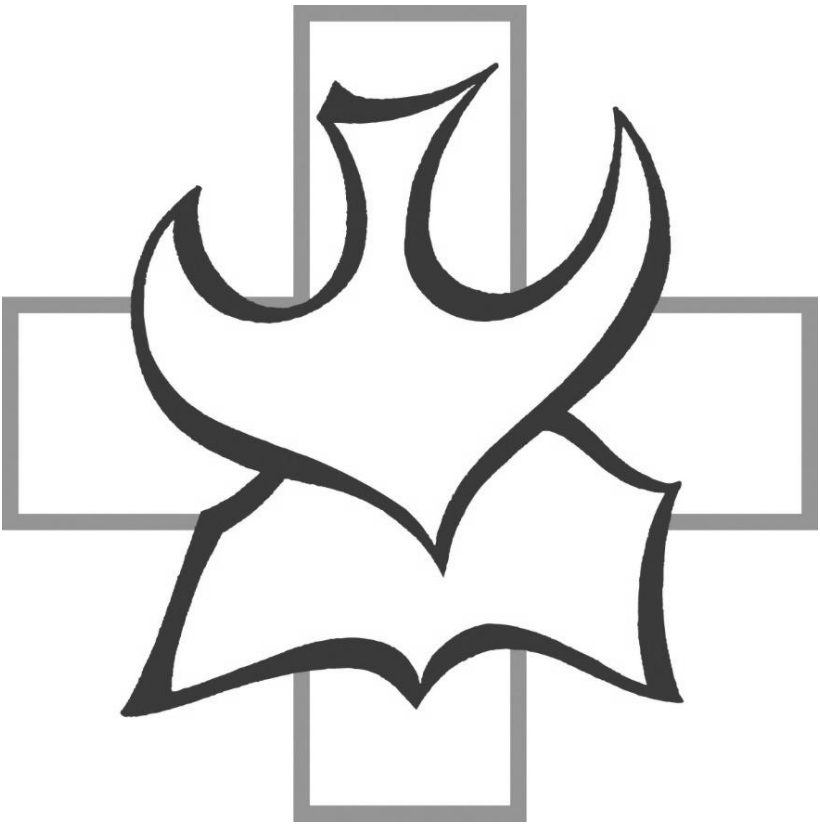
# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

**A Community of Faith:** *Centered in Christ – Called to Serve*



# Order of Worship

*November 8, 2026  10:45 AM*

# The Lutheran Church of the Savior

426 Davis Road - Bedford, MA 01730
church@lcsavior.org 781-275-6013
https://www.lcsavior.org

Rev. Nils Niemeier, Pastor email: pastor@lcsavior.org


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**Introit** *Psalm 84:1, 9–12; antiphon: v. 3*

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.
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,
blessèd 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.

## Communion Theology and Practice

Please see our statement of Communion Theology and Practice on the back page of the worship bulletin.

*If you are a visitor with us this morning and wish to receive the Lord's Supper, please speak with the pastor before the service. Thank you.*
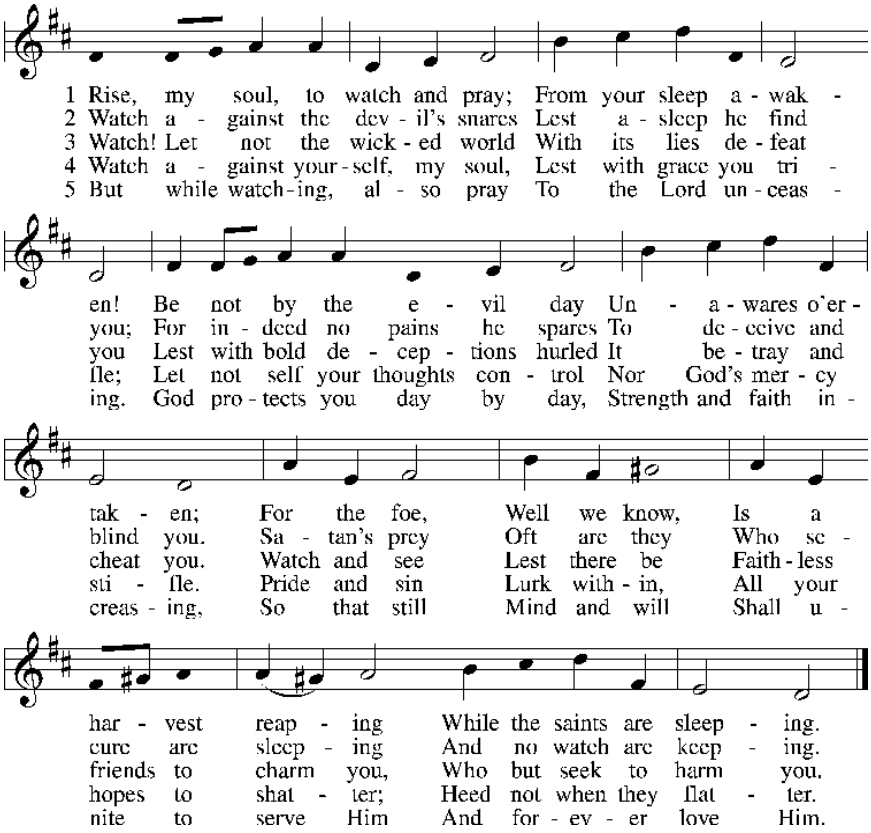
# Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Divine Service, Setting One

## Welcome

*Stand*

**Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray** *LSB 663*




Text: Johann Burkhard Freystein, 1671–1718; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.
Tune: Hundert . . . geistlicher Arien, 1694, Dresden, alt.
Text and tune: Public domain

## Confession and Absolution

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.*

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

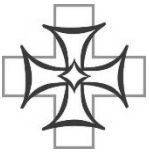
P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

*Kneel/Stand*

*Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.*

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**
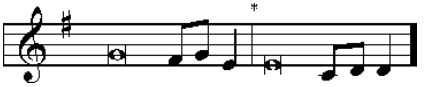
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**



*Stand*

## Service of the Word

**Psalm** *Psalm 70*



**A** Together, we sing Psalm 70 responsively:
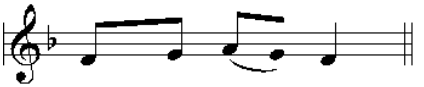
[1]Make haste, O God, to de- | liver me!*
O LORD, make haste to | help me!
**[2]Let them be put to shame and confusion**
**who | seek my life!***
**Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor**
**who de- | sire my hurt!**
[3]Let them turn back because | of their shame*
who say, "A- | ha, Aha!"

**[4]May all who seek you**
**rejoice and be | glad in you!***
**May those who love your salvation**
**say evermore, | "God is great!"**
[5]But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, | O God!*
You are my help and my deliverer;
O LORD, do | not delay!
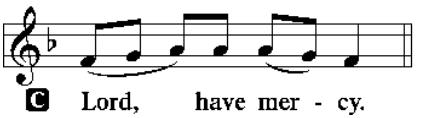
**C** **Glory be to the Father and | to the Son***
**and to the Holy | Spirit;**
**as it was in the be- | ginning,***
**is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

**Kyrie** *LSB 152*
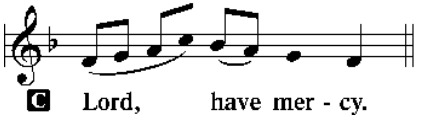
**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.
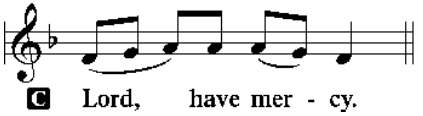



**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.




A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

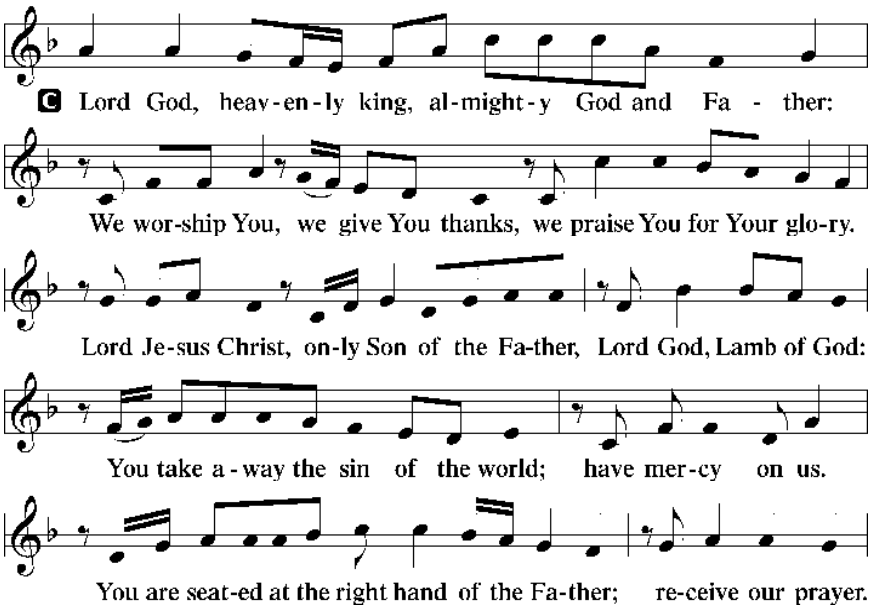


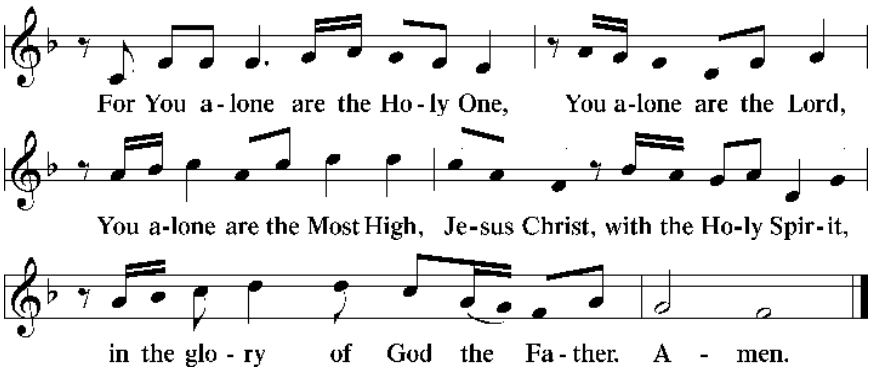

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.




**Gloria in Excelsis** *LSB 154*
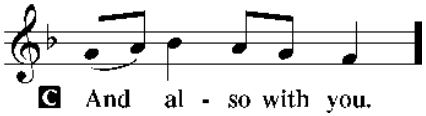
A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to His people on earth.





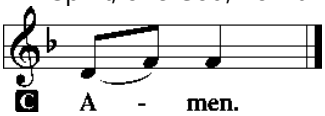

## Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.




**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 the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.




*Sit*

## Old Testament Reading

*Amos 5:18–24*

18 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,
19 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.

[20]Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
[21]"I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
[22]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.
[23]Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
[24]But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.
**C** **Thanks be to God.**

**Choir** "I Will Rise" *Tomlin, Reeves, Giglio, Maher*
*Arr. Allen*
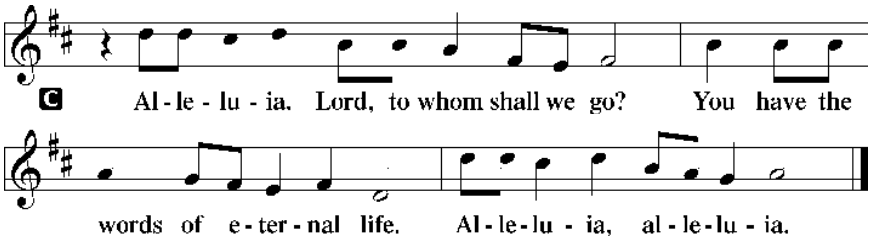
**Epistle** *1 Thessalonians 4:13–18*

[13]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. [14]For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. [15]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. [16]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. [17]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. [18]Therefore encourage one another with these words.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.
**C** **Thanks be to God.**

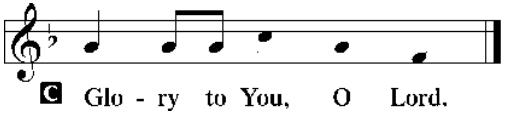
*Stand*

**Alleluia and Verse** *LSB 156*
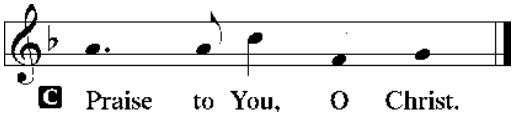



**Holy Gospel** *Matthew 25:1–13*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.




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

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



## Nicene Creed *LSB 158*

**C I believe in one God,**
**the Father Almighty,**
**maker of heaven and earth**
**and of all things visible and invisible.**
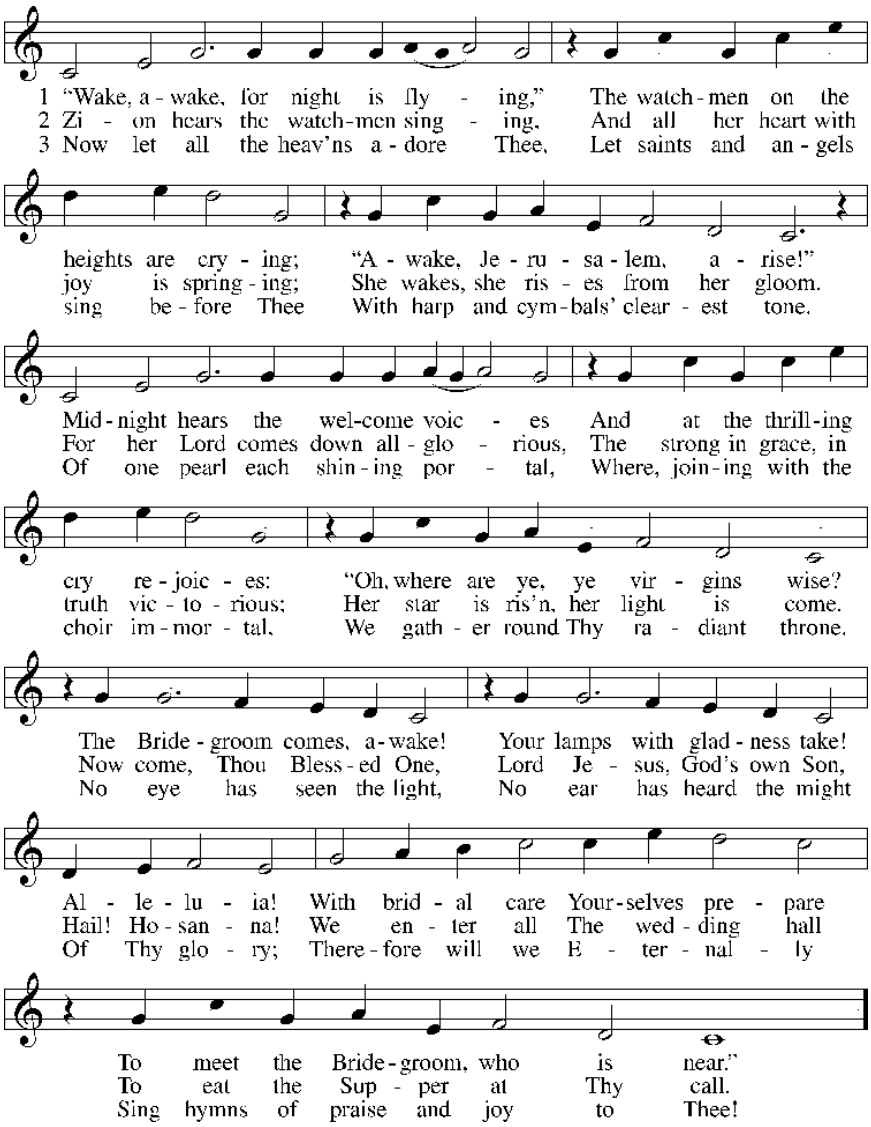
**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,**
**the only-begotten Son of God,**
**begotten of His Father before all worlds,**
**God of God, Light of Light,**
**very God of very God,**
**begotten, not made,**
**being of one substance with the Father,**
**by whom all things were made;**
**who for us men and for our 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.**

*Sit*

## Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

*LSB 516*




Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Text and tune: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608
Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

*Stand*

**Prayer of the Church**

L Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*The response after each petition is as follows:*

L Lord, in your mercy:

C **Hear our prayer.**

C **Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer** *LSB 162*

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

C **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.**

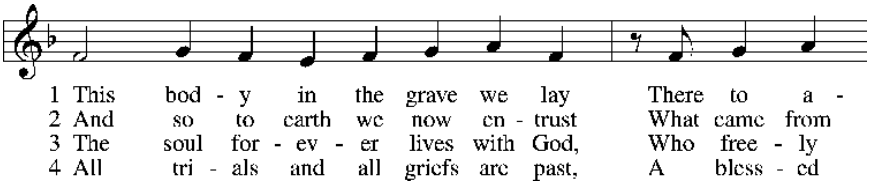
**Benediction**

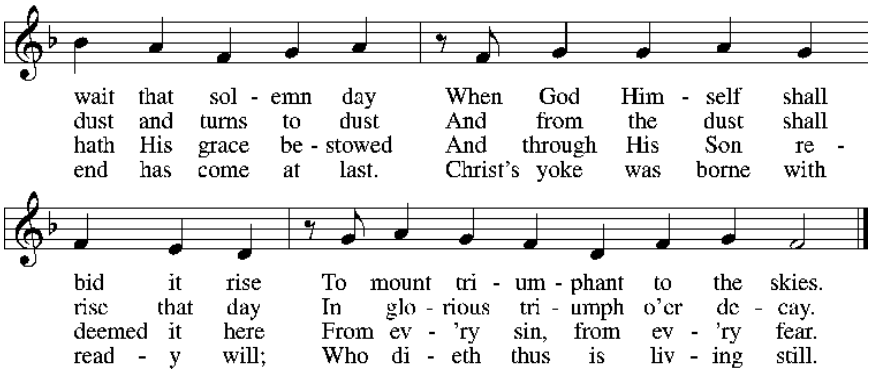
P The grace of our Lord ✢ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C **Amen.**

*Sit*

**This Body in the Grave We Lay** *LSB 759*






5 We have no cause to mourn or weep;
Securely shall this body sleep
Till Christ Himself shall death destroy
And raise the blessèd dead to joy.

6 Then let us leave this place of rest
And homeward turn, for they are blest
Who heed God's warning and prepare
Lest death should find them unaware.

7 So help us, Jesus, ground of faith;
Thou hast redeemed us by Thy death
From endless death and set us free.
We laud and praise and worship Thee.

Text: tr. William M. Czamanske, 1873–1964; (sts. 1–6): Michael Weisse, c. 1480–1534; (st. 7): Gesangbuch, 1540, Magdeburg Tune: Newe deudsche geistliche Gesenge, 1544, Wittenberg
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Tune: Public domain

**Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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# Resources for Meditation this Week

**TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** *8 November 2026*

**Readings**
Amos 5:18–24
1 Thessalonians 4:13–18
Matthew 25:1–13

***The Gospel Prepares Us for Our Heavenly Bridegroom's Coming***

The Day of the Lord is *"darkness, and not light"* (Amos 5:18, 20) for all who trust in their own righteousness and piety. The Lord will not accept their *"burnt offerings and grain offerings,"* nor will He look upon their *"peace offerings"* (Amos 5:22). Instead, He desires a heart of faith that trusts in Him, which lets *"justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream"* (Amos 5:24) in love for the neighbor. In order for the "lamps" of our lives to burn brightly with such love, we must be filled with the "oil" of forgiveness through faith in our Bridegroom, Jesus Christ (Matt. 25:1–4). Therefore, as we await His coming, wisdom directs us *"to the dealers"* (Matt. 25:9), that is, to the ministers of His Gospel. Thus we wait upon the Lord, and we *"encourage one another with these words"* (1 Thess. 4:18). Waking or sleeping, we are prepared to meet Him when He comes *"with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God,"* and *"we will always be with the Lord"* (1 Thess. 4:16, 17).

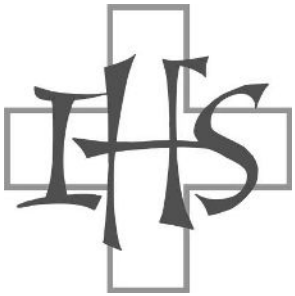


**TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** *15 November 2026*

**Readings**
Zephaniah 1:7–16
1 Thessalonians 5:1–11
Matthew 25:14–30

***God's Gift of Forgiveness Engenders Our Forgiveness of Others***

The Day of the Lord is *"near and hastening fast,"* and it will be *"a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation"* (Zeph. 1:14, 15). The Lord will search out and punish *"the men who are complacent"* concerning His Word, *"who fill their master's house with violence and fraud"* (Zeph. 1:9, 12). Then all their works and efforts will be for nothing: *"Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them"* (Zeph. 1:13). But those who fear, love and trust in the Lord are *"good and faithful"* stewards of His property (Matt. 25:21). They live by faith in His free gift of forgiveness, and they multiply His goods in the loving forgiveness of their neighbor, and *"the master of those servants"* settles His accounts with them by the gracious reckoning of His Gospel (Matt. 25:19). Likewise, *"God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ"* (1 Thess. 5:9). Therefore, let us also *"put on the breastplate of faith and love"* in our dealings with one another (1 Thess. 5:8).



# Communion Theology and Practice

Welcome!  In Holy Communion, our Lord invites us to eat and drink His true Body and Blood for the forgiveness of sins and eternal life (Matthew 26:26-28). In preparation for this sacrament, each communicant should examine him or herself and come to the Lord's Table seeking these things. As the Small Catechism teaches, "a person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: 'Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.'" We likewise take seriously St. Paul's admonition in 1 Corinthians 11:27-30 regarding recognizing the Lord's Body and Blood in this sacrament and receiving it worthily. We also believe that Holy Communion is a profession of confessional unity in which all who commune at the Lord's Table are united in their confession and faith (1 Corinthians 11:26).

Therefore, we practice what is often called "closed communion," in which we invite those Christians who have been baptized and instructed in the Christian faith, who share in the same confession of faith as the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and who believe that Jesus offers here His true Body and Blood, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine, for the strengthening of their bodies and souls, cleansing them of their old nature and giving them new life, to join us at His table.

If you are new here, have not been baptized, or have not received instruction with regard to the teachings of the Lutheran Church regarding the Lord's Supper, have doubts about the nature of the sacrament, or have questions, please introduce yourself to our pastor before the service. He will be happy to discuss these things with you and help determine whether or not you should commune. If you do not wish to commune, have not been baptized, or have not been instructed in the Christian faith, we invite you to come receive a blessing. When you come to the altar, please come forward with your arms crossed to indicate that you would like the pastor to bless you. If you would like to learn more about the Christian faith or wish to be baptized, please speak to our pastor!