The Twenty-fourth Sunday After Pentecost

November 8, 2026

Pre-service Music

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship: Amazing Grace *St. John's Bell Choir*

Confession and Absolution

Invocation

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

C **Amen.**

Confession and Absolution

P Blessed are the ones who trust in the Lord. For the Lord God withholds no good thing from those who trust in Him. Therefore, let us go to our God and confess our sins knowing that,

C **our God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

C **Gracious and merciful God, we confess that while we have been made new creations through the waters of our baptism, we still live ensnared by sin, and are unable to free ourselves. We have not always lived our lives in accordance with the identity that you have given us in Jesus. We have not always done the things that you have called us to do. We have not always loved you above all else and with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength. We have not always loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us all our sins. Renew our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that our lives would show the identity you have given us in baptism, and the new creations that you have made us to be. Amen.**

P The Lord hears our prayers. Our God gives ear to us and answers us. In mercy, Almighty God has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I, therefore, forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit

C **Amen.**

Peace of the Lord

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Service of the Word

Gathering Hymn *LSB 802 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

1 Immortal, invisible,
God only wise,
In light inaccessible
hid from our eyes,
Most blessèd, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious,
Thy great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting,
and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting,
Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains
high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains
of goodness and love.

3 To all life Thou givest—
to both great and small—
In all life Thou livest,
the true Life of all;
We blossom and flourish
as leaves on the tree
And wither and perish—
but naught changes Thee.

4 Great Father of glory,
pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee,
all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render:
O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor
of light that hides Thee.

Text: W. Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt.
Text: Public domain

Salutation and Collect of the Day

L The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

L Let us pray.
Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Children's Message

Old Testament Reading *Amos 5:18–24*

A The Old Testament reading is from the fifth chapter of the book of Amos.

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light,
19 as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a bear or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten by a snake. 20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? 21 I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. 22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. 23 Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. 24 But let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm *Psalm 70*

L Be pleased, O God, to deliver me. O Lord, make haste to help me!
C **Let those be put to shame and confusion who seek my life. Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor who desire to hurt me.**
L Let those who say, “Aha, Aha!” turn back because of their shame.
C **Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you. Let those who love your salvation say evermore, “God is great!”**
L But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer;
C **O Lord, do not delay!**
L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;
C **as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Epistle *1 Thessalonians 4:13–18*

A The Epistle reading is from the fourth chapter of the book of 1 Thessalonians.

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15 For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. 16 For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel’s call and with the sound of God’s trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these words.

A This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

L These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.
C **They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**
L Blessed are those whose strength is in you,
C **in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

Gospel Acclamation

C **Halle, halle, halle_lujah!**
Halle, halle, halle_lujah!
Halle, halle, halle_lujah!
Hallelujah! Halle_lujah!

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Verse

P Alleluia. Watch therefore,
C **For you know neither the day nor the hour. Alleluia.**

Holy Gospel *Matthew 25:1–13*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

1 "Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the
bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3 When the foolish took their lamps, they
took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was delayed,
all of them became drowsy and slept. 6 But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the
bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. 8
The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9 But the wise
replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some
for yourselves.' 10 And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went
with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. 11 Later the other young women came also,
saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12 But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' 13 Keep awake,
therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day *LSB 398 Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

1 Hail to the Lord's anointed,
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
To set the captive free,
To take away transgression
And rule in equity.

2 He comes with rescue speedy
To those who suffer wrong,
To help the poor and needy
And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Were precious in His sight.

3 He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth;
Love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
Spring in His path to birth.
Before Him on the mountains
Shall peace, the herald, go;
And righteousness in fountains
From hill to valley flow.

4 Kings shall fall down before Him
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore Him,
His praise all people sing.
To Him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.

5 O'er ev'ry foe victorious,
He on His throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious,
All blessing and all-blest.
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand forever—
That name to us is Love.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771–1854, alt.
Text: Public domain

Blessing Our Veterans

P Dear friends, you have faithfully served us and our country in the United States Military. Today we offer our thanks and gratitude to you and to God for you. In this time of thanksgiving, we hear from the word of the Lord.

Hear St. Paul's words to the Thessalonians.
We remember before our God and Father Your work produced by faith, your labor prompted by love, and your endurance inspired by hope in our Lord Jesus Christ.

And again, his words to the Corinthians.
4 I thank my God always for you, because of God's grace that was given to you in Christ Jesus. 5 That is, you were made rich through him in everything: in all your communication and every kind of knowledge, 6 in the same way that the testimony about Christ was confirmed with you. 7 The result is that you aren't missing any spiritual gift while you wait for our Lord Jesus Christ to be revealed. 8 He will also confirm your testimony about Christ until the end so that you will be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. 9 God is faithful, and you were called by him to partnership with his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ, when you were baptized you began your vocation as a Christian. Through these years, God has blessed you with unique, special gifts and interests that have led you to your military service and beyond. Today it is our privilege to affirm you in your service given to our country. We thank you, and we give thanks for you. Your service serves as an example of what it means to Let your Christian light shine wherever are. We agree with General Bradley who said, "Veterans are God's gift to us, freedom is their gift to the world."

Thank you. The blessing of Almighty God, Father Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and always. Amen.

Let us pray: We thank you for these dear people who have faithfully served our nation in our military. We ask your blessing and protection to continue to be upon them as they continue to live lives that are marked by love and service to you and to their neighbors. Stretch forth Your almighty arm to strengthen and protect those who serve in the armed forces of our country. Support them in times of war and in times of peace. Keep them from all evil, giving them courage and loyalty, and grant that, in all things, they may serve honestly and without reproach; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

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

Apostles' Creed

L We make confession of our faith together in the words of the creed.
C **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

Prayer of the Church

L Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

P Loving and Gracious God, you have gathered us together to be your people in this world. You give us your Holy Spirit, your word, and the sacraments. Work through Your means of grace to transform our lives, so that they would always show your love and forgiveness and grace. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

L Lord, You are our help and deliverer. We bring to You the prayers and petitions of Your people, that You may grant us all things needful and guard us against all things harmful. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, preserve Your people from believing that You are pleased with us because of our works or ceremonies. Grant that what we do in worship and prayer may proclaim salvation in Christ Jesus alone. Give us joy and zeal for living as your disciples who join you in your work in this world. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

L Lord God, You bestow favor and honor and withhold nothing from those who walk uprightly. Bless us as we teach one other and learn together Your ways, that generations to come would love Your promises, walk in Your truth and dwell in Your house. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P Righteous God, You despise corruption and command justice. Embolden our leaders and all in authority to enact and defend measures that preserve peace and provide justice for all. Bless and protect those who serve in our military, especially those serving in places of danger and far away from home. Bless all those who serve at home to protect and keep safe, all firefighters, police officers, first responders, EMTs, and emergency room workers. Allow justice, mercy, peace, and compassion to grow and increase in us, among us, and through us. And heal our world from the evils of injustice, prejudice, inequality, and hatred. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

L Heavenly Father, show mercy to those who cry aloud as they await Your Son's coming in glory *[we especially remember those we love who need your healing and care that we name before you now out loud or in our hearts _____]*. Answer them with strength and healing, comfort and hope. Make them confident in Christ, who will raise His people on the Last Day. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P O Lord, Your Son will descend from heaven with a cry of command, we thank and praise you that you will raise those who have fallen asleep and deliver us to Your kingdom of glory. Until that day, strengthen us by His body and blood and prepare us for His coming in glory. Work through your means of grace to strengthen our faith and to increase our love and service to you, to one another, and to our neighbors. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

L Gracious Lord, grant that we may not grieve as those who have no hope but rejoice and encourage each other in the promise of the resurrection to life everlasting. *[Especially strengthen and comfort the families of _____.]* Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P All these things and everything else for which we should ask, we pray through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Offering

C **Offer, offer, offering, we give our gifts to say,**
"Thank you Lord for loving us and blessing us each day."
Time to share our gifts and say,
"Thank you Lord for each new day."

Offertory Prayer

L O, Giver of all good things, we give thanks to You, for You are good and Your steadfast love endures forever. All that we have is a gift from You and signs of Your love and care. Grant that we would faithfully and joyfully use what You have entrusted to us to join You in the work that You are doing in this place. Accept the offerings that we give in the various ways that we give them throughout the week, as part of our work of joining You in Your work. Increase and grow our trust in You through the giving of our offerings. Be glorified in the giving of them as we give them in thanksgiving and with gratitude for all Your blessings and gifts to us. Use them to further the work that You are doing in this place and all around our world. In Jesus' name we pray,

C **Amen.**

Offertory

C **What shall I render to the Lord for all His benefits to me?**
I will offer the sacrifice of thanksgiving and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will take the cup of salvation and will call on the name of the Lord.
I will pay my vows to the Lord now in the presence of all His people,
in the courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Jerusalem.

Service of the Sacrament

Preface

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.**

Proper Preface

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

C **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.

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✢ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✢ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Proclamation of Christ

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
C **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

The Lord's Prayer

P God, remember us in your love and teach us to pray:
C **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.**

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C **Amen.**

Agnus Dei

C **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.

Distribution Hymn *LSB 516 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying*

1 “Wake, awake, for night is flying,”
The watchmen on the heights are crying;
“Awake, Jerusalem, arise!”
Midnight hears the welcome voices
And at the thrilling cry rejoices:
“Oh, where are ye, ye virgins wise?
The Bridegroom comes, awake!
Your lamps with gladness take!
Alleluia!
With bridal care
Yourselves prepare
To meet the Bridegroom, who is near.”

2 Zion hears the watchmen singing,
And all her heart with joy is springing;
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.
For her Lord comes down all-glorious,
The strong in grace, in truth victorious;
Her star is ris’n, her light is come.
Now come, Thou Blessèd One,
Lord Jesus, God’s own Son,
Hail! Hosanna!
We enter all
The wedding hall
To eat the Supper at Thy call.

3 Now let all the heav’ns adore Thee,
Let saints and angels sing before Thee
With harp and cymbals’ clearest tone.
Of one pearl each shining portal,
Where, joining with the choir immortal,
We gather round Thy radiant throne.
No eye has seen the light,
No ear has heard the might
Of Thy glory;
Therefore will we
Eternally
Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608
Text: Public domain

Distribution Hymn *LSB 523 O Word of God Incarnate*

1 O Word of God incarnate,
O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth unchanged, unchanging,
O Light of our dark sky:
We praise You for the radiance
That from the hallowed page,
A lantern to our footsteps,
Shines on from age to age.

2 The Church from You, dear Master,
Received the gift divine;
And still that light is lifted
O'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass
That, all life's voyage through,
Mid mists and rocks and quicksands
Still guides, O Christ, to You.

3 O make Your Church, dear Savior,
A lamp of burnished gold
To bear before the nations
Your true light as of old!
O teach Your wand'ring pilgrims
By this their path to trace
Till, clouds and darkness ended,
They see You face to face!

Text: William W. How, 1823–97, alt.
Text: Public domain

The Dismissal

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart ☩ in peace.

C **Amen.**

Thank the Lord

C **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, alleluia.

Post-Communion Collect

L Let us pray.
O God the Father, the fountain and source of all goodness, who in loving-kindness sent Your only-begotten Son into the flesh, we thank You that for His sake You have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament, and we ask You not to forsake Your children but always to rule our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may be enabled constantly to serve You; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Benedicamus

L The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

L Bless we the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

L As we depart from this place, we celebrate the ways God has blessed us in this service.
We have received forgiveness of all our sins and remembered the identity given to us in our baptism.
C **Our God has equipped us for life lived in His kingdom.**

L We have heard the good news of the gospel and the word of God read and proclaimed.
C **Our God has encouraged us in discipleship and following Jesus.**

L We have received the gifts of God given in Holy Communion.
C **As our God has served us, so we go from this place to be engaged in service to God, to one another and to our neighbors.**

L As we depart from this place, we go as people who have been equipped for life, encouraged in discipleship, and who engage in service.
C **We go as people who have been invited by God to join God in the work that He is doing in this place.**

P As you go, receive the blessing of our God:
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
C **Amen.**

Sending Hymn *LSB 515 Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers*

1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers,
And let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing,
And darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising
And soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle;
At midnight comes the cry.

2 The watchers on the mountain
Proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go forth as He approaches
With alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting;
The gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory;
The Bridegroom is at hand.

3 The saints, who here in patience
Their cross and suff'rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever
When sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory
The Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before Him
Their diadems of gold.

4 Our hope and expectation,
O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for,
O'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted,
We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption
That sets Your people free!

Text: Laurentius Laurenti, 1660–1722; tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1823–1907, alt.
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