
THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST – NOV 15, 2020

ANNOUNCEMENTS, MUSICAL PRELUDE, LIGHTING OF CANDLES

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (*Stand, Spoken*)

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...through Jesus Christ our Lord. **C: Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves...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 upon 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 of the Holy Spirit. **C: Amen**

APOSTOLIC GREETING (*Spoken*)

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ...be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

KYRIE (*Spoken*)

P: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace from above...let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For the peace of the whole world...let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: For this holy house...let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord. **C: Amen**

HYMN: "GREAT IS THY FAITHFULNESS" (*Sung*)

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father, There is no shadow of turning with Thee;

Thou changest not, Thy compassions, they fail not As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be. Refrain

**Summer and winter, and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon and stars in their courses above,
Join with all nature in manifold witness To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. Refrain**

**Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! Refrain**

**Refrain: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided— Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

PRAYER OF THE DAY (*Spoken*)

Lord God, govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit, that while keeping the end of all things in mind, we may be stirred up to holiness in this life and come to be with you forever in the life to come. **Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

FIRST READING – ZEPHANIAH 1:7-16 SECOND READING – 1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11 (*Lessons printed below*)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

GOSPEL VERSE (*Stand, Sung*)

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

GOSPEL READING & RESPONSES – MATTHEW 25:14-30 (*Spoken*)

P: The Holy Gospel from St. Matthew, chapter 25. **C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

MESSAGE (*Sit*)

HYMN: "FORTH IN THY NAME, O LORD, I GO" (*Stand, Sung*)

**Forth in thy name, O Lord, I go, My daily labor to pursue;
Thee, only thee, resolved to know In all I think or speak or do.**

**The task thy wisdom has assigned, Oh, let me cheerfully fulfill;
In all my works thy presence find, And prove thy good and perfect will.**

**Thee may I set at my right hand, Whose eyes my inmost substance see,
And labor only at thy command, And offer all my works to thee.**

**Give me to bear thine easy yoke, And ev'ry moment watch and pray,
And still to things eternal look, And hasten to thy glorious day.**

THE APOSTLE'S CREED (*Spoken*)

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 THE CHURCH (*Spoken*)

OFFERING HYMN (*Sung*)

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER (*Spoken*)

P: 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**

GREAT THANKSGIVING *(Spoken)*

P: The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS *(Sung)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might: Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION & THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Spoken)*

AGNUS DEI *(Sung)*

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. (2x)

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

DISTRIBUTION OF THE HOLY SACRAMENT *(Sit)*

(A single line will form down the middle aisle. Ushers will give directions. The bread and wine should be consumed at the table. Please wait until the person communing leaves the table before stepping to the table.)

POST-COMMUNION HYMN *(Stand, Sung)*

Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev'ryone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia-2x.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER & BENEDICTION *(Spoken)*

P: Teach us to number our days, O Lord, and to live in the power of your saving grace;

C: that using the talents you have given us, we may work tirelessly as your willing servants. Amen

HYMN: "SAVIOR, AGAIN TO YOUR DEAR NAME" *(Sung)*

Savior, again to your dear name we raise With one accord our parting hymn of praise;

Once more we bless you ere our worship cease, Then, lowly bending, wait your word of peace.

Grant us your peace upon our homeward way; With you began, with you shall end the day;

Guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame, That in this house have called upon your name.

Grant us your peace, Lord, through the coming night; For us transform its darkness into light.

Keep us from harm and danger till the dawn; Your evening presence promise to your own.

Grant us your peace throughout our earthly life, Our balm in sorrow, and our stay in strife;

Then, when your voice shall bid our conflict cease, Call us, O Lord, to your eternal peace.

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

Zephaniah 1:7-16

⁷ Be silent before the Lord God!

For the day of the Lord is near;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.

⁸ And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice—

“I will punish the officials and the king's sons
and all who array themselves in foreign attire.

⁹ On that day I will punish

everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.

¹⁰ “On that day,” declares the Lord,

“a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter,
a loud crash from the hills.

¹¹ Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!

For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.

¹² At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,

and I will punish the men

who are complacent,

those who say in their hearts,

‘The Lord will not do good,
nor will he do ill.’

¹³ Their goods 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.”

¹⁴ The great day of the Lord is near,

near and hastening fast;

the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter;

the mighty man cries aloud there.

¹⁵ A day of wrath is that day,

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,

¹⁶ a day of trumpet blast and battle cry

against the fortified cities

and against the lofty battlements.

1 Thessalonians 5:1-7

¹ Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ² For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴ But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵ For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶ So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹ For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Matthew 25:14-30

¹⁴ "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵ To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶ He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷ So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸ But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹ Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' ²¹ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²² And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' ²³ His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴ He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' ²⁶ But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷ Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸ So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹ For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰ And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

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