

8:45 A.M. ORDER OF WORSHIP
November 19th, 2023
25TH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

PRELUDE: “Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand” – D. Buxtehude

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BRIEF ORDER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS:

During the Confession you may either stand or kneel as you are able.

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

C: Amen

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

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

P: Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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

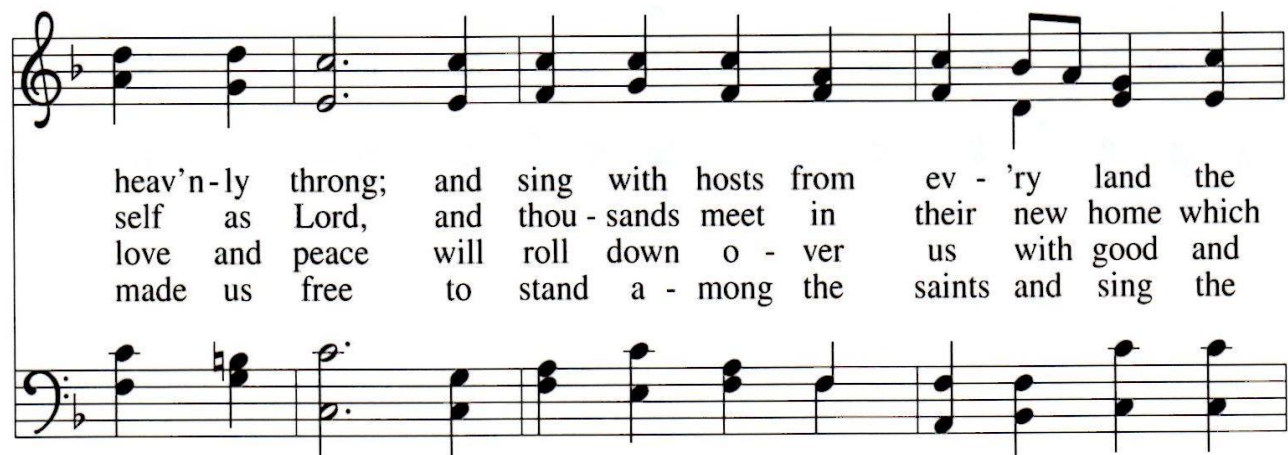
P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: AMEN.

GATHERING HYMN: "Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand"



1 Oh, hap - py day when we shall stand a - mid the
 2 Oh, bless - ed day when Christ shall come and show him -
 3 Oh, what a might - y rush - ing flood of joy and
 4 O Lord, your grace is ev - 'ry - thing; your love has



heav'n-ly throng; and sing with hosts from ev - 'ry land the
 self as Lord, and thou - sands meet in their new home which
 love and peace will roll down o - ver us with good and
 made us free to stand a - mong the saints and sing the



new ce - les - tial song, the new ce - les - tial song.
 Je - sus has pre - pared, which Je - sus has pre - pared.
 bless - ed - ness and grace, and bless - ed - ness and grace.
 glo - ry that we see, the glo - ry that we see.

Text: Wilhelm A. Wexels, 1797-1866; tr. composite

Music: Nikolaus Herman, 1480-1561

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LOBT GOTT, IHR CHRISTEN

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APOSTOLIC GREETING:

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

C. And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE:

A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his peo-ple on earth.

C Lord God, heav-en - ly king, al-might-y God and Fa - ther:

We wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your

glo - ry. Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God: You take a - way the sin of the world;

have mer-cy on us. You are seat-ed at the right hand of the

Fa - ther; re-ceive our prayer. For you a -

lone are the Ho - ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,

in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P. The Lord be with you

C. And also with you.

P. 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.

Please be seated

READINGS FOR TODAY

FIRST LESSON: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

see below

⁷Be 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.

¹²At 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.”

¹³Their 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.

¹⁴The 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.

¹⁵That 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,
¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷I 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.

¹⁸Neither 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.

PSALM 90:1-8 [9-11] 12 *Spoken responsively, the Lector speaks the verses in regular print and congregation speaks the verses in **bold** print.*

¹Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.

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

³You turn us back to the dust and say,
“Turn back, O children of earth.”

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

⁵you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:

⁶**in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

⁷For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.

⁸**Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

[⁹When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

¹⁰**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.**

¹¹Who regards the power¹ of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your¹ indignation?]

¹²**So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

see back of bulletin

Please stand as you are able

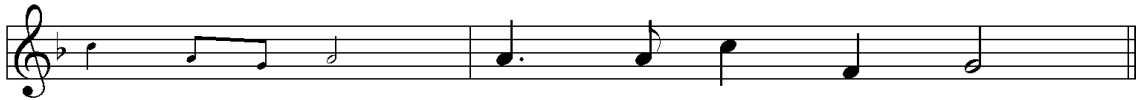


SCRIPTURE: The Gospel according to Matthew 25:14-30

see back of bulletin



After the reading the minister says: "The Gospel of the Lord"



☐

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON

Rev. Paul Swartz

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY: "God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending"

1 God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing, from your rich and end-less store;
2 Skills and time are ours for press-ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son;
3 Trea-sure, too, you have en-trust-ed, gain through pow'rs your grace con-ferred;

na-ture's won-der, Je-sus' wis-dom, cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door,
all at peace in health and free-dom, rac-es joined, the church made one.
ours to use for home and kin-dred, and to spread the gos-pel word.

gift-ed by you, we turn to you, of-f'ring up our-selves in praise;
Now di-rect our dai-ly la-bor, lest we strive for self a-lone;
O-pen wide our hands in shar-ing, as we heed Christ's age-less call,

thank-ful song shall rise for-ev-er, gra-cious do-nor of our days.
born with tal-ents, make us ser-vants fit to an-swer at your throne.
heal-ing, teach-ing, and re-claim-ing, serv-ing you by lov-ing all.

Text: Robert L. Edwards, 1915–2006
Music: RUSTINGTON, C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848–1918

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APOSTLES' CREED:

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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:

A. 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.

A: Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

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

C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE:

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

C: And also with you.

Please share the PEACE of the Lord with one another

Please be seated

CHOIR ANTHEM: "O God, Our Help In Ages Past – John Rutter

*O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home;
Under the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thy arm alone, and our defense is sure.
Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
from everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.
A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
Time like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.
O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
be thou our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home. Amen.*



PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERING:

(The offering is presented as the Offertory is sung by the congregation.)

Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were
sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the
hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the prayers we
of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your pres - ence, and
give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

OFFERTORY PRAYER:

A. Merciful Father,

C. we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION LITURGY

P. You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God.

You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son,
so that everyone who believes in him may not perish
but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world
to fulfill for us your holy will
and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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.**

Sit

HOLY COMMUNION:

All are welcome to receive Holy Communion. We trust and teach the "real presence" of Jesus, in, with, and under the elements of bread and wine.

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.

Please stand as you are able

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

C: Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER:

P. Let us pray. We give you thanks almighty God that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift – in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen

BENEDICTION:


P. Now may God, who has loved us with a love beyond all telling, send us forth to care for the world around us and to share the good news of that love, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

SENDING HYMN: "Now Thank We All Our God"



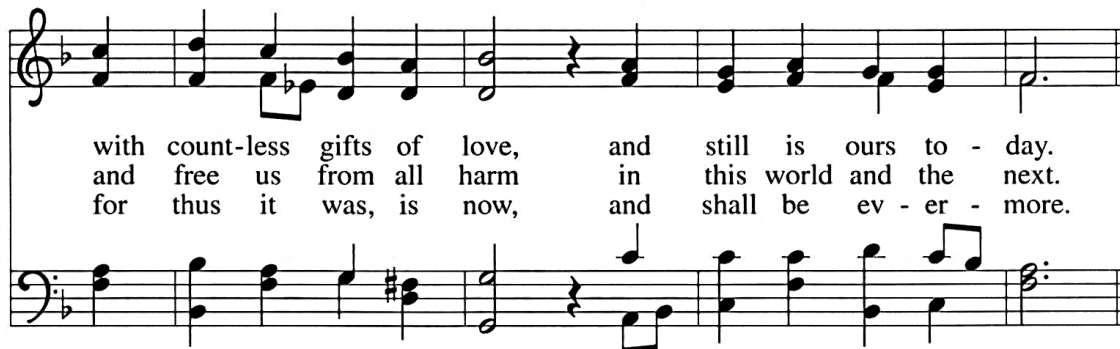
1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
 2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
 the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,



who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
 and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
 the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;



with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
 and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878
 Music: Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT
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DISMISSAL:

- A. Go in peace! Serve the Lord!
- C. Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE: "Now Thank We All Our God" – Paul Manz

Today's altar flowers are given by Mark & Linda Pillar in honor of Magen Pillar's birthday.