

St. Matthew's New Life Lutheran Church
Worshiping at Dearing Chapel
12355 Fort Caroline Road

November 15, 2020
24th Sunday after Pentecost

Introduction to the day

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Paul says [the day of the Lord] 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.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

GATHERING SONG

FEAST AT YOUR TABLE

INSTRUMENTAL

WELCOME

(We stand as we are able)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS WITH KYRIE

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

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.

OPENING SONG***Come, Ye Thankful People, Come*****ELW #693**

1 Come, ye thankful people, come;
 raise the song of harvest home.
 All be safely gathered in
 ere the winter storms begin.
 God, our maker, doth provide
 for our wants to be supplied.
 Come to God's own temple, come,
 raise the song of harvest home.

3 For the Lord our God shall come
 and shall take his harvest home;
 from his field shall in that day
 all offenses purge away;
 give his angels charge at last
 in the fire the tares to cast,
 but the fruitful ears to store
 in his garner evermore.

2 All the world is God's own field,
 fruit unto his praise to yield;
 wheat and tares together sown,
 unto joy or sorrow grown.
 First the blade, and then the ear,
 then the full corn shall appear.
 Lord of harvest, grant that we
 wholesome grain and pure may be.

4 Even so, Lord, quickly come
 to thy final harvest home.
 Gather then thy people in,
 free from sorrow, free from sin,
 there, forever purified,
 in thy garner to abide.
 Come, with all thine angels, come,
 raise the glorious harvest home!

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.

KYRIE**Setting 8**

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
 Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in the world, for the health of the church, for the unity of all;
 for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
 let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
 Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

That we may live out your impassioned response to the hungry and the poor;
 that we may live out truth and justice and grace,
 let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
 Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes, for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord

**Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. 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.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

L: A reading from 1 Thessalonians

READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

*Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully
in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation
through our Lord Jesus Christ.*

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

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

SETTING 8

**Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.
Alleluia, alleluia.**

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then 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.’ ²¹His 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.’ ²²And 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.’ ²³His 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.’ ²⁴Then 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; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But 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? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For 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. ³⁰As 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

HYMN OF THE DAY

Take My Life, That I May Be

ELW 685

1 Take my life, that I may be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my moments and my days;
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

4 Take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold;
take my intellect and use
ev'ry pow'r as thou shall choose.

2 Take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love;
take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee.

5 Take my will and make it thine,
it shall be no longer mine.
Take my heart, it is thine own,
it shall be thy royal throne.

3 Take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King;
take my lips and let them be
filled with messages from thee.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be
ever, only, if all for thee.

(We stand)

A: We confess our common faith in the words of the 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 INTERCESSION

After each petition:

Leader: Hear us, O God.

All: Your mercy is great.

Peace *(We share the blessing of Christ's peace while remaining in our seats. Please offer that same blessing to a loved by text/email.)*

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERINGS MAY BE PLACED IN THE PLATE LOCATED BY THE DOOR AS YOU ENTER OR LEAVE WORSHIP

(We stand)

Offertory

We Are an Offering

ELW 692

We lift our voices,
we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you:
We are an offering

All that we have,
All that we are,
All that we hope to be,
We give to you, we give to you.

Lord, use our voices,
Lord us our hands
Lord, use our lives, they are yours:
We are an offering.

We lift our voices,
we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you:
We are an offering,
We are an offering.

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Offering Prayer

A: 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

DIALOGUE

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.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

ELW #473

Holy, holy, holy,
my heart, my heart adores you.
My heart is glad to say the words:
You are holy, God.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:
surrounded by evil and bordered by death
we appeal to you,
our Sovereign, our Wisdom, and our Judge.

We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace
and promised an end to injustice and harm.

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,
the sacrifice of his life and death
and the victory of his resurrection,
we await with all the saints
his loving redemption of our suffering world.
Come, Lord Jesus.

Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine
and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son:
teach us your mercy and justice,
and make all things new in Christ.
Come, Holy Spirit.

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

Amen

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION *(We are seated as we share the meal at our seats.)*

COMMUNION SONG

LAMB OF GOD

SETTING 8

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.

(We stand)

TABLE BLESSING

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his
grace.

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A; Let us pray. 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.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 SONG

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

ELW 674

1 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.

2 Christ is able to make us one,
at the table he sets the tone,
teaching people to live to bless,
love in word and in deed express. Refrain

Refrain
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!

3 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

Text: Fred Kaan, b. 1929

Music: Jamaican folk tune; adapt. Doreen Potter, 1925-1980

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

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