?
- R** *I do.*
- A** Do you intend to hear the Word of God and receive the Lord's Supper faithfully?
- R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- A** Do you intend to live according to the Word of God, and in faith, word, and deed to remain true to God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, even to death?
- R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- A** Do you intend to continue steadfast in this confession and Church and to suffer all, even death, rather than fall away from it?
- R** *I do, by the grace of God.*
- A** Do you desire to become a member of this congregation?
- R** *I do.*

**A** Will you support the work our gracious Lord has given this congregation with your prayers and the gifts God has given you?

**R** *I will, with the help of God.*

**P** Upon this your confession of faith, I acknowledge publicly that you are members of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and of this congregation. Receive the Lord's Supper and participate with us in all the blessings of salvation that our Lord has given to His Church, in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{†}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

*Stand*

**P** Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, we thank and praise You for Your great goodness in bringing these Your sons and daughters to the knowledge of Your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ, and enabling them both with the heart to believe and with the mouth to confess His saving name. Grant that by Your Word and Spirit they may continue steadfast in the one true faith in the fellowship of this congregation as together we await the day when all who have fought the good fight of faith shall receive the crown of righteousness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

*The pastor will extend the right hand of fellowship and will bestow name tags.. The rite concludes with the following blessing:*

**P** The grace of our  $\text{†}$  Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**C** **Amen.**

*The new members return to their places.*

*Stand*

## **NICENE CREED**

**C** **I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth**



**and of all things visible and invisible.**  
**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,**  
**the only-begotten Son of God,**  
**begotten of His Father before all worlds,**  
**God of God, Light of Light,**  
**very God of very God,**  
**begotten, not made,**  
**being of one substance with the Father,**  
**by whom all things were made;**  
**who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven**  
**and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary**  
**and was made man;**  
**and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.**  
**He suffered and was buried.**  
**And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures**  
**and ascended into heaven**  
**and sits at the right hand of the Father.**  
**And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,**  
**whose kingdom will have no end.**  
**And I believe in the Holy Spirit,**  
**the Lord and giver of life,**  
**who proceeds from the Father and the Son,**  
**who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,**  
**who spoke by the prophets.**  
**And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,**  
**I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,**  
**and I look for the resurrection of the dead**  
**and the life † of the world to come. Amen.**

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

- P** Let us pray for the Church around the world, for ourselves in this place, for people in positions of authority, for families, and for all in need.  
Guide and protect Your Church, Lord Jesus, as it endeavors to share the Gospel in the many circumstances of this sin-ridden world. Embolden leaders to speak Your Word with conviction, open the ears of those who hear the Good News in all

circumstances, and grant increase of faith and numbers wherever people gather around Word and Sacrament.

**C** Hear our prayer, O Lord, and let Your favor be upon us and all for whom we pray.

**A** O Holy Spirit, strengthen this congregation so that we are a beacon of Your gracious love, calling one and all to join us to celebrate the Good News shining in this darkened world.

**C** Hear our prayer, O Lord, and let Your favor be upon us and all for whom we pray.

**P** Lord over all, guide and protect the officers of nations; armed forces deployed and police at home; leaders of large corporations; those who work in the media; those who grow, tend, and distribute food; and all who respond in emergencies, that together they work for the common good.

**C** Hear our prayer, O Lord, and let Your favor be upon us and all for whom we pray.

**A** Heavenly Father, grant peace and love in families, give wisdom to parents and willingness to learn to children, and provide faithful congregations, caring friends, and extended relatives to support them through all the changes in life.

**C** Hear our prayer, O Lord, and let Your favor be upon us and all for whom we pray.

**P** Lord our God, hear the prayers of Your people near and dear to us, [including . . .], as well as those known only to You. As fits Your gracious plans for them, give healing, relief, and comfort, so that they may live out each day in peace and joy.

**C** Hear our prayer, O Lord, and let Your favor be upon us and all for whom we pray.

**A** These and any other things You would have us ask of You, heavenly Father, grant us for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*


**OFFERING**

**VOLUNTARY**

"Then Shall the Righteous Shine Forth"

arr. T. Kendell

## OFFERTORY



**C** What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will  
call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa-lem.

## ✠ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT ✠

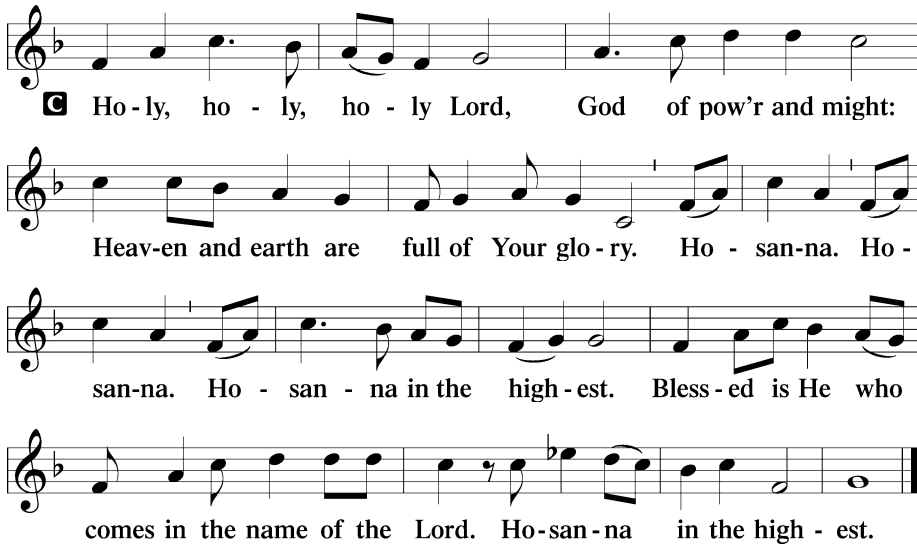
## PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And also with you.**
- P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**
- P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**
- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give

thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## SANCTUS

LSB 161



**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

- P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✝}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P** In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✝}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

- P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**
- P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## LORD'S PRAYER

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <b>C</b> <b>Our Father who art in heaven,</b><br><b>hallowed be Thy name,</b><br><b>Thy kingdom come,</b><br><b>Thy will be done on earth</b><br><b>as it is in heaven;</b><br><b>give us this day our daily bread;</b><br><b>and forgive us our trespasses</b> | <b>as we forgive those</b><br><b>who trespass against us;</b><br><b>and lead us not into temptation,</b><br><b>but deliver us from evil.</b><br><b>For Thine is the kingdom</b><br><b>and the power and the glory</b><br><b>forever and ever. Amen.</b> |
|---|---|

## AGNUS DEI

LSB 163



**C** Lamb of God, You take a - way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the  
 world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the  
 sin of the world; grant us peace.

*Sit*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMN** "At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing" **LSB 366**

1 At the Lamb's high feast we sing Praise to  
 2 Praise we Him, whose love di-vine Gives His  
 3 Where the pas-chal blood is poured, Death's dread  
 4 Praise we Christ, whose blood was shed, Pas-chal  
 our vic-tor-ious King, Who has washed us in the tide  
 sa-cred blood for wine, Gives His bod-y for the feast—  
 an-gel sheathes the sword; Is-rael's hosts tri-um-phantly go  
 vic-tim, pas-chal bread; With sin-cer-i-ty and love  
 Flow-ing from His pierc-ed side. Al-le-lu-ia!  
 Christ the vic-tim, Christ the priest. Al-le-lu-ia!  
 Through the wave that drowns the foe. Al-le-lu-ia!  
 Eat we man-na from a-bove. Al-le-lu-ia!

- 5 Mighty Victim from the sky,  
 Hell's fierce pow'rs beneath You lie;  
 You have conquered in the fight,  
 You have brought us life and light.  
 Alleluia!
- 6 Now no more can death appall,  
 Now no more the grave enthrall;  
 You have opened paradise,  
 And Your saints in You shall rise.  
 Alleluia!

7 Easter triumph, Easter joy!  
This alone can sin destroy;  
From sin's pow'r, Lord, set us free,  
Newborn souls in You to be.  
Alleluia!

△ 8 Father, who the crown shall give,  
Savior, by whose death we live,  
Spirit, guide through all our days:  
Three in One, Your name we praise.  
Alleluia!

**VOLUNTARY**

"At the Lamb's High Feast We Sing"

setting: J. Weber

*Stand*

**NUNC DIMITTIS**

LSB 165

Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va - tion which You have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re - veal You to the na - tions and the glo - ry of Your peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Fa - ther and to the Son and to the Ho - ly Spir - it; as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

**POST COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

- P** Let us pray. We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift,
- C** and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another;
- P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

## BENEDICTION

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.
- C** Amen.

## HYMN

### "Christ the Eternal Lord"

LSB 829



1 Christ the e - ter - nal Lord, Whose prom - ise here we claim,  
2 Christ the un - chang - ing Word To ev - 'ry pass - ing age,  
3 Christ the re - deem - ing Son, Who shares our hu - man birth,  
4 Christ the un - fad - ing Light Of ev - er - last - ing day,  
5 Christ the as - cend - ed King Ex - alt - ed high a - bove,



Whose gifts of grace are free-ly poured On all who name Your name;  
Whose time-less teach-ings still are heard Set forth on Scrip-ture's page;  
And by His death sal - va - tion won For ev - 'ry child of earth;  
Our Morn-ing Star in splen-dor bright, The Life, the Truth, the Way;  
Whose praise un - end - ing a - ges sing, Whom yet un - seen we love;



With thank - ful - ness and praise We stand be - fore Your throne,  
Trans - form our thought and mind, En - light - en all who read,  
In - spire our hearts, we pray, To tell Your love a - broad,  
That light of truth You give To ser - vants as to friends,  
When mor - tal life is past Your voice from heav-en's throne





In - tent to serve You all our days And make Your glo - ry known.  
With - in Your Word by faith to find The bread of life in - deed.  
That all may hon - or Christ to - day And fol - low Him as Lord.  
Your way to walk, Your life to live, Till earth's brief jour - ney ends.  
Shall call Your chil - dren home at last To know as we are known.

*Sit*

## ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

**P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## POSTLUDE

"Christ the Eternal Lord"

arr. C. Tornquist

## Acknowledgements

*Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 4.*

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*Please join us for Thanksgiving Eve. Service  
Wednesday, November 22, 2023*

