

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
2107 Three Oaks Rd, Cary, IL
November 8, 2020
Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

Inspired by Christ • Serving under Christ • Growing in Christ

Order of Service from Setting Three, page 184 in the Lutheran Service Book

OPENING HYMN

“Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”

LSB 515

**Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing, and darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.**

**The watchers on the mountain proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go forth as He approaches with alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory; the Bridegroom is at hand.**

**The saints, who here in patience their cross and suff'rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever when sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory the Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before Him their diadems of gold.**

**Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption that sets Your people free!**

Matt 25:1-6; Rev. 5:11-14; Mal. 4:2; Matt. 13:35-37

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

INVOCATION *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

Heb. 10:22

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth. *Ps. 124:8*

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Ps. 32:5*

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserve Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. *Jn 20:19-23*

C: Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

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. How lovely is your dwelling place, O Lord of hosts! Behold our shield, O God; look on the face of your anointed! 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. 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. O Lord of hosts, blessed is the one who trusts in you! 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. 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.

Ps. 84: 1, 3, 9-12

KYRIE *Mark 10:47*

Lord have mercy upon us, Christ have mercy upon us, Lord have mercy upon us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS *Luke 2:14; John 1:29*

Pastor: Glory be to God on high:

And on earth peace, good will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee for Thy great glory.

O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord; Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit.

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 Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever,

C: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON: Amos 5:18-24

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, 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. Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? "I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. 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. Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

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. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. 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. 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. 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. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

THE ALLELUIA

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia

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

C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ 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.’ 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. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

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 on 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 worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe 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.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE: “Company’s Coming, Are You Ready?”

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying”

LSB 516

**"Wake, awake, for night is flying," The watchmen on the heights are crying;
"Awake, Jerusalem, arise!" Midnight hears the welcome voices
And at the thrilling cry rejoices: "oh, where are ye, ye virgins wise?
The Bridegroom comes, awake! Your lamps with gladness take! Alleluia!
With bridal care yourselves prepare to meet the Bridegroom, who is near."**

**Zion hears the watchmen singing, and all her heart with joy is springing;
She wakes, she rises from her gloom. For her Lord comes down all-glorious,
The strong in grace, in truth victorious; her star is ris'n, her light is come.
Now come, Thou Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God's own Son, Hail! Hosanna!
We enter all the wedding hall to eat the Supper at Thy call.**

**Now let all the heav'ns adore Thee, let saints and angels sing before Thee
With harp and cymbals' clearest tone. Of one pearl each shining portal,
Where, joining with the choir immortal, we gather round Thy radiant throne.
No eye has seen the light, no ear has heard the might of Thy glory;
Therefore will we eternally sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!**

Matt. 25:1-13; Is. 62:5-12; Rev. 19:6-9; 7:9-17

SERMON: "Ready and Waiting for Homecoming" *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13*

1. Waiting to get ready? Don't make that mistake
2. As God's Children of Faith, we are ready and waiting
3. As God's people, we live in Hope and Encourage One Another
 - a. We tell others the Bridegroom is coming
 - b. We celebrate the invitation to be in God's wedding party
 - c. We live in hope, readiness and anticipation
 - d. We encourage others to quit stalling and get ready

THE OFFERTORY

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me,
Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

Ps. 51:10-12

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

P: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

C: And with thy spirit.

P: Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*

C: We lift them up unto the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalms 136*

C: It is meet and right so to do.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should in all times and all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting 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:

THE SANCTUS *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He
that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

PAX DOMINI

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

AGNUS DEI *John 1:29*

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Let all Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

LSB 621

**Let all mortal flesh keep silence and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in His hand
Christ our God to earth descending come our homage to demand.**

**King of kings yet born of Mary, as of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture, in the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful His own self for heav'nly food.**

**Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of light, descending from the realms of endless day,
Comes the pow'rs of hell to vanish as the darkness clears away.**

**At His feet the six-winged seraph, cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence as with ceaseless voice they cry:**

"Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

Acts 1:10-11; 1 Thess. 4:16-17; 1 Cor. 11:23-26; Luke 2:8-15

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

NUNC DIMITTIS *Luke 2:29-32*

**Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace
according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles
and the glory of Thy people Israel.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

THE THANKSGIVING

P: O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

C: and His mercy endureth forever. *Ps. 107:1*

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

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.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And with thy spirit. *2 Tim 4:22*

P: Bless we the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God. *Ps. 103:1*

BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: Amen, amen, amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Thine the Amen, Thine the Praise”

LSB 680

**Thine the amen Thine the praise alleluias angels raise
Thine the everlasting head Thine the breaking of the bread
Thine the glory Thine the story Thine the harvest then the cup
Thine the vineyard then the cup is lifted up lifted up.**

**Thine the life eternally Thine the promise let there be
Thine the vision Thine the tree all the earth on bended knee
Gone the nailing gone the railing gone the pleading gone the cry
Gone the sighing gone the dying what was loss lifted high.**

**Thine the truly Thine the yes Thine the table we the guest
Thine the mercy all from Thee Thine the glory yet to be
Then the ringing and the singing then the end of all the war
Thine the living Thine the loving evermore evermore.**

**Thine the kingdom Thine the prize Thine the wonder full surprise
Thine the banquet then the praise then the justice of Thy ways
Thine the glory Thine the story then the welcome to the least
Then the wonder all increasing at Thy feast at Thy feast.**

**Thine the glory in the night no more dying only light
Thine the river Thine the tree then the Lamb eternally
Then the holy holy holy celebration jubilee
Thine the splendor Thine the brightness only Thee only Thee.**

Matt. 26:26-29; Rev. 19:1-16; 7:9-14; 5:6-14

††† TO GOD ALONE BE ALL GLORY †††