

“Therefore
keep watch,
because you
do not know
the day or
the hour.”

MATTHEW 25:13

Welcome to
SAINT PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH - MISSOURI SYNOD

Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 23, 2025

“In Nomine Iesu”

915 - 27th Street, Marion, Iowa 52302
e-mail: office@stpaulsmarioniowa.org
www.stpaulsmarioniowa.org
Phone: (319)377-4687

Welcome! Whether you are a longtime member or visiting for the first time, you are a gift from God to us.

The love of Christ comfort you and the love of His people encourage you. We pray you know Christ's love through us.

So that we may all celebrate your presence and give thanks to God for you, **members and guests** alike are asked to please fill out the registration card found in your pew rack. Please hand them to an usher as you leave the sanctuary.

Matins, an Order of Worship for the morning, originated around the 4th Century. Christians observed 'times of day' for private devotions. These private "hours" developed into public services. Matins is marked by the thought of praise to God as Creator and Redeemer. We hope you enjoy the Service of Matins.

We pray you have been blessed through this worship and will join us again soon.

**Large print hymnals are available for your use.
You can find them under the guest registry
podium or ask an usher.**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Ringing of the Bell ~ A Call to Worship

The Order of Worship

Lutheran Service Book -Matins page 219

Opening Hymn

“Your Word, O Lord, Has Caused Offense” Tune:LSB #716

Your Word, O Lord, has caused offense
To people worldly, broken.
The sons of men refuse the sense
Of all the Christ has spoken,
Indulging sinful wills,
Inviting Satan’s ills.
The godless spurn all holy fear.
The end is surely drawing near.

Your Word, O Lord, has caused offense.
False prophets seek to lure us
From our baptismal innocence
And from Your truth obscure us.
Our own defense must fail;
You only must prevail.
We trust in You, O Savior dear.
The end is surely drawing near.

Your Word, O Lord, has caused offense.
Your children face temptation.
The Gospel is our sole defense
From anger and frustration.
The world seeks our defeat;
Your Word is comfort sweet
When worldly foes would mock and jeer.
The end is surely drawing near.

Your Word, O Lord, has caused offense,
Your cross a sign of loathing.
But through Your Passion You dispense
Our white baptismal clothing.
Your blood has made us clean
Of all our sins obscene.
The grave has no more power here.
The end is surely drawing near.

(Continued on next page)

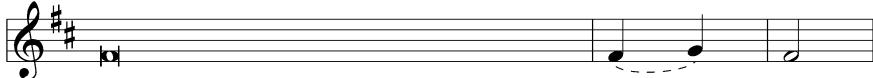
Your Word, O Lord, has caused offense.
The day, we beg You, hasten!
And should we fail at Your expense,
Don't hesitate to chasten.
The signs are plain and sure.
Oh, grant us to endure,
To trust Your Word and persevere.
The end is surely drawing near.

*Text: Alan Kornacki, Jr., b.1974
Tune: DER LIEBEN SONNE LICHT UND PRACHT (LSB 716)*

Opening Versicles (*please stand*)

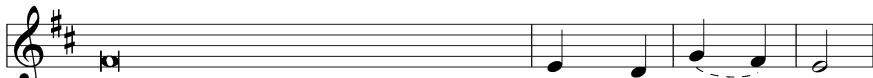
[L] O Lord, o - pen my lips,
[C] and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.
[L] Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;
[C] make haste to help me, O Lord.
[C] Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;
as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.
Praise to You, O Christ. Al - le - lu - ia.

Venite



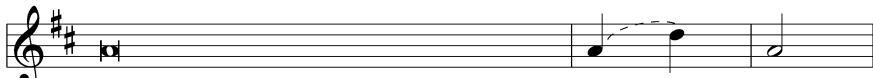
C 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord,
2 For the Lord is a great God
3 The sea is His, for He made it,

5 Glory be to the Father and to the Son

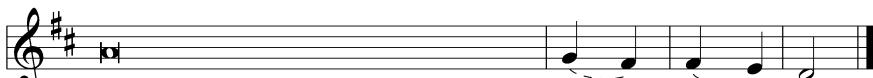


1 let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our sal - va - tion.
2 and a great king a - bove all gods.
3 and His hand formed the dry land.

5 and to the Ho - ly Spir - it;



1 Let us come into His presence with thanks - giv - ing,
2 The deep places of the earth are in His hand;
3 O come, let us worship and bow down,
4 For He is our God,
5 as it was in the be - gin - ning,



1 let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise.
2 the strength of the hills is His al - so.
3 let us kneel before the Lord, our mak - er.
4 and we are the people of His pasture and the sheep - of His hand.
5 is now, and will be for - ev - er. A - men.

Introit *Psalm 39:4–5, 7–8; antiphon: Isaiah 35:10*

P The ransomed of the Lord shall return \and come to Zion with singing;

C everlasting joy shall be upon their heads.

P They shall obtain gladness and joy,
C and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

P O Lord, make me know my end
and what is the measure of my days;
C let me know how fleeting I am!

- P Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,
and my lifetime is as nothing before you.
- C **Surely all mankind stands as a mere breath!**
- P And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?
- C **My hope is in you.**
- P Deliver me from all my transgressions.
- C **Do not make me the scorn of the fool!**
- 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 The ransomed of the Lord shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
C **everlasting joy shall be upon their heads.**
- P They shall obtain gladness and joy,
C **and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.**

(be seated)

Choir Anthem *“Thanks Be to God!”*
By Nancy Price & Don Besig

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 65:17-25

¹⁷“Behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. ¹⁸But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. ¹⁹I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress. ²⁰No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed. ²¹They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and

eat their fruit. ²²They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. ²³They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the Lord, and their descendants with them. ²⁴Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear. ²⁵The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain," says the Lord.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.
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.

P O Lord, have mercy on us.
C **Thanks be to God.**

(please stand)

Holy Gospel*Matthew 25:1-13*

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And 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. ¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P O Lord, have mercy on us.

C Thanks be to God.

(be seated)

Children's Message**Responsory Hymn**

“Wake, Awake, For Night Is Flying”

LSB #516

Sermon

“Be Prepared”

Text: Matthew 25:1-13

Please rise as we present the Offering and Sing Te Deum

Te Deum ~ We Praise You, O God (please stand)

1 We praise You, O God; we acknowledge You to be the Lord.
2 Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
3 The noble army of martyrs praise You.

1 All the earth now worships You, the Fa - ther ev - er - last - ing.
2 heaven and earth are full of the majes - ty of Your glo - ry.
3 The holy Church throughout all the world does ac - knowl-edge You:

1 To You all angels cry aloud, the heavens and all the pow'rs there - in.
2 The glorious company of the apostles praise You.
3 The Father of an infinite majesty; Your adorable, true, and on - ly Son;
4 You are the king of glory, O Christ;

1 To You cherubim and seraphim con - tin - ual - ly do cry:
2 The goodly fellowship of the proph - ets praise You.
3 also the Holy Ghost, the Com - fort - er.
4 You are the everlasting Son of the Fa - - ther.

5 When You took upon Yourself to de - liv - er man,
6 You sit at the right hand of God

5 You humbled Yourself to be born of a vir - - gin.
6 in the glory of the Fa - - ther.

5 When You had overcome the sharpness of death,
6 We believe that You will come

5 You opened the kingdom of heaven to all be - liev - - ers.
6 to be - our - judge.

(continued on the next page)

7 We therefore pray You to help Your ser - - vants,
 8 *O Lord, save Your people and bless Your her - i - tage.*
 9 *Grant, O Lord, to keep us this day with - out sin.*

7 whom You have redeem - ed with Your pre - cious blood.
 8 *Govern them and lift . . . them up for - ev - er.*
 9 *O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy up - on us.*

7 Make them to be numbered with Your saints
 8 *Day by day we magni - fy You.*
 9 *O Lord, let Your mercy be upon us, as our trust is in You.*

7 in glory ev - er - last - ing.
 8 *And we worship Your name for - ever and ev - er.*
 9 *O Lord, in You have I trusted; let me never be con - found - ed.*

Prayers of the Church

(After each portion of the prayers)

P 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 Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Lord's Prayer

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.**

Collect of the Day

P O Lord, absolve Your people from their offenses that, from the bonds of our sins which by reason of our frailty we have brought upon ourselves, we may be delivered by Your bountiful goodness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Benedicamus (please stand)

P Let us bless the Lord

C **Thanks be to God.**

Benediction

2 Corinthians 13:14

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **Amen.**

Sending Hymn “Sing With All the Saints in Glory” LSB #671

Silent Prayer

(be seated)

Postlude

“Soli Deo Gloria”

Acknowledgments Matins from Lutheran Service Book © 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted with permission. Unless otherwise indicated, all scripture quotations are from *The Holy Bible, English Standard Version*, copyright © 2001 by Crossway Bibles, a division of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2006 Concordia Publishing House



Encourage
one another
and
build
each other
up.

1 Thessalonians 5:11