



PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4672 N Cedar Ave. Fresno, CA 93726

Rev. Michael N. Vernava

Rev. Khai N. Lee

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023

The Mission of Peace Lutheran Church is to honor our Lord Jesus Christ through worship and ministering to all God's people equipping them for service to God and to each other.

DIVINE SERVICE – SETTING THREE

PRELUDE

Organist

CALL TO WORSHIP

Peace Handbell Choir

"Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain"

– arr. by Frances Callahan

OPENING HYMN "O Worship the King" LSB 804

- 1 O worship the King,
all-glorious above.
O gratefully sing
His pow'r and His love;
Our shield and defender,
the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor
and girded with praise.
- 2 O tell of His might,
O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light,
whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath
the deep thunderclouds form,

And dark is His path
on the wings of the storm.

- 3 This earth, with its store
of wonders untold,
Almighty, Thy pow'r
hath founded of old,
Established it fast
by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast,
like a mantle, the sea.
- 4 Thy bountiful care
what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air,
it shines in the light,
It streams from the hills,
it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills
in the dew and the rain.
- 5 Frail children of dust
and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust,
nor find Thee to fail.
Thy mercies, how tender,
how firm to the end,
Our maker, defender,
redeemer, and friend!
- 6 O measureless Might,
ineffable Love,
While angels delight
to hymn Thee above,

Thy humbler creation,
though feeble their lays,
With true adoration
shall sing to Thy praise.

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, alt. Text: Public domain

Stand

*The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their
Baptism.*

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

C Amen. *Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]*

P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart
and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching
Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us
forgiveness. *[Hebrews 10:22]*

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth. *Psalms 124:8*

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

C and You forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Psalms 32:5*

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

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my
sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You
and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal
punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and
sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your
boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy,
innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved
Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a
poor, sinful being.**

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. *[John 20:19-23]*

C Amen.

Service of the Word

PSALM

90:1–12

P Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

C **Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

P You return man to dust and say, “Return, O children of man!”

C **For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, or as a watch in the night.**

P You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning:

C **in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.**

P For we are brought to an end by your anger; by your wrath we are dismayed.

C **You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.**

P For all our days pass away under your wrath; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

C **The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty; yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.**

P Who considers the power of your anger, and your wrath according to the fear of you?

C **So teach us to number our days that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

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.

KYRIE *Mark 10:47*

LSB 186

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Luke 2:14; John 1:29

LSB 187

Glory be to God on high: and on earth peace, good - will toward men. We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we wor - ship Thee, we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory. O Lord God, heav'n - ly King, God the Fa - ther Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ;

O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,

that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy up - on us.

Thou that takest away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy up -

on us. For Thou only art holy; Thou on - ly art the Lord.

Thou only, O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost,

art most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

LSB 189

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

And with thy spir - it.

P Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and

grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

A - men.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT

Zephaniah 1:7–16

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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

ALLELUIA

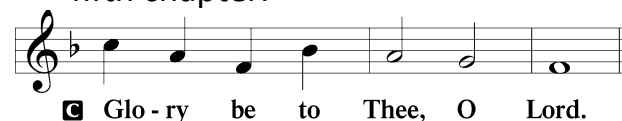
LSB 190



HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.



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.'"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



NICENE CREED

LSB 191

**C 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.

Sit

HYMN OF THE DAY

“The Clouds of Judgment Gather” LSB 513 (Tune: LSB 915)

- 1 The clouds of judgment gather,
 The time is growing late;
 Be sober and be watchful,
 Our judge is at the gate:
 The judge who comes in mercy,
 The judge who comes in might
 To put an end to evil
 And diadem the right.
- 2 Arise, O true disciples;
 Let wrong give way to right,
 And penitential shadow
 To Jesus’ blessed light:
 The light that has no evening,
 That knows no moon or sun,

The light so new and golden,
 The light that is but one.

- 3 The home of fadeless splendor,
 Of blooms that bear no thorn,
 Where they shall dwell as children
 Who here as exiles mourn;
 The peace of all the faithful,
 The calm of all the blest,
 Inviolable, unfading,
 Divinest, sweetest, best.
- 4 Oh, happy, holy portion,
 Relief for all distressed,
 True vision of true beauty,
 Refreshment for the blest!
 Strive now to win that glory,
 Toil now to gain that light;
 Send hope ahead to grasp it
 Till hope be lost in sight.

Text: Bernard of Cluny, 12th cent.; tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978
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SERMON

**“Not of Darkness”
 I Thessalonians 5:1-11**

P The peace of God, which passes all understanding,
 keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus. *Philippians 4:7*

C Amen.

Stand

OFFERTORY *Psalm 51:10-12*

LSB 192

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re -

new a right spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a -
 way from Thy pres - ence, and take not Thy Ho - ly Spir - it
 from me. Re - store un - to me the joy of Thy sal - va -
 tion, and up - hold me with Thy free spir - it. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

Following the prayers, the people may greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace (Matt. 5:22-24; Eph. 4:1-3).

Service of the Sacrament

PREFACE

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

☐ And with thy spir - it.

P Lift up your hearts.

[Colossians 3:1]

☐ We lift them up un - to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.

[Psalm 136]

☐ It is meet and right so to do.

P It is truly meet, 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. 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 *Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9*

LSB 195

☐ Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth;
 heav'n and earth are full of Thy glo - ry. Ho - san - na,
 ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is He,
 bless - ed is He, bless - ed is He that com - eth in the name of the Lord.
 Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

LORD'S PRAYER *Matthew 6:9-13*

LSB 196

**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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

LSB 197

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."

*Matthew 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24
 Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25*

PAX DOMINI *John 20:19*

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.



A - men.

AGNUS DEI *John 1:29*

LSB 198



Sit

DISTRIBUTION

COMMUNION HYMNS

"Chief of Sinners Though I Be" LSB 611

- Chief of sinners though I be,
 Jesus shed His blood for me,
 Died that I might live on high,
 Lives that I might never die.
 As the branch is to the vine,
 I am His, and He is mine.
- Oh, the height of Jesus' love,
 Higher than the heav'ns above,
 Deeper than the depths of sea,
 Lasting as eternity!
 Love that found me—wondrous thought!
 Found me when I sought Him not.

- 3 Only Jesus can impart
 Balm to heal the wounded heart,
 Peace that flows from sin forgiv'n,
 Joy that lifts the soul to heav'n,
 Faith and hope to walk with God
 In the way that Enoch trod.
- 4 Chief of sinners though I be,
 Christ is all in all to me;
 All my wants to Him are known,
 All my sorrows are His own.
 He sustains the hidden life
 Safe with Him from earthly strife.
- 5 O my Savior, help afford
 By Your Spirit and Your Word!
 When my wayward heart would stray,
 Keep me in the narrow way;
 Grace in time of need supply
 While I live and when I die.

Text: William McComb, 1793-1873, alt. Text: Public domain

"Jesus Sinners Doth Receive" LSB 609

- 1 Jesus sinners doth receive;
 Oh, may all this saying ponder
 Who in sin's delusions live
 And from God and heaven wander!
 Here is hope for all who grieve:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 2 We deserve but grief and shame,
 Yet His words, rich grace revealing,
 Pardon, peace, and life proclaim;
 Here our ills have perfect healing.

Firmly in these words believe:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

- 3 Sheep that from the fold did stray
 No true shepherd e'er forsaketh;
 Weary souls that lost their way
 Christ, the Shepherd, gently taketh
 In His arms that they may live:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 4 I, a sinner, come to Thee
 With a penitent confession.
 Savior, mercy show to me;
 Grant for all my sins remission.
 Let these words my soul relieve:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 5 Oh, how blest it is to know:
 Were as scarlet my transgression,
 It shall be as white as snow
 By Thy blood and bitter passion;
 For these words I now believe:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 6 Now my conscience is at peace;
 From the Law I stand acquitted.
 Christ hath purchased my release
 And my ev'ry sin remitted.
 Naught remains my soul to grieve:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.
- 7 Jesus sinners doth receive;
 Also I have been forgiven;
 And when I this earth must leave,
 I shall find an open heaven.

Dying, still to Him I cleave:
 Jesus sinners doth receive.

Text: tr. The Lutheran Hymnal, 1941, alt.; Erdmann Neumeister, 1671-1756
 Text: Public domain

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” LSB 643

- 1 Sent forth by God’s blessing,
 Our true faith confessing,
 The people of God from His dwelling take leave.
 The Supper is ended.
 O now be extended
 The fruits of this service in all who believe.
 The seed of His teaching,
 Receptive souls reaching,
 Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
 His grace did invite us,
 His love shall unite us
 To work for God’s kingdom and answer His call.

- 2 With praise and thanksgiving
 To God ever-living,
 The tasks of our ev’ryday life we will face.
 Our faith ever sharing,
 In love ever caring,
 Embracing His children of each tribe and race.
 With Your feast You feed us,
 With Your light now lead us;
 Unite us as one in this life that we share.
 Then may all the living
 With praise and thanksgiving
 Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916-97, alt.
 Text: © 1964 World Library Publications. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110000368

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS *Luke 2:29-32* *LSB 199*

Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant de - part in peace ac -
 cord - ing to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation,
 which Thou hast pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,
 a light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry of Thy
 peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and
 to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,
 is now, and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men.

THANKSGIVING *Psalm 107:1* *LSB 200*

A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

and His mercy endureth for - ev - er.

- A Let us pray.
 Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a
 foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of
 Your Son’s body and blood. Keep us firm in the true
 faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day

of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



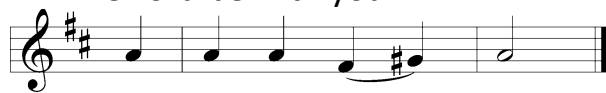
☐ A - men.

SALUTATION AND BENEDICAMUS

LSB 201

P The Lord be with you.

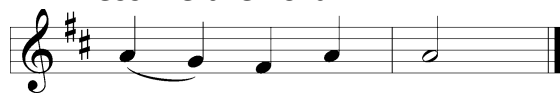
2 Timothy 4:22



☐ And with thy spir - it.

A Bless we the Lord.

[Psalm 103:1]

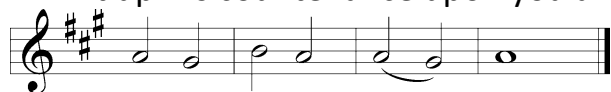


☐ Thanks be to God.

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24-26*

LSB 202

P The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.



☐ A-men, a-men, a - men.

CLOSING HYMN *“The Day Is Surely Drawing Near”* *LSB 508*

1 The day is surely drawing near
When Jesus, God’s anointed,
In all His power shall appear
As judge whom God appointed.
Then fright shall banish idle mirth,

And flames on flames shall ravage earth
As Scripture long has warned us.

- 2 The final trumpet then shall sound
And all the earth be shaken,
And all who rest beneath the ground
Shall from their sleep awaken.
But all who live will in that hour,
By God’s almighty, boundless pow’r,
Be changed at His commanding.
- 3 The books are opened then to all,
A record truly telling
What each has done, both great and small,
When he on earth was dwelling,
And ev’ry heart be clearly seen,
And all be known as they have been
In thoughts and words and actions.
- 4 Then woe to those who scorned the Lord
And sought but carnal pleasures,
Who here despised His precious Word
And loved their earthly treasures!
With shame and trembling they will stand
And at the judge’s stern command
To Satan be delivered.
- 5 My Savior paid the debt I owe
And for my sin was smitten;
Within the Book of Life I know
My name has now been written.
I will not doubt, for I am free,
And Satan cannot threaten me;
There is no condemnation!

- 6 May Christ our intercessor be
And through His blood and merit
Read from His book that we are free
With all who life inherit.
Then we shall see Him face to face,
With all His saints in that blest place
Which He has purchased for us.
- 7 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
But hasten our salvation;
We often tremble on our way
In fear and tribulation.
O hear and grant our fervent plea:
Come, mighty judge, and set us free
From death and ev'ry evil.

Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–99; tr. Philip A. Peter, 1832–1919, alt. Text: Public domain

CURRENT ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Organist

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