

# ✠ Holy Cross Lutheran Church ✠

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Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2020

## Divine Service, Setting Two

### As We Gather

We hear today the extremely encouraging words from the apostle Paul concerning our everlasting life. Paul tells us, "We will always be with the Lord." What comforting words! What encouraging words! You have the assurance that when Jesus returns, you will spend everlasting life in His gracious presence.

### 513 The Clouds of Judgment Gather



1 The clouds of judgment gather, 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.

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# Confession and Absolution

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

- P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Amen.

- 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.**

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

- P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.  
**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
- P** In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.  
**C** Amen.

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Psalm 84:1, 9–12; antiphon: v. 3*

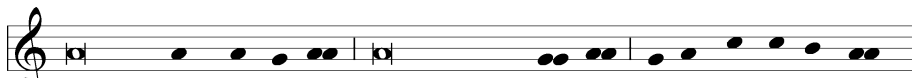
- P** Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.  
**C** **How lovely is your dwelling place,  
O LORD of hosts!**
- P** Behold our shield, O God;  
look on the face of your anointed!  
**C** **For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.  
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**
- P** For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor.  
No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.  
**C** **O LORD of hosts,  
blessèd is the one who trusts in you!**
- C** **Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**
- P** Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young, at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.



**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



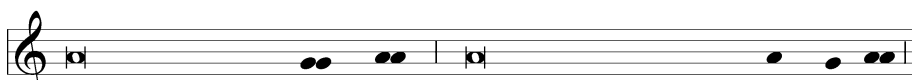
**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** For the peace from a-bove and for our sal-va-tion let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



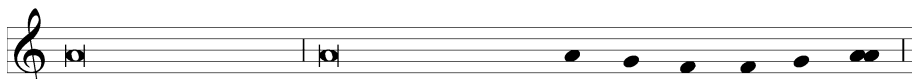
**A** For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,



and for the uni-ty of all let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



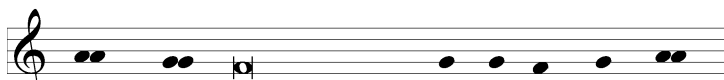
**A** For this holy house and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise



let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.



**A** Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord.



**C** A - men.

## Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 170

[A] Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to His peo-ple on earth.

[C] Lord God, heav - en - ly king, al - might - y God and  
Fa - ther: We wor - ship You, we give You thanks, we  
praise You for Your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly  
Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God: You  
take a - way the sin of the world; have mer - cy on  
us. You are seat - ed at the right hand of the  
Fa - ther; re - ceive our prayer. For You a - lone are the  
Ho - ly One, You a - lone are the Lord, You a -  
lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,  
in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; 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*

## Old Testament Reading

Amos 5:18–24

**P** The Old Testament Reading is from Amos, chapter 5.

<sup>18</sup>Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!  
Why would you have the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, and not light,  
<sup>19</sup>as if a man fled from a lion,  
 and a bear met him,  
 or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,  
 and a serpent bit him.  
<sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,  
 and gloom with no brightness in it?  
<sup>21</sup>“I hate, I despise your feasts,  
 and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.  
<sup>22</sup>Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,  
 I will not accept them;  
 and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,  
 I will not look upon them.  
<sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs;  
 to the melody of your harps I will not listen.  
<sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters,  
 and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

*1 Thessalonians 4:13–18*

**P** The Epistle is from 1 Thessalonians, chapter 4.

<sup>13</sup>But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup>For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet 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 together with them in the clouds 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.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

## Alleluia and Verse

*LSB 173*

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 25:1–13*

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

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

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>And while they were going to buy, the

bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' <sup>12</sup>But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' <sup>13</sup>Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

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

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

*Sit*

### 516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



1 "Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing," The watch - men on the  
2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing, And all her heart with  
3 Now let all the heav'ns a - dore Thee, Let saints and an - gels



heights are cry - ing; "A - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, a - rise!"  
joy is spring - ing; She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.  
sing be - fore Thee With harp and cym - bals' clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing  
For her Lord comes down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in  
Of one pearl each shin - ing por - tal, Where, join - ing with the



cry re - joic - es: "Oh, where are ye, ye vir - gins wise?  
truth vic - to - rious; Her star is ris'n, her light is come.  
choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round Thy ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes, a - wake! Your lamps with glad - ness take!  
Now come, Thou Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son,  
No eye has seen the light, No ear has heard the might



Al - le - lu - ia! With brid - al care Your - selves pre - pare  
Hail! Ho - san - na! We en - ter all The wed - ding hall  
Of Thy glo - ry; There - fore will we E - ter - nal - ly



To meet the Bride - groom, who is near."  
To eat the Sup - per at Thy call.  
Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

Text and tune: Public domain

### Sermon

*Stand*

### Apostles' Creed

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

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.  
The third day He rose again from the dead.  
He ascended into heaven  
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.  
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life † everlasting. Amen.

### Prayer of the Church

**P** Lord, You are our help and deliverer and to You we bring the prayers and petitions of Your people, that You may grant to us all things good and needful and guard us against all things evil and harmful.

*Brief silence*

That the Lord would rule over the darkness and shine His light over all the earth, that those from many nations may be united as one people through Baptism and live together in faith, by the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** That the Lord would grant us wisdom and courage, that we may be prepared at all times to receive Him when He comes in His glory and that we may not be distracted by earthly glories that fade away or disillusioned by earthly disappointments, which will come to an end, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** That the Lord would give courage to all pastors as they preach and teach the Word of the Lord, that all those who hear may believe, and that believing, they may live in righteousness and godliness before the world and be kept to the day when Christ returns as Lord and Judge of all, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** That the governments of the world and our leaders would act justly and with mercy, that we may be spared war and violence, and that we may use wisely and for the Lord's glory His gift of liberty and the abundant blessings He has poured out on our land, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** That the Lord would give aid and comfort to the sick, the suffering and those in their last days, that He may grant healing according to His will and strength to bear up under the weight of loneliness or affliction, [*we pray especially for \_\_\_\_\_,*] let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** That we may not grieve as those who have no hope, that we may rejoice in the promise of the resurrection to life everlasting, and that we may encourage one another with these words, [*especially the families of \_\_\_\_\_,*] let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** That we may find a home within the house of the Lord here on earth, that we may rejoice in the Lord's Word and Sacraments by which we are brought to faith and nurtured in this faith, and that we may be sustained in the days of waiting, serving the Lord in anticipation of His return, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** That we may be ready to receive the Lord when He comes again in glory, that the Lord may open the hearts of those who have wandered away from the faith, and that the Lord may restore those caught up in error's maze, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** Lord, have mercy.

**P** That the Lord may hear and answer the prayers of His people and that we may be content with His answer, trusting in His Fatherly will and wisdom to grant us all that we need and all that will profit our salvation, let us pray in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

*Sit*

## Offering

*Stand*

## Offertory

LSB 176



**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.

## Lord's Prayer

LSB 179

**P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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



## Collect for the Word

**P** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; 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

LSB 183

**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.

## 336 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending



1 Lo! He comes with clouds de - scend - ing,  
2 Ev - 'ry eye shall now be - hold Him  
3 Those dear to - kens of His pas - sion  
4 Yea, a - men, let all a - dore Thee,



Once for ev - 'ry sin - ner slain;  
Robed in glo - rious maj - es - ty;  
Still His daz - zling bod - y bears,  
High on Thine e - ter - nal throne;



Thou - sand thou - sand saints at - tend - ing  
Those who set at naught and sold Him,  
Cause of end - less ex - ul - ta - tion  
Sav - ior, take the pow'r and glo - ry,



Swell the tri - umph of His train:  
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,  
To His ran - somed wor - ship - ers.  
Claim the king - dom as Thine own.



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -  
Deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly  
With what rap - ture, with what rap - ture, with what  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -



lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
wail - ing, Shall their true Mes - si - ah see.  
rap - ture Gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou a - lone!

## **Announcements**

**Lutheran Witness** subscription update time! Confirm your address on the clipboard in the narthex.

**Adult Sunday School** is now studying Genesis.

The **Flowers** that beautify our altar this morning are given to God's glory.

The **Ladies Bible Study** is back studying Leviticus Wednesday at 10am.

**Church Council** will next meet, **Nov 8**, at 8am. They are starting the budget review for 2021.

**Church Council elections** for Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer, Member-at-Large and Elders will be held at the **Dec 13 Voters' Assembly**. Please prayerfully consider participating in one of these offices.

**Fifth Sunday!** Get your hymn suggestions to Pastor Huston by Sunday, the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

## **Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Two from Lutheran Service Book

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