

TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
NOVEMBER 15, 2020

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

We have come to You in thanksgiving and praise, to know that You are God and to place our lives anew into Your perspective. Enlarge our vision this hour with Your Word. Instill in us, again, Your hope in place of our despair, Your peace where our hatred threatens, Your joy amidst our depression, Your love overwhelming our apathy. May Your Holy Spirit surround and indwell this congregation now, and forevermore. In Jesus name we pray. **Amen.**

THE GREETING

L: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

C: **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: *“Make a Difference”* by Rachel Kurtz

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IVw0ml7lukw>

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

P: **Amen.**

L: Holy One,

P: **we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SONG: *“I Was There to Hear your Boring Cry”*

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NYCZmiJqrWU>

CHILDREN'S TIME: Shivon Miller

SONG: "In You Alone"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ymvSuZXgoLs&t=89s>

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

⁷Be silent before the LORD God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and has consecrated those who are called. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will the LORD do harm." ¹³Their wealth 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 warrior cries aloud there. ¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath, 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. ¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. ¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of the LORD's passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end the LORD will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

PSALM 90:1-8 [9-11] 12

¹LORD, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
²Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.
³You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Turn back, O children of earth."
⁴For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night;
⁵you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:
⁶in the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
⁷For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.
⁸Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
[⁹When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
¹⁰The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.
¹¹Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?]
¹²So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

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

GOSPEL READING: Matthew 25:14-30

[Jesus said:] ¹⁴"For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

MESSAGE: Pastor Jerome Evavold

SONG: "One Thing Remains"

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6_KXsMCJgBQ

CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead. On the third day he rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, And he will come 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.

THE OFFERING

Looking for a way to give to support Trinity ministry? Simply text the amount you'd like to give to 833-610-0635. Kathy will also continue to check the mail and make deposits weekly Thank you for your generous giving that enables continued ministries.

OFFERING SONG: "Light the Fire"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mwYFm9B0AdY>

OFFERING PRAYER

God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast in you and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, let us pray to see God's power in the church and in the world, responding to each petition with the words "Hear us and help us."

A brief silence.

We pray, O God, for the church in our community and throughout the world. Raise up and sustain believers who will use their talents to assist with worship and to lead congregational ministries in this difficult time. Protect your people with the armor of your Word.

A brief silence.

L: For the earth we pray. During this autumn season, give to plants and wild animals a time of rest. Keep the coronavirus and other pathogens away from the animals that we farm.

A brief silence.

L: O God, you are the Maker of the heavens and the earth:

P: Hear us and help us.

L: For all the nations we pray. Bring an end to war and terrorism. Cultivate a worldwide spirit of cooperation that will seek just international agreements and shared human rights. Rescue humankind from the worship of wealth, and give a homeland to migrants.

A brief silence.

L: O God, you are the Haven we seek:

P: Hear us and help us.

L: For the United States we pray. Quell attempts at violence, and restore national good will. End prejudice of all kinds, and lead us into a unity that embraces diversity. Comfort those who live in fear of the future. Bless all newly elected officials, especially President-elect Biden, with a passion for justice and a commitment to honesty.

A brief silence.

L: O God, you are our Mighty Fortress:

P: Hear us and help us.

L: We pray for all who are in need. Visit with health and good medical care all the sick, especially the thousands who each day are contracting the coronavirus. Prepare a vaccine to save our world from COVID-19. Give food, employment, and housing to the countless who are struggling to live.

A brief silence.

L: O God, you are our Physician, our Nurse:

P: Hear us and help us.

L: For many of us, what the ancient prophet said is now true: these are days of distress and anguish. We beg you to listen to the prayers of our hearts.

A longer period of silence.

L: O God, you are Father, Mother, Lover, Master, Friend:

P: Hear us and help us.

L: We remember before you all the saints who have lived and died in the faith and those we name here now. . . . At the end of time, bring us all into your peace.

A brief silence.

L: O God, you are the Light perpetual:

P: Hear us and help us.

L: Receive these prayers, and in your gracious mercy grant your strength to our neediness, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

P: Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

BLESSING:

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: “*In the Eye of the Storm*” Ryan Stevenson

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-sx8wTnnfSc>

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God!