

# *St. John's Lutheran Church and School*



*The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

*12 November 2023*

## As We Gather

It's not a big surprise that no one has accurately predicted the end of the world—not that it hasn't been attempted. From religious sects to cult leaders to apocalyptic predictions made when we entered a new millennium, a fascination grows around those who claim they have it all figured out. We are wise though to take the Lord at His word concerning the Last Day. From Amos in the Old Testament proclaiming the day of the Lord, to Paul writing the Thessalonians about Christ's return, to Jesus' parable of the ten virgins, the Lord does not give us a date or a time of the end of this world as we know it. What He continues to give us, though, are promises of His faithfulness, His continued care and providence, and His assurance that when that day comes, it will usher in a glorious blessedness in His perfect presence that will last forever.

### Prelude

### “Antienne”

Eugène Gigout

*Stand*

### 801 How Great Thou Art



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won - der Con - sid - er  
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the  
3 But when I think that God, His Son not spar - ing, Sent Him to  
4 When Christ shall come with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion And take me



all the works Thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y  
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; When I look down from loft - y moun - tain  
die, I scarce can take it in— That on the cross my bur - den glad - ly  
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, Thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;  
gran - deur And hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;  
bear - ing He bled and died to take a - way my sin;  
ra - tion And there pro - claim: “My God, how great Thou art!”

*Refrain*

Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to Thee, How great Thou

art! How great Thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to

Thee, How great Thou art! How great Thou art!

Text: Carl Gustaf Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. Stuart W. K. Hine, 1899–1989

Tune: Swedish; arr. Stuart W. K. Hine, 1899–1989

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## Opening Versicles

### Common

*LSB 260*

- L This is the day which the Lord has made;
- C **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**
- L From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**
  
- L Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;
- C **I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of the wicked.**
- L Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.
- C **Teach me Your paths.**
- L Sanctify us in Your truth.
- C **Your Word is truth.**
  
- L From the rising of the sun to its setting,
- C **the name of the Lord is to be praised.**
  
- C **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.**

## Confession and Absolution

- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.  
C **But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**
- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father. Merciful Lord, as we await the day to come when Christ returns, we grow impatient as we wait.  
C **We become distracted by the things of this world that do not last, and have given our attention and even devotion to things not beneficial to our faith. Forgive us.**
- P As we await the day to come when Christ returns, we grow impatient with others.  
C **We have sinned against others and You in thought, word, and deed. We have not loved You with our whole heart, nor loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us.**
- P As we await the day to come when Christ returns, we grow impatient with You.  
C **We come to think the day will never come when You make all things new, and have let our earthly circumstances cause faith to waiver, despair to increase, and doubts to arise. Forgive us.**

## Old Testament Canticle

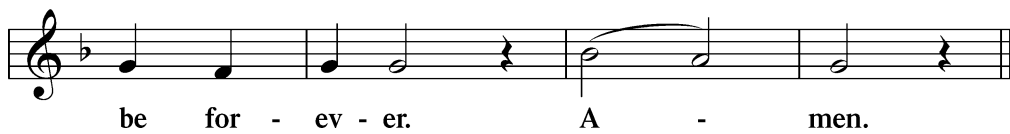
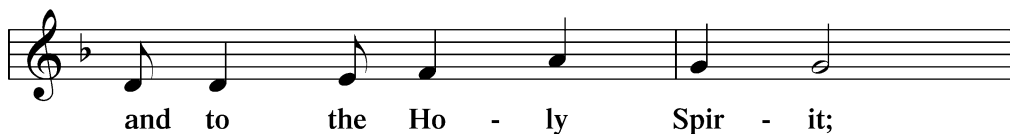
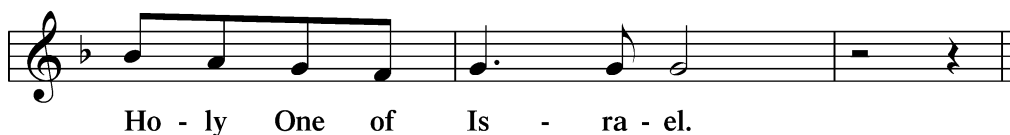
LSB 261

*Refrain*

■ The Lord God is my strength and my song, and  
He has be - come my sal - va - tion.

With joy will you draw wa - ter from the  
wells of sal - va - tion. And you will say in that  
day: "Give thanks to the Lord, call up - on His name,  
make known His deeds a - mong the peo - ples, pro -  
claim that His name is ex - alt - ed."

*Refrain*  
The Lord God is my strength and my song, and  
He has be - come my sal - va - - tion.  
Sing prais - es to the Lord, for He has done  
glo - rious - ly; let this be made known in all the  
earth. Shout, and sing for joy, O in -



- L A reading from Amos, the fifth chapter.

<sup>18</sup>Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! Why would you have the day of the LORD? It is darkness, and not light, <sup>19</sup>as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him. <sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? <sup>21</sup>“I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. <sup>22</sup>Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them. <sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. <sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.”

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

## Psalm 70

- A <sup>1</sup>Make haste, O God, to deliver me!  
O LORD, make haste to help me!
- C <sup>2</sup>**Let them be put to shame and confusion  
who seek my life!**  
**Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor  
who desire my hurt!**
- A <sup>3</sup>Let them turn back because of their shame  
who say, “Aha, Aha!”

C <sup>4</sup>**May all who seek you  
rejoice and be glad in you!  
May those who love your salvation  
say evermore, "God is great!"**

A <sup>5</sup>But I am poor and needy;  
hasten to me, O God!  
You are my help and my deliverer;  
O LORD, do not delay!

## Epistle

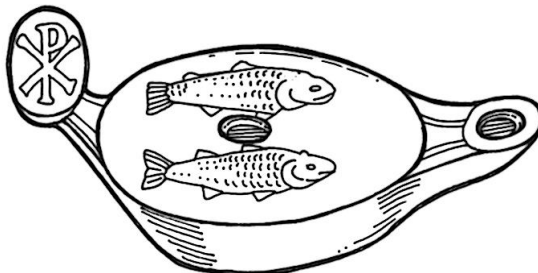
*1 Thessalonians 4:13–18*

A The Epistle is from 1 Thessalonians, chapter 4.

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

A This is the Word of the Lord.

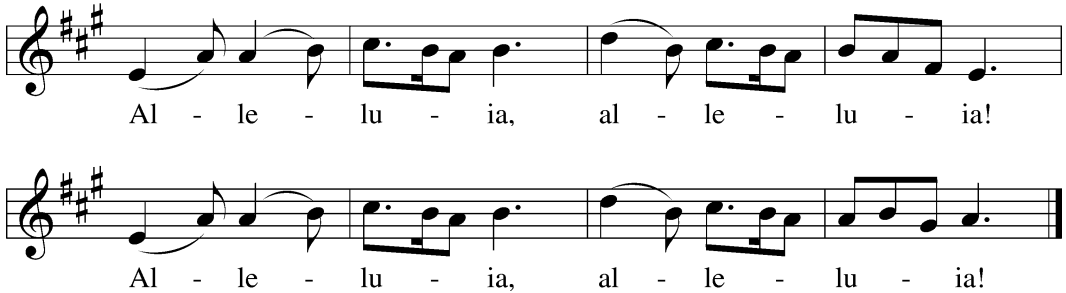
C **Thanks be to God.**





Stand

## 952 Alleluia – II



Text: Traditional

Tune: Fintan O'Carroll, d. 1977

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## Gospel

*Matthew 25:1–13*

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

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

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

## Responsory

LSB 263

- L Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.  
C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**  
L Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.  
C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**  
L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
C **Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.**

## Apostles' 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.**

## Lord's Prayer

- 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.

*Sit*

## Children's Sermon

## Hymn



- 1 The Bride - groom soon will call us, "Come to the wed - ding feast."  
2 There shall we see in glo - ry Our dear Re - deem - er's face;  
3 There God shall from all e - vil For - ev - er make us free,  
4 In that fair home shall nev - er Be si - lent mu - sic's voice;



May slum - ber not be - fall us Nor watch - ful - ness de - crease.  
The long - a - wait - ed sto - ry Of heav'n - ly joy takes place:  
From sin and from the dev - il, From all ad - ver - si - ty,  
With hearts and lips for - ev - er We shall in God re - joice,



May all our lamps be burn - ing With oil e - nough and more  
The pa - tri - archs shall meet us, The proph - ets' ho - ly band;  
From sick - ness, pain, and sad - ness, From trou - bles, cares, and fears,  
While an - gel hosts are rais - ing With saints from great to least



That we, with Him re - turn - ing, May find an o - pen door!  
A - pos - tles, mar - tyrs greet us In that ce - les - tial land.  
And grant us heav'n - ly glad - ness And wipe a - way our tears.  
A might - y hymn for prais - ing The Giv - er of the feast.

Text: Johann Walter, 1496–1570; (st. 1): tr. F. Samuel Janzow, 1913–2001; (sts. 2–4): tr. Matthias Loy, 1828–1915, alt.  
Tune: Musae Sioniae, 1609, vol. 7, Wolfenbüttel, ed. Michael Praetorius  
Text (st. 1): © 1982 Concordia Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 708390  
Text (sts. 2–4) and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

## "Life's Most Priceless Possession"

Pastor Weidler

Sermon Text: Matthew 25:1-13

## Exchange of Peace

*All may share a sign of God's peace.*

## Offertory Anthem 8:00

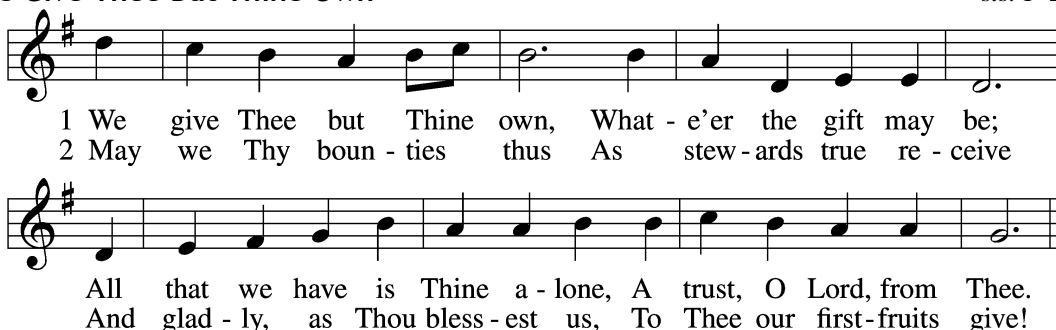
## "I Sing a Song of Thanks and Joy"

Hal Hopson

*Stand*

## 781 We Give Thee But Thine Own

*sts. 1-2*



1 We give Thee but Thine own, What - e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we Thy boun - ties thus As stew - ards true re - ceive

All that we have is Thine a - lone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.  
And glad - ly, as Thou bless - est us, To Thee our first-fruits give!

Text: William W. How, 1823-97

Tune: William H. Monk, 1823-89

Text and tune: Public domain

## Prayer *kneel/sit*

- L In peace let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**  
L For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**  
L For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**  
L For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**  
L For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:

- C **Lord, have mercy.**  
L For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**  
L For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**  
L For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**  
L For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy.**  
L Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:  
C **Lord, have mercy. Christ, have mercy. Lord, have mercy.**

*Stand*

### **Collect of the Day**

- L 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.**

### **Collect for the Word**

- L Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
C **Amen.**

## Morning Prayer

- C I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

## New Testament Canticle

LSB 266

*Refrain*

**C** Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Christ our Pass - o - ver Lamb has been sac - ri - ficed.

Raised from the dead, He will nev - er die a - gain.

Death has no more do - min - ion o - ver Him.

*Refrain*

Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -

lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Dy-ing, Christ dies to sin, once for all. Liv-ing, He  
lives to God. Count your - selves as dead to  
sin and a-live to God in Christ Je - sus, our Lord.  
*Refrain*  
Christ has been raised from the dead! Al - le -  
lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Blessing Benedicamus

LSB 267

- L Let us bless the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

## Benediction

LSB 267

- L The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the T Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.  
C **Amen.**

## Announcements

### Postlude

*“Prelude and Fugue in E Minor”*

**Pachelbel**

### Acknowledgments

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## Serving in Worship

**Homilist:** Rev. Ronald Weidler  
**Liturgist:** Rev. Mark Stapleton  
**St. John’s School Children’s Choir:** Mrs. AnnLaura Tapia, Director  
**Director of Music:** Mr. Gregory Ceurvorst

## Flowers

1. *Flowers at the altar are from Tina Rimmele and family in memory of Tina's sister Mimi Kost. "We all love and miss you very much."*
2. *Flowers at the altar are given to the Glory of God by Frank Moore and Christina Lass-Moore in thanksgiving for God's many blessings on our 15th wedding anniversary.*

## Mission Notes

SUNDAY SCHOOL  
TRUTH TRAVELERS (JR HIGH)  
ADULT BIBLE STUDY  
BIBLE STUDY/SMALL GROUP  
BIBLE STUDY/SMALL GROUP  
WOMENS' SMALL GROUP  
GRIEFSHARE  
WEDNESDAY BIBLE STUDY  
CHOIR PRACTICE  
CONFIRMATION CLASS  
PICKLEBALL  
BIBLE STUDY/SMALL GROUP  
TRIP ORDER DATES

Sundays, 9:25, Music Rm (Second Floor)  
Sundays, 9:25AM, Youth Rm (Basement)  
Sundays, 9:25AM, Heritage Rm  
Sundays, 6PM, Offsite  
Mondays, 7PM, Zoom  
Tuesdays, 8:45AM, Heritage Rm  
Tuesdays beginning September 26, 1:00 – 2:30PM, Heritage Rm  
Wednesdays, 9AM, Heritage Rm  
Wednesdays, 7PM, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor, Music/Choir Rm  
Wednesdays, 6:30PM, Heritage Rm  
Thursdays, 6:30PM, Gym  
Thursday, 7PM, Offsite  
November 2 and 30



Equipping ♦ Engaging ♦ Encouraging

St. John's Lutheran Church and School

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