THE TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 12-13, 2022

Matthew 24:44, NRSV

"Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education."

"Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect."

Music of Preparation, Welcome, Announcements, Greeting **Our Ministry:** We are a people of God who are: "Changing Lives through Worship, Compassion, and Christian Education."

Welcome! Welcome to worship! We offer respect and appreciation to all who've come to praise our Creator. Please offer your hand of friendship to those around you.

Devotions & Publications Available are found in the main entryway. Please leave donation envelopes in the offering plate.

Note About Attendance Cards...Remember that the only way we may know you are worshiping with us is by seeing your name on an attendance card. These cards may be completed as you enter for worship and will be collected after the offering. Use one card for each family that is gathered. <u>Please list the name of each</u> <u>person in worship.</u> (Parents, please take responsibility for signing in your children) There is a "Member" side as well as a "Guest" side. Please fill out the appropriate side and pass them to the center aisle during the gathering of the offerings. The cards are gathered after the offering has been collected.

To Our Visitors...Our church and school have a few nooks and crannies, so don't be afraid to ask an usher where things are. Our pastor and any member here today would also be glad to meet and assist you. A guest information packet is available near the guest register in the main (west) entryway.

For All Who Worship... If you are arriving after the service has started, please allow our ushers to assist you with seating. We ask that you avoid entering during the confession, prayers, or Bible readings as these are quiet and meditative moments.

For Parents with Small Children...We love and want children in our services as a part of God's family, to spend time with Jesus, and to learn how to worship. We also know that kids can be kids. We want you and your children to experience our Lord's love and to have a great opportunity to worship the Lord along with all who are gathered here to praise our Savior's name.

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR

(The music for the liturgy may be found on page 203 in the Hymnal)

Notes for Worship: As you prepare for worship this day, we invite you to turn to the prayer section of the Hymnal (page 305). In addition to prayers for before and after worship, there are prayers for all aspects of the Christian Life (some of the prayers are also located on the inside front cover of the hymnal). May these prayers be useful in your worship.

Before worship prayer

O Lord, our creator, redeemer, and comforter, as we come together to worship You in spirit and in truth, we humbly pray that You may open our hearts to the preaching of Your Word that we may repent of our sins, believe in Jesus Christ as our only Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. Hear us for His sake. AMEN.

We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!

Opening Hymn: "The Day Is Surely Drawing Near" LSB, hymn #508, st 1-5

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.

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. 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.

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.

> 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!

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

- P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C: Amen.

Matthew 28:19b

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C: who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

- P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.
- P: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and call upon Him in prayer and praise in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Let us humble ourselves before our Good and gracious God.

(Moment of silent reflection)

- P: Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. *Luke 18:13*
- C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P: Let us pray . . . Almighty God,
- C: merciful Father, in Holy Baptism You declared us to be Your children and gathered us into Your one, holy Church, in which You daily and richly forgive us our sins and grant us new life through Your Spirit. Be in our midst, enliven our faith, and graciously receive our prayer and praise; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.
- 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.

John 20:19-23

KYRIE ~ Lord Have Mercy (Sung)

Mark 10:47

Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

Gloria in Excelsis ~ Glory To God In The Highest (Sung) Luke 2:14; John 1:29

To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth; Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth! We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name we sing Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.

To You, O sole-begotten,The Father's Son, we pray;O Lamb of God, our Savior,You take our sins away.Have mercy on us, Jesus;Receive our heartfelt cry,Where You in pow'r are seatedAt God's right hand on high

For You alone are holy, You only are the Lord. Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored; You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High, In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Let us pray Heavenly Father, Your Son promised to return to judge the world. By Your Holy Spirit keep us strong in faith that we straighten up as our redemption draws near and welcome the joyful new day as it dawns; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen

(Please be Seated)

Hymn: "The Day Is Surely Drawing Near"

LSB, hymn #508, st 6-7

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.

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.

THE READING OF THE WORD

Old Testament Lesson: Malachi 4:1-2a (The Day Of The LORD Is Coming)

"Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and that day that is coming will set them on fire," says the LORD Almighty. "Not a root or a branch will be left to them. But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its wings.

Epistle Lesson: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

(Always Be Ready!)

In the name of the Lord Jesus Christ, we command you, brothers, to keep away from every brother who is idle and does not live according to the teaching you received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to follow our example. We were not idle when we were with you, nor did we eat anyone's food without paying for it. On the contrary, we worked night and day, laboring and toiling so that we would not be a burden to any of you. We did this, not because we do not have the right to such help, but in order to make ourselves a model for you to follow. For even when we were with you, we gave you this rule: "If a man will not work, he shall not eat." We hear that some among you are idle. They are not busy; they are busybodies. Such people we command and urge in the Lord Jesus Christ to settle down and earn the bread they eat. And as for you, brothers, never tire of doing what is right.

Stand (as you are able)

Alleluia and Verse

John 20:31

- **C**: (Sung) Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
- The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter. P:
- Glory to you, O Lord. **C**:

Gospel Lesson: Luke 21:5-28

(The Last Day Is Coming)

Some of his disciples were remarking about how the temple was adorned with beautiful stones and with gifts dedicated to God. But Jesus said, "As for what you see here, the time will come when not one stone will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down." "Teacher," they asked, "when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are about to take place?" He replied: "Watch out that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, claiming, " am he,' and, 'The time is near.' Do not follow them. When you hear of wars and revolutions, do not be frightened. These things must happen first, but the end will not come right away." Then he said to them: "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven."But before all this, they will lay hands on you and persecute you. They will deliver you to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. This will result in your being witnesses to them. But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. All men will hate you because of me. But not a hair of your head will perish. By standing firm you will gain life. When you see Jerusalem being surrounded by armies, you will know that its desolation is near. Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, let those in the city get out, and let those in the country not enter the city. For this is the time of punishment in fulfillment of all that has been written. How dreadful it will be in those days for pregnant women and nursing mothers! There will be great distress in the land and wrath against this people. They will fall by the sword and will be taken as prisoners to all the nations. Jerusalem will be trampled on by the Gentiles until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. There will be signs in the sun, moon and stars. On the earth, nations will be in anguish and perplexity at the roaring and tossing of the sea. Men will faint from terror, apprehensive of what is coming on the world, for the heavenly bodies will be shaken. At that time they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. When these things begin to take place, stand up and lift up your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

- This is the Gospel of the Lord. P:
- Praise to you, O Christ. C:

(Please be Seated)

Children's Sermon

Sermon Hymn: "The Clouds of Judgment Gather"

LSB, hymn #513

The clouds of judgment gather, The time is growing late; Be sober and be watchful. The judge who comes in mercy, To put an end to evil

Our judge is at the gate: The judge who comes in might And diadem the right.

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.
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, Inviolate, unfading, Divinest, sweetest, best.
Oh, happy, holy portion, True vision of true beauty, Strive now to win that glory, Send hope ahead to grasp it Relief for all distressed, Refreshment for the blest! Toil now to gain that light; Till hope be lost in sight.
""Come Lord Jesus COME"

Sermon: "Come, Lord Jesus, COME

Luke 21:25-28

Stand (as you are able)

- P: Let us confess our faith, using the words of the 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

(Please be Seated)

Tithes and Offerings/Attendance Cards

SERVICE OF RECOGNITION AND THANKSGIVING FOR VETERANS

P: Dear friends in Christ, at this time, I ask that all of our veterans as well as those in active service in the armed forces of our country to please stand. Today, we gather at this time to lift up prayers of thanksgiving to our God on behalf of the service that you have offered and still offer to our country as veterans of our armed forces. We live in a broken world where Satan and sin would seek to rise up and destroy peace in our world to hinder the work and will of God. Thus God, in His wisdom, granted the authority of the sword to government that it might be an agent of God's wrath to bring punishment on the wrong doer (Romans 13:4). For God desires to put down evil that we might live quiet and peaceful lives. In view of the sacrifice that you have made as you have served in the armed forces to secure and guard the peace that we now enjoy by God's grace, I now ask the people of God this question. Will you use the gift of this peace to work to further the Kingdom of God that others might come to know the peace of God which is found in Christ Jesus our Lord and Savior?

- C: We will with the help of God and we praise God for the peace that is ours in Christ and for the gift of peace He has granted to us to allow us to work while it is day before the night comes when no man can work.
- P: Let us pray. Almighty God, on this Veterans Day, we give thanks for those who selflessly served our country to make and keep us free. May their sacrifices not have been in vain as we seek to preserve them in our generation. We thank and praise You for the gift of peace and freedom that is ours within this land. We praise you for the gift of the men and women who have served and continue to serve in the armed forces as they have dedicated themselves to preserve this peace and freedom. Grant that by the leading of the Prince of Peace, we may dedicate our lives to furthering the Gospel of Peace in the lives of those for whom Your Son died that they might live. All glory be to You as we look forward to a time when peace shall reign forevermore upon Your great return in Christ our Lord.

C: Bless us and them and keep us strong in the Lord.

- P: O Lord, we remember before You those who need Your strength in physical protection today. Keep safe in body and soul those serving in our nation's armed forces or other occupations whose duty puts them in harm's way. We pray for those service members who are deployed, those who serve our country far from home, and the families of those who have made the ultimate sacrifice. May Your care be shown to them by many. Bless our chaplains as they faithfully minister to many on land and sea.
- C: Keep them all strong in the Lord. Amen.

P: Dear friends, We thank you for your service to our country and pray God's continued blessings upon you. Let us all stand to sing the Offertory.

OFFERTORY - Create In Me

LSB, Divine Service 3, pg 192-193

C: (Sung) Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence; and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation; and uphold me with Thy free spirit.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

1 Timothy 2:1-4

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

Lord God, as we wait for the day of our Savior's return, help us to examine our lives, that we may follow the teaching and examples of Your faithful people that we've received in Your Holy Word. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, may we, like the apostle Paul, not grow weary in doing good. Lord, in Your mercy,

- C: hear our prayer.
- P: Loving God, Your Son Jesus Christ is the ultimate example of serving in His death on the cross for our redemption. Forgiven in Him, and in response to Your great love for us, enable us to serve in our vocations and places where You have called us so that others may see Christ at work through us. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: Omnipotent God, You are all-powerful, and so we ask that You would stretch out Your arm to protect those who serve in the armed forces of our nation. Grant them courage, strength, and integrity. We thank You for their service on our behalf. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.
- P: Almighty God, You are our keeper, our shade on our right hand. We humbly ask that You would keep all those who are suffering from physical illness in Your care. Grant them health and restoration according to Your gracious will. We pray that you be with those hospitalized this past week (*Especially, . . .*). Also be with those who continue treatment and healing at home. We pray for them and all those that we name in our hearts . . . (*Silence*). In all things, comfort Your people in knowing that You are their keeper. Lord, in Your mercy,
- C: hear our prayer.

(Additional prayers of the congregation. Each petition concludes with. . .) P: . . . Lord, In Your Mercy, C: Hear Our Prayer.

- P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, who has taught 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. Matthew 6:9-13

BLESSING

- P: Let us bless the Lord.
- C: Thanks be to God.
- P: 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.

Closing Hymn: "All Praise to Thee, My God, This Night"

Psalm 103:1

Numbers 6:24-26 LSB, hymn #883

All praise to Thee, my God, this night For all the blessings of the light.Keep me, O keep me, King of kings, Beneath Thine own almighty wings.

Forgive me, Lord, for Thy dear Son, The ill that I this day have done, That with the world, myself, and Thee, I, ere I sleep, at peace may be.

Teach me to live that I may dread The grave as little as my bed. Teach me to die that so I may Rise glorious at the awe-full day. Oh, may my soul in Thee repose, And may sweet sleep mine eyelids close, Sleep that shall me more vig'rous make To serve my God when I awake!

When in the night I sleepless lie, My soul with heav'nly thoughts supply; Let no ill dreams disturb my rest, No pow'rs of darkness me molest.

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

See You In Worship Next Week!

After worship prayer

Lord God, bless Your Word wherever it is proclaimed. Make it a word of power and peace to convert those not yet Your own and to confirm those who have come to saving faith. May Your Word pass from the ear to the heart, from the heart to the lip, and from the lip to the life that, as You have promised, Your Word may achieve the purpose for which You send it; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

There will be Prayer Ministry Member(s) in each service that will be wearing a prayer ministry tag around their neck. Please look for them if you are wanting prayer for yourself, someone else or prayer for a concern or situation you may have.

Please join us for coffee and donut holes in the cafeteria after Sunday services.

Altar Flowers Altar flowers this weekend are given in loving memory of our parents, George & Ellen McKibben, by Carol Turner and Gail Ferrebee; also to the glory of God and in memory of our little angel, Winona June Harris, by Carol Ginger.



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