

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH AND SCHOOL

Saturday Evening Worship

November 18, 2023

5:00pm

AS WE GATHER

The Last Day may come soon, but in the meantime, many people are neglecting to use their abilities and opportunities for God's purposes. Zephaniah writes that it will be a day of wrath and mourning. But for those who have realized God's blessings over the years, as Psalm 90 recalls, though the times are mean, each day is an opportunity to "encourage one another and build one another up" (1 Thessalonians 5:11). Today is an opportunity to hear God's very gracious Word, "well done!" and be strengthened to respond by using the talents He has loaned to us.

About Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at Trinity in the confession and glad confidence that, as Jesus says, He gives His very Body and Blood to eat and drink for the forgiveness of sins. There is nothing symbolic nor is there any magical transformation in this Supper. Our Lord invites to His table those who are truly repentant and trust Him for salvation. Because those who partake of the Lord's Supper unworthily do so to their soul's harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the Christian faith, which is confessed at this altar, any who are not members of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the Sacrament, are asked to speak with the pastor. Visitors who have previously spoken with our pastor, and who received permission to commune, need not seek permission for subsequent visits to our altar.

Pre-Service

Glorify Thy Name

Father we love You, we worship and adore You,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

Jesus, we love You, we worship and adore You,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

Spirit, we love You, we worship and adore You,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.
Glorify Thy name, glorify Thy name,
Glorify Thy name in all the earth.

Opening Song **Holy, Holy, Holy**

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee;
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee,
Though the eye of sinful man Thy glory may not see.
Only Thou art holy; there is none beside Thee,
Perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth and sky and sea.
Holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!
God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

Invocation and Opening Responses

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

C: Amen.

P: Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy!

C: In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!

P: Enter not into judgment with your servant,

C: for no one living is righteous before you.

P: Teach me to do your will, for you are my God!

C: In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!

Moment of silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

We Confess our Sin

P: Most merciful God,

C: 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.

We Hear the Good News

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

The Scripture Readings

Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 1:7-16 (pg. 1001)

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. ⁸And 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. ⁹On 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. ¹¹Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. ¹²At 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.' ¹³Their 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." ¹⁴The 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. ¹⁵A 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, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 (pg. 1257)

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While 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. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But 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. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30 (pg.1055)

¹⁴[Jesus said:] “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents

more. ¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And 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.' ²¹His 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.' ²²And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' ²³His 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.' ²⁴He 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, ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹For 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. ³⁰And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

We Confess our Christian Faith: (The Nicene Creed)

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

Song

Mighty to Save

Everyone needs compassion, love that's never failing.
Let mercy fall on me. Everyone needs forgiveness,
The kindness of a Saviour, the hope of nations. (*Chorus*)

Chorus: Saviour, He can move the mountains.
My God is mighty to save,
He is mighty to save.
Forever, author of salvation,
He rose and conquered the grave,
Jesus conquered the grave.

So take me as You find me, all my fears and failures.
Fill my life again. I give my life to follow,
Everything I believe in, now I surrender. (*Chorus*)

Shine your light, and let the whole world see.
We're singing for the glory of the risen King Jesus.
Shine your light, and let the whole world see.
We're singing for the glory of the risen King. (*Chorus x 2*)

Message

“A Good and Faithful Master”

Matt. 25:14-30

We Worship the Lord with our Offerings

Offering Song Give Thanks With a Grateful Heart

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
Give thanks to the Holy One,
Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ His Son. (X2)

And now let the weak say "I am strong,"
Let the poor say "I am rich"
Because of what the Lord has done for us. (X2)

(Repeat whole song)

Give thanks, give thanks.

The Prayers and 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.

The Words of Institution

The Distribution

Lord, Have Mercy

Jesus, I've forgotten the words that You have spoken,
Promises that burned within my heart have now grown dim.
With a doubting heart, I follow the paths of earthly wisdom,
Forgive me for my unbelief, renew the fire again. (*Chorus*)

***Chorus:* Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy on me.
Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy;
Lord, have mercy on me.**

I have built an altar where I've worshipped things of man,
I have taken journeys that have drawn me far from You.
Now I am returning to Your mercies ever flowing,
Pardon my transgressions, help me love You again. (*Chorus*)

I have longed to know You and all Your tender mercies,
Like a river of forgiveness, ever flowing without end.
So I bow my heart before You in the goodness of Your presence,
Your grace forever shining like a beacon in the night. (*Chorus x 2*)

It is Well

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way;
When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

**Refrain: It is well (It is well)
with my soul, (with my soul),
It is well, it is well with my soul.**

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul. **Refrain**

He lives—oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
My sin, not in part, but the whole,
Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more.
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! **Refrain**

And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so it is well with my soul. **Refrain**

Amazing Grace/My Chains are Gone

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me.
I once was lost, but now I'm found, was blind but now I see.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
His grace has brought me safe thus far, His grace will lead me home.

**Chorus: My chains are gone. I've been set free,
My God, my Savior has ransomed me.
And like a flood His mercy reigns,
Unending love, amazing grace.**

The Lord has promised good to me, His Word my hope secures.
He will my shield and portion be, as long as life endures. (**Chorus x 2**)

The earth shall soon dissolve like snow, the sun forbear to shine.
But God, who called me here below, will be forever mine,
Will be forever mine, You are forever mine.

Prayer

Benediction

Closing Song

Jude’s Charge

You, my friends, build each other up.
You, my friends, build each other up.
In strong faith, pray: “Spirit, fill my cup.”
You, my friends, build each other up.

Keep yourselves in God’s love.
Keep yourselves in God’s love.
As you wait for mercy from above,
Keep yourselves in God’s love.

To God be glory, now and evermore!
To God be glory, now and evermore!
To stand before Him, Christ is the door.
To God be glory, now and evermore!

To God be glory, now and evermore!

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Knowing Christ and Making Him Known

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Empowered by the Holy Spirit through His Word and Sacraments, Trinity Lutheran Church and School is committed to preparing people who are being shaped for service, passionately proclaiming the Father's grace and forgiveness through Jesus Christ.