



# TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

*Marked with the cross of Christ we are called to love, serve,  
and celebrate Christ, our community, and one another.*

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## **Twenty-second Sunday after Pentecost**

### ***Dividends for God?***

**October 20, 2024**

**9:30 a.m.**



Our readings during our stewardship program speak of the end times on October 20 & 27. Paul says the end 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.

### **Welcome to Worship!**

We're so glad you've joined us today.  
We hope you are blessed by today's service.

**GATHERING + WORD + MEAL + SENDING**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING SONG**

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

ELW #815

*I want to walk as a child of the light.*

*I want to follow Jesus.*

*God set the stars to give light to the world.*

*The star of my life is Jesus.*

*In him there is no darkness at all.*

*The night and the day are both alike.*

*The Lamb is the light of the city of God.*

*Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.*

*I want to see the brightness of God.*

*I want to look at Jesus.*

*Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father. Refrain*

*I'm looking for the coming of Christ.*

*I want to be with Jesus.*

*When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain*

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**GREETING**

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.**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

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

**Amen.**

*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**  
**that 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.**

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**Let us pray together.**

**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 Je-**  
**sus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GATHERING + **WORD** + MEAL + SENDING

#### **PSALM**

Psalm 90:1-8, 12

<sup>1</sup>Lord, you have been our refuge  
from one generation to another.

<sup>2</sup>**Before the mountains were brought forth,**  
**or the land and the earth were born,**  
**from age to age you are God.**

<sup>3</sup>You turn us back to the dust and say,  
"Turn back, O children of earth."

<sup>4</sup>**For a thousand years in your sight are like**  
**yesterday when it is past**  
**and like a watch in the night;**

<sup>5</sup>you sweep them away like a dream,  
they fade away suddenly like the grass:  
<sup>6</sup>**in the morning it is green and flourishes;  
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**  
<sup>7</sup>For we are consumed by your anger;  
we are afraid because of your wrath.  
<sup>8</sup>**Our iniquities you have set before you,  
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**  
<sup>12</sup>**So teach us to number our days  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

## SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>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! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

*Holy wisdom. Holy Word.*

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Please stand.*

*Alleluia.* Our hearts <sup>l</sup> burn within us\* while you open to <sup>l</sup> us the scriptures.

*Alleluia. (Luke 24:32)*

"Alleluia"

***Alleluia alleluia  
Alleluia alleluia  
Alleluia alleluia  
Alleluia alleluia***

**GOSPEL**

Matthew 25:14-30

*The holy gospel according to Matthew.***Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>14</sup>“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>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.’ <sup>21</sup>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.’ <sup>22</sup>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.’ <sup>23</sup>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.’ <sup>24</sup>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; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ <sup>26</sup>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? <sup>27</sup>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. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>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. <sup>30</sup>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, Lord Christ.****TIME WITH THE CHILDREN OF GOD****SERMON***Dividends for God?*

Rev. Ken Anderson

**HYMN OF THE DAY**      *Please stand.*  
"Praise and Thanksgiving"

ELW #689

***Praise and thanksgiving, God, we would offer  
for all things living, you have made good:  
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,  
hay from the mown fields, blossom and wood.***

***God, bless the labor we bring to serve you,  
that with our neighbor we may be fed.  
Sowing or tilling, we would work with you,  
harvesting, milling for daily bread.***

***Father, providing food for your children,  
by Wisdom's guiding teach us to share  
one with another, so that, rejoicing  
with us, all others may know your care.***

***Then will your blessing reach ev'ry people,  
freely confessing your gracious hand.  
Where you are reigning, no one will hunger;  
your love sustaining showers the land.***

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### **APOSTLES' CREED**

**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 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 THE PEOPLE**

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, you give talents and gifts to all your people, and you equip the church to serve. Turn us from fear and self-serving ways, that we use our talents to glorify you and encourage our neighbor. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You have been our dwelling place from one generation to another. Sustain the life of the planet; protect farmlands and harvests. Direct all people in wise stewardship of all the earth's resources. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You call us to honesty and integrity. Instill these values in the hearts of all nations and their leaders (*leaders may be named*). Free any who are oppressed, expose all corruption, and bring redemption to victims of injustice. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. Where there is sickness or sorrow, bring healing, and where there is loneliness, reveal your love in community. We remember before you (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the faith formation ministries of our church. Give to all children, youth, and adults who study your word the breastplate of faith and love. Shape us by your love and show us how to encourage one another. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, you are faithful in all generations. For the promise of life and rest and for the witness of those who have died in faith (*especially*) we praise your goodness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

## **A TIME FOR SHARING THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

GATHERING + WORD + **MEAL** + SENDING

## **THE OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS**

Carol Gilmore & Jeanette Milanez

“Freely, Freely” by Carol Owens

## **THE OFFERING OF OUR LIVES**

“Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ”

ELW #674 (verses 1 & 3)

***Let us talents and tongues employ,  
reaching out with a shout of joy:  
bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.***

*Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!*

***Jesus calls us in, sends us out  
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell, bread to share:  
God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere! Refrain***

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## **OFFERING PRAYER**

*Let us pray.*

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.**

## **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

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 and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through the great shepherd of your flock, Christ our Lord; who after his resurrection sent forth his apostles to preach the Gospel and teach all nations, and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the age. And so, and with all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

“Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty!”

ELW #413 (verses 1 & 2)

***Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty!  
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.  
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!***

***Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,  
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;  
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,  
which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.***

#### **THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God, our Maker, Redeemer, and Healer, in the harmonious world of your creation, the plants and animals, the seas and stars were whole and well in your praise.

When sin had scarred the world, you sent your Son to heal our ills and to form us again into one.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his acts of healing, his body given up, and his victory over death, we await that day when all the peoples of the earth will come to the river to enjoy the tree of life.

Send your Spirit upon us and this meal: as grains scattered on the hillside become one bread, so let your Church be gathered from the ends of the earth, that all may be fed with the Bread of life, your Son.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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.**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

## **THE COMMUNION MEAL**

*(Please come forward at the direction of the ushers. Please note that Gluten-free wafers are also available — just ask the assistant at the time you commune.)*

### **A note to those visiting with us:**

*All are welcome at the Lord's table. In this meal Jesus offers his grace, forgiveness, and presence to all. To learn more about the gifts of God's grace given in Baptism and Holy Communion, please speak with the pastor after worship.*

## **COMMUNION HYMN**

"Lord, Be Glorified"

ELW #744

***In my life, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in my life, Lord, be glorified today.***

***In our song, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in our song, Lord, be glorified today.***

***In your church, Lord, be glorified, be glorified;  
in your church, Lord, be glorified today.***

***In your world, Lord, be glorified, be glorified.  
In your world, Lord, be glorified today.***

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## PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:

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.**

GATHERING + WORD + MEAL + **SENDING**

## BENEDICTION

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.

A musical score for the word 'Amen'. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics 'A - men, a - men, a - - - men.' are written below the treble staff. The melody features a series of eighth notes in the first two measures, followed by a half note in the third measure, and a final half note in the fourth measure. The accompaniment consists of chords in the first two measures, followed by a series of eighth notes in the third measure, and a final half note in the fourth measure.

## **SENDING HYMN**

"Here I Am, Lord"

ELW #574

*"I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.  
All who dwell in dark and sin My hand will save.  
I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.  
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"*

***Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?  
I have heard you calling in the night.  
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.  
I will hold your people in my heart.***

*"I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.  
I have wept for love of them. They turn away.  
I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?" **refrain***

*"I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide Till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?" **refrain***

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## **DISMISSAL**

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

**Thanks be to God.**