

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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25th Sunday after Pentecost November 19, 2023

Worship 11:00 A.M.

Pastor: Rev. Diana Edis

Musician: Sheila Seidemann

Videographer: George Edis

Reader: Pat Rogers

Worship is live streamed on our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/princerupertlutheran/>.

Welcome to Worship at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. 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.

Weekly Prayer Petitions

Local: Cornerstone Mennonite Brethren

Synod: Grace Lutheran in Dawson Creek as well as South Peace United, Deo Lutheran in Salmon Arm

ACC: The Secretary General and staff of the Anglican Communion Office.

ELCIC: The General Secretary and staff of the Lutheran World Federation

Discipleship Opportunities

1. The pastor will be public Wednesday at Javadotcup from 9:30-11:30.
2. Church Council meets Tuesday, Nov 21 at 7:00 PM both in person and by Zoom. Meeting ID: 858 4802 4707
Passcode: 271456 link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85848024707?pwd=UWZJcFRZSmJVb1JiVEJISE02MDBKQT09>
3. We will have our winter Bake Sale Saturday, December 9, 2023. See Herman Seidemann for details.

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* Our Bible readings are taken from the New Revised Standard Version, covered under AF #SB157842.

Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

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

Amen.

Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

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 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.

Gathering Hymn

Light Dawns on a Weary World

No. ELW 726

1 Light dawns on a wea - ry world when eyes be - gin to
2 Love grows in a wea - ry world when hun - gry hearts find
3 Hope blooms in a wea - ry world when crea-tures, once for -

see all peo - ple's dig - ni - ty. Light dawns on a
bread and chil - dren's dreams are fed. Love grows in a
lorn, find wil - der - ness re - born. Hope blooms in a

wea - ry world: the prom-ised day of jus - tice comes.
wea - ry world: the prom-ised feast of plen - ty comes.
wea - ry world: the prom-ised green of E - den comes.

Refrain

The trees shall clap their hands; the dry lands, gush with springs;
the hills and moun-tains shall break forth with sing - ing!
We shall go out in joy, and be led forth in peace,
as all the world in won-der ech - oes sha - lom.

Text: Mary Louise Bringle, b. 1953

Music: TEMPLE OF PEACE, William P. Rowan, b. 1951

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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

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Chris - te e - lei - son. Christ, have mer - cy.

Ky - ri - e e - lei - son. Lord, have mer - cy.

Hymn of Praise

Pg 148

1 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 2 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
 3 Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;

yours is the prom - ise, the bless - ing, the birth.
 yours the ho - san - nas, the dy - ing, re - birth.
 yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.

Ours the re - joic - ing for Word giv - en frame;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for na - ture re - claimed;
 Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;

ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.

Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;

yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

We pray together our 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.

Our first reading is from Zephaniah, beginning at the 1st chapter

1:7, 12-18

Be 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.

At 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." Their 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.

The 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. That 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, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

I 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. Neither 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.

The word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God

We read Psalm 90:1-8, 12 responsively: (*leader reads the light print, congregation reads the **bold***)

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

**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.**

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

**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past and like a watch in the night;
you sweep them away like a dream, they fade away suddenly like the grass:
in the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

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

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

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

**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.**

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

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

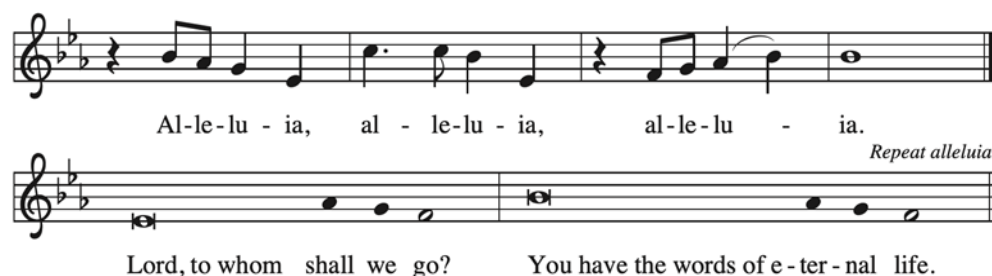
Our second reading is from 1 Thessalonians, beginning at the 5th chapter

5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When 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! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But 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. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



The holy gospel according to Matthew, beginning at the 22nd chapter

22:1-14

Glory to you, O Lord

Jesus said to the disciples:] "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then 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.' His 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.' 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.' His 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.' 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; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' 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? 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. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 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. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Rev. Diana Edis

Hymn of the Day

God of the Fertile Fields

No. ACS 1063



earth that yields our dai - ly bread: forth from your
trust from you all that you give; help us in
serves our need, so your reign grows. Let all our
Christ who died to make us one: we pledge our

boun - teous hand come gifts your love has planned,
love to share, teach us like you to care
toil be used, no gift of yours a - busied,
lives a - new in faith - ful love to you.

that all in ev - 'ry land be clothed and fed.
for peo - ple ev - 'ry - where, that all may live.
no hum - ble task re - fused your love be - stows.
Guide all we say and do. Your will be done.

Text: Georgia Harkness, 1891–1974, alt.

Music: ITALIAN HYMN, Felice de Giardini, 1716–1796

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Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith using the words of the Apostles' Creed. We confess:

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 power of 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: (petition end: Hear us, O God.)

(petition response: **Your mercy is great!**)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offerings may be mailed to the church, placed in our mailbox, sent by e-transfer to offering2stpauls@citywest.ca, or given through CanadaHelps to St. Paul's Lutheran, Prince Rupert.

Offering Prayer

God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for

your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

Amen.

All people are invited to receive God's meal, this meal is for you. If you would like to learn more about communion please speak with the pastor after worship. Those worshipping off campus may prepare bread and wine or juice for your worship space. When the bread and beverage are offered by the pastor and you eat and drink you may respond, "Amen." We have both bread and gluten-free wafers, wine and juice; please let your server know which options are needed.

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... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
God of might, heav - en and earth are full of your
glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is the one who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

O God, most mighty... Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering his death, we cry out Amen.

Amen!

Celebrating his resurrection, we shout Amen.

Amen!

Trusting his presence in every time and place, we plead Amen.

Amen!

O God... now and forever.

Amen


L: Gathered into one across time and space by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using whatever version of that prayer comforts you. We pray:



Our Fa - ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be your name,
 your king-dom come, your will be done, on earth as in heav - en.
 Give us to - day our dai - ly bread. For - give us our sins as we
 for-give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of tri - al
 and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow'r,
 and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

Lamb of God

pg. 154



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, grant us peace.

Hymns during communion:

*In the Singing
 Come and Fill Our Hearts*

No. 760 ELW

No. 528 ELW

The body and blood of our Lord and Saviour strengthen you to eternal life.

Amen

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.

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.

Sending Hymn

O Christ the Same

No. 778 WOV

1 O Christ the same, through all our sto - ry's pag - es—
 2 O Christ the same, the friend of sin - ners, shar - ing
 3 O Christ the same, se - cure with - in whose keep - ing

our loves and hopes, our fail - ures and our fears;
 our in - most thoughts, the se - crets none can hide;
 our lives and loves, our days and years re - main;

e - ter - nal Lord, the king of all the a - ges,
 still as of old up - on your bod - y bear - ing
 our work and rest, our wak - ing and our sleep - ing,

un - chang - ing still a - mid the pass - ing years:
 the marks of love in tri - umph glo - ri - fied:
 our calm and storm, our plea - sure and our pain:

O liv - ing Word, the source of all cre - a - tion,
 O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heav - en—
 O Lord of love, for all our joys and sor - rows,

who spread the skies and set the stars a - blaze;
 O Prince of life, in all your sav - ing power;
 for all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;

O Christ the same, who wrought our whole sal - va - tion,
 O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are giv - en:
 O Christ the same, be - yond our brief to - mor - rows,

we bring our thanks for all our yes - ter - days.
 we bring our thanks for this the pres - ent hour.
 we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926
 Music: LONDONDERRY AIR, Irish tune

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

Thanks be to God.