

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2020



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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SERVICE OF THE WORD

TODAY'S THREAD: *Friends, don't be fooled! Be wise. All our hopes are fulfilled in Jesus' return!*

OPENING HYMN

O Lord, How Shall I Meet You | 19



1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, How wel - come
2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; Love brought you
3 Re - joice, then, you sad - heart - ed, Who sit in
4 Sin's debt, that fear - ful bur - den, Let not your
5 He comes to judge the na - tions, A ter - ror
you a - right? Your peo - ple long to greet you,
down to me. Your thirst for my sal - va - tion
deep - est gloom, Who mourn o'er joys de - part - ed
souls dis - tress; Your guilt the Lord will par - don,
to his foes, A light of con - so - la - tions,
My Hope, my heart's De - light. O Je - sus, let your
Pro - cured my lib - er - ty. Oh, love be - yond all
And trem - ble at your doom. De - spair not; he is
And cov - er by his grace. He comes, for you pro -
And bless - ed hope to those Who love the Lord's ap -
Word be A lamp to light my way, To show me
tell - ing That led you to em - brace In love, all
near you, He's stand - ing at the door Who best can
cur - ing The peace of sin for - giv'n, His chil - dren
pear - ing. O glo - rious Sun, now come, Send forth your
how to please you, To guide me ev - 'ry day.
love ex - cel - ling, Our lost and fall - en race!
help and cheer you, And bids you weep no more.
thus se - cur - ing A her - i - tage in heav'n.
beams most cheer - ing, And guide us safe - ly home.

M: The grace of our Lord † Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

CONFESSION OF SINS

M: We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

C: **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

M: God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

C: Amen.

PRAYER AND PRAISE

M: In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

PENTECOST SONG OF PRAISE

Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring | 26:1, 3, 4



1 Je - sus came, the heav'ns a - dor - ing, Came with peace from
2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy When our hearts are
3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, Bring - ing news of
4 Je - sus comes on clouds tri - um - phant When the heav'ns shall



realms on high; Je - sus came to win re - demp - tion,
worn with care; Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer
sins for - giv'n; Je - sus comes with words of glad - ness,
pass a - way. Je - sus comes a - gain in glo - ry;



Low - ly came on earth to die, Al - le - lu - ia!
To an ear - nest, heart - felt prayer, Al - le - lu - ia!
Lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
Let us, then, our hom - age pay, Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
Al - le - lu - ia! Comes to save us from de - spair.
Al - le - lu - ia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.
ev - er sing - ing Till the dawn of end - less day.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God and Savior, you have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C: A - men.

THE WORD

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 52:1-6 EHV

The LORD calls his people to be ready for his return. He will release them from captivity to intimately live with him as his holy people.

- 1 Wake, awake!
Clothe yourself with strength, O Zion.
Put on your beautiful garments,
Jerusalem, you holy city,
for never again will the uncircumcised
and the unclean enter you.
- 2 Shake off the dust.
Get up and take your seat, Jerusalem.
Loosen the chains from your neck,
you captive daughter of Zion.
- 3 Yes, this is what the LORD says.
You were sold for nothing,
and you will be redeemed without money.
- 4 Yes, this is what the LORD God says.
In the beginning, my people went down to Egypt to stay there
for a while.
Later Assyria oppressed them without cause.
- 5 Now what do I have here? declares the LORD.
Indeed, my people have been taken away for nothing.
Their rulers howl with mockery, declares the LORD.
My name is continually despised all day.
- 6 Therefore my people will know my name.
So on that day they will know that I am the one—
the one who is saying, “Here I am!”

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 84

Gathering for worship is not merely a preference. It's characteristic of all who long to be with the LORD forever.

Refrain



Psalm tone



How lovely is your dwelling place,*
O LORD Almighty!

My soul yearns, even faints,*
for the courts of the LORD.

Blessed are those who dwell in your house;*
they are ever praising you.

Refrain

Better is one day in your courts*
than a thousand elsewhere;

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God*
than dwell in the tents of the wicked.

O LORD Almighty,*
blessed are they who trust 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.**

Refrain

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SECOND LESSON

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 EHV

Don't scare each other with the news of Jesus' sudden and final return. Rather, encourage one another, for that is The Day when all our hopes in Jesus become our ultimate eternal reality.

¹ Concerning the times and dates, brothers, there is no need to write to you, ² for you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ When people are saying, "Peace and security," destruction will suddenly come on them, like labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will certainly not escape. ⁴ But you, brothers, are not in the dark so that this day takes you by surprise like a thief, ⁵ for you are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or the darkness. ⁶ So then let us not sleep like everyone else, but rather let us remain alert and sober.

⁷ To be sure, those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. ⁹ You see, God did not appoint us for wrath, but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ He died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up, just as you are also doing.

M: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

VERSE OF THE DAY

Revelation 7:15a

M: Alleluia. They are before the throne of God and serve him day and night in his temple. Alleluia.

C: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

These words are writ - ten that we may be - lieve that

Je - sus is the Christ, the Son of God.

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13 EHV

Jesus' message is simple. Those who love Jesus wisely prepare for his return, anticipating being with him. Jesus knows them and welcomes them into his eternal feast. When he returns, time is up. It's too late.

M: The Gospel, Matthew Chapter 25

¹ "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ When the foolish ones took their lamps, they did not take any oil with them; ⁴ but the wise took oil in their containers with their lamps. ⁵ While the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep. ⁶ But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look, the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!' ⁷ Then all those virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish ones

said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil because our lamps are going out.’⁹ But the wise answered, ‘No, there may not be enough for us and for you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’¹⁰ But while they were away buying oil, the bridegroom came. Those who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet, and the door was shut.¹¹ Later, the other virgins also came and said, ‘Lord, Lord, let us in.’¹² But he answered, ‘Amen I tell you: I do not know you.’¹³ Therefore, keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.”

M: This is the Gospel.



C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY

Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying | 206



1 “Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing,”
 2 Zi - on hears the watch - men sing - ing,
 3 Now let all the heav’ns a - dore you;



The watch-men on the heights are cry - ing, “A - wake, Je -
 And all her heart with joy is spring-ing; She wakes, she
 Let saints and an - gels sing be - fore you With harp and



ru - sa - lem, a - rise!” Mid - night hears the
 ris - es from her gloom, For her Lord comes
 cym - bal’s clear - est tone. Of one pearl each



wel - come voic - es And at the thrill - ing
 down all - glo - rious, The strong in grace, in
 shin - ing por - tal, Where, dwell - ing with the



cry re - joic - es: “Oh, where are all you vir - gins wise?
 truth vic - to - rious; Her Star is ris’n, her Light is come.
 choir im - mor - tal, We gath - er round your ra - diant throne.



The Bride - groom comes— a - wake! Your lamps with
 “Now come, O Bless - ed One, Christ Je - sus,
 No vi - sion ev - er brought, No ear has



glad - ness take! Al - le - lu - ia! With bri - dal care
 God’s own Son. Hail! Ho - san - na! The joy - ful call
 ev - er caught Such great glo - ry; There - fore will we



Your-selves pre - pare To meet the Bride-groom who is near.”
 We an - swer all And fol - low to the wed - ding hall.”
 In vic - to - ry Sing hymns of praise e - ter - nal - ly.

SERMON – See the separate sheet for the Sermon Road Map.

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

OFFERING – *The mail at church is being collected. Offerings may be mailed to:
Peace Ev. Lutheran Church, 200 E. Beidler Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH FOR PENTECOST

M: O Lord, our God, you are wise and powerful, good and gracious. Your mercies are new every morning. Each day you open your hand and provide for the needs of your children on earth.

C: **We praise you for every grace and blessing.**

M: Strengthen your Church in all the world. Let your comforting message of salvation in Christ Jesus be proclaimed to troubled souls everywhere.

C: **Use our ministries and offerings to extend your healing and your hope.**

M: We bring you our requests for the various structures of our society. Bless our national, state, and local governments.

C: **Grant us civil servants who are worthy of honor and respect.**

M: Grant prosperity to our businesses and industries. Give employers a sense of fairness toward their workers, and employees a feeling of joy and pride in their workmanship.

C: **Help us find satisfaction in all work well done.**

M: Invigorate the schools of our land. Give success to every effort that helps students read, think, and communicate in ways that will promote an informed and responsible citizenry. Arouse curious minds to discover the wonders of your created order.

C: **Give us teachers and students who pursue excellence.**

M: Strengthen the families of our country. Give fathers and mothers a renewed commitment to be good parents. Give children and young people the wisdom to regard their parents as your representatives.

C: **Lead us to love one another as you have loved us.**

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: ... Lord, in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

Silent prayer.

M: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and with the faith that you will respond for our welfare.

C: **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

**All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

M: Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.



CLOSING HYMN

Forever with the Lord | 213



1 For - ev - er with the Lord! A - men! So
 2 While time on earth is spent, Ab - sent from
 3 My Fa - ther's house on high, Home of my
 4 Lord, be at my right hand, Then can I
 5 So when my dy - ing breath Shall rend the



let it be. Life from the dead is
 him I roam, Yet night - ly pitch my
 soul, how near At times, to faith's fore -
 nev - er fail. If you up - hold me,
 veil in two, By death I shall es -



in that word, My im - mor - tal - i - ty.
 mov - ing tent A day's march near - er home.
 see - ing eye The gold - en gates ap - pear!
 I shall stand; With you I shall pre - vail.
 cape from death To end - less life with you.

6 I'll know as I am known;
 How shall I love that word
 And oft repeat before the throne,
 "Forever with the Lord!"

Silent prayer - Announcements after the close of Service

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