



Therefore
**encourage
one
another**



and build each other up.
1 THESSALONIANS 5:11

SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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"In Nomine Iesu"

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023

WELCOME - The Father has loved the Son, and the Son has loved all people, making a home for us with Him in the Father's love. Dwelling in the Father's love by faith in Jesus, we keep His commandments. As we come to realize that we are loved by God, we discover that keeping His commandments is not burdensome, but a joy. Jesus' word of promise fills us with joy. He has chosen us to be His fruitbearing friends who love people the way He does. Alleluia!

Everyone, both guests and members, are asked to fill out the attendance card found in the pew rack and place it in the basket on the table or hand it to an usher as you leave the service.

In the celebration of Holy Communion we joyfully receive the true body and blood of our Savior Jesus Christ in, with, and under the bread and wine. Since this is also a sign of our common confession of faith, we welcome to the Lord's Supper all those who are presently confirmed members of congregations of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod. If you wish to commune for the first time at St. Paul's, please speak to Pastor before the service.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship ~ Ringing of the Bells

The Order of Worship

Lutheran Service Book – Divine Service Four with Communion

Hymn of Invocation (*please stand*)
“*Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus*”

LSB #660

Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the (+) Son
and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C **who made heaven and earth.**

Confession

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins,
O Lord, who could stand?

C **But with You there is forgiveness;
therefore You are feared.**

P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins,
and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Absolution

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As an 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.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Introit *Ps. 143:2, 5-6; antiphon: Ps. 143:1*

P Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!

C **In your faithfulness answer me,
in your righteousness!**

P Enter not into judgment with your servant,
C **for no one living is righteous before you.**

P I remember the days of old;
I meditate on all that you have done;
C **I ponder the work of your hands.**

P I stretch out my hands to you;
C **my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**

P Teach me to do your will, for you are my God!
C **Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!**

P For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life!
C **In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!**

All **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 Hear my prayer, O LORD;
give ear to my pleas for mercy!
C **In your faithfulness answer me,
in your righteousness!**

Kyrie ~ Lord, Have Mercy



Gloria in Excelsis ~ Glory to God in the Highest

Musical notation for the Gloria in Excelsis. It features two staves with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. Below the first staff, the lyrics are: 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth; 2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray; 3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord. Below the second staff, the lyrics are: Good - will from God in heav - en Pro - claimed at Je - sus' birth! O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way. For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor - shiped and a - dored;

We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry,
You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,
Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n - ly King.
Where You in pow'r are seat - ed At God's right hand on high—
In God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

Collect of the Day

P Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. 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; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

(be seated)

Chime Choir

"Give Thanks"

By Henry Smith; setting by Patricia Sanders Cota

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 1:7-16

⁷ Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is near; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests.

⁸ And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice—"I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire.

⁹ On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud.

¹⁰ "On that day," declares the Lord, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. ¹¹ Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no

more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. ¹² At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do ill.' ¹³ Their goods 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."

¹⁴ The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. ¹⁵ A day of wrath is that day, 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, ¹⁶ a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

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

R This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Alleluia and Verse (*please stand*)



Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

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

¹⁴ "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵ To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶ He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷ So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸ But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹ Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' ²¹ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²² And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' ²³ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴ He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' ²⁶ But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and

gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹ For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰ And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

All 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.

(be seated)

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day *"I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"* LSB #411

Sermon

Presentation of the Offering & Musical Offering

"Lord, Take My Heart" Charles E. Overholt

Our Catechism Moment ~ The Lord's Prayer

The Second Petition

P Thy kingdom come.

What does this mean?

C **The kingdom of God certainly comes by itself without our prayer, but we pray in this petition that it may come to us also.**

P *How does God's kingdom come?*

C **God's kingdom comes when our heavenly Father gives us His Holy Spirit, so that by His grace we believe His holy Word and lead godly lives here in time and there in eternity.**

Prayers of the Church

(After each portion of the prayers)

L Lord, in your mercy, **C Hear our prayer.**

P Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs:

P God of grace, preserve us from the temptation to consider You a hard and unmerciful master. Keep us mindful that You give us every good thing in abundance, most of all a place in Your household; for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Service of the Sacrament

Preface *(please stand)*

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 proper that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

Sanctus ~ Holy, Holy, Holy



Prayer of Thanksgiving

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your

great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

The Lord's Prayer

P Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

All 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.

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 (+) body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

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 (+) blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini – *The Peace of the Lord*

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Agnus Dei ~ *Lamb of God*

1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Distribution (be seated)

All members of our St. Paul's family are invited to meet the Lord in this Sacrament. When at the table, please indicate your preference of common or individual cup.

The CENTER RING of the individual communion cup tray contains *white* grape juice. The OUTER RINGS contain *red* wine. (Gluten free wafers are also available from a communion assistant.)

Distribution Hymns

"Draw Near and Take the Body of the Lord"

LSB #637

"Oh, That the Lord Would Guide My Ways"

LSB #707

Nunc Dimittis ~ Song of Simeon (please stand)

1 O Lord, now let Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the



Post-Communion Collect

P Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; 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.**

Closing Hymn

"Beautiful Savior"

LSB #537

Silent Prayer

(be seated)

Postlude

“Soli Deo Gloria”

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