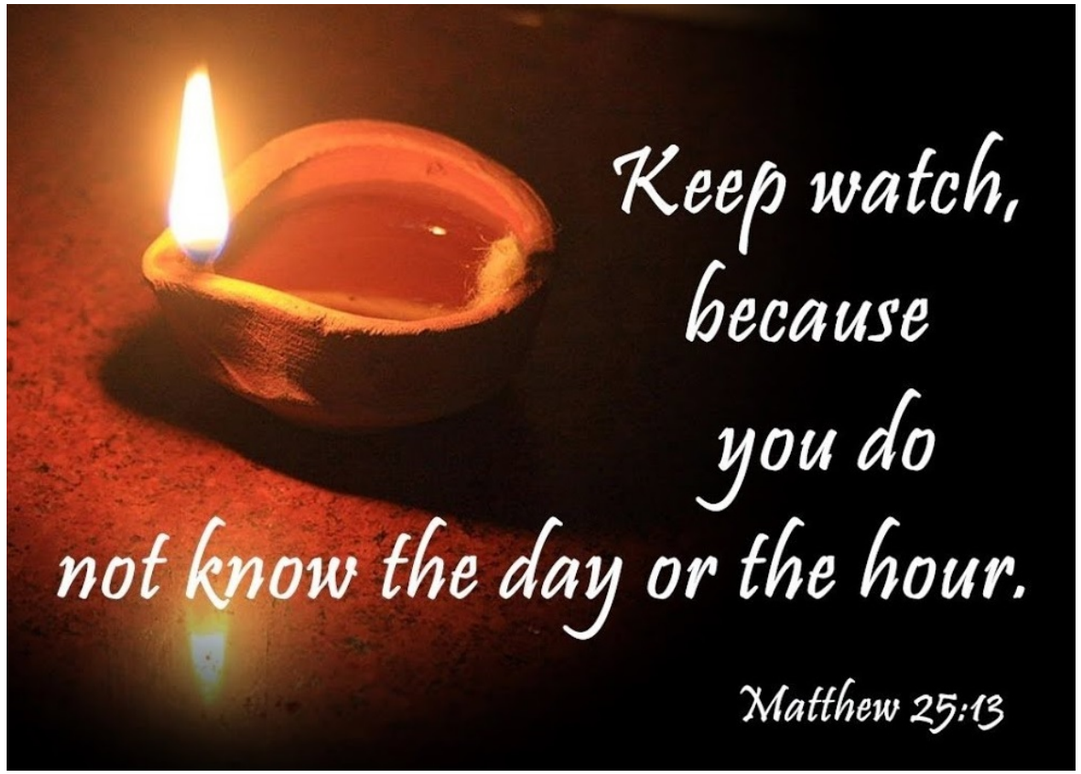
THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 7-8, 2026

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



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! A friendly welcome to each worshiper! We are pleased to have each of you here to glorify God and sing praises to the Almighty.

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

. . . . . WORSHIP NOTES . . . . . .

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. ***Please list the name of each person in worship.*** (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

Almighty God, grant that we, who have been redeemed from the old life of sin by our baptism into the death and resurrection of Your Son Jesus Christ, may be renewed by Your Holy Spirit to live in righteousness and true holiness; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

We're So Glad God Brought You Here Today!

Opening Hymn: "Lord Jesus Christ, with Us Abide" *LSB, hymn #585 (tune 571)*

Lord Jesus Christ, with us abide,
For round us falls the eventide.
O let Your Word, that saving light,
Shine forth undimmed into the night.

In these last days of great distress
Grant us, dear Lord, true steadfastness
That we keep pure till life is spent
Your holy Word and Sacrament.

To hope grown dim, to hearts turned cold
Speak tongues of fire and make us bold
To shine Your Word of saving grace
Into each dark and loveless place.

May glorious truths that we have heard,
The bright sword of Your mighty Word,
Spurn Satan that Your Church be strong,
Bold, unified in act and song.

Restrain, O Lord, the human pride
That seeks to thrust Your truth aside
Or with some man-made thoughts or things
Would dim the words Your Spirit sings.

Stay with us, Lord, and keep us true;
Preserve our faith our whole life through—
Your Word alone our heart's defense,
The Church's glorious confidence.

INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.
P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C: who made heaven and earth.
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.
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.

KYRIE ~ Lord Have Mercy (Sung)

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

Gloria in Excelsis ~ Glory To God In The Highest (Sung)

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 seated At 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 . . . .Lord God, heavenly Father, You have called Your church to wait for her Bridegroom with repentance and hope. Call to our attention the ways we have been unprepared for Christ's return, that we may meet Him with joy when the eternal wedding feast commences; through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

(Please be Seated)

THE READING OF THE WORD

New Testament Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 *(We Grieve With HOPE)*

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. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. 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. 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. 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. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Stand *(as you are able)*

Alleluia and Verse

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.

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

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 25:1-13 *(Waiting For The Bridegroom)*

[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 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.' 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. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he

answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' 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.

(Please be Seated)

Sermon Hymn: "The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us" *LSB, hymn #514*

The Bridegroom soon will call us, "Come to the wedding feast."
May slumber not befall us Nor watchfulness decrease.
May all our lamps be burning With oil enough and more
That we, with Him returning, May find an open door!

There shall we see in glory Our dear Redeemer's face;
The long-awaited story Of heav'nly joy takes place:
The patriarchs shall meet us, The prophets' holy band;
Apostles, martyrs greet us In that celestial land.

There God shall from all evil Forever make us free,
From sin and from the devil, From all adversity,
From sickness, pain, and sadness, From troubles, cares, and fears,
And grant us heav'nly gladness And wipe away our tears.

In that fair home shall never Be silent music's voice;
With hearts and lips forever We shall in God rejoice,
While angel hosts are raising With saints from great to least
A mighty hymn for praising The Giver of the feast.

Sermon: "Waiting" *Matthew 25:1-13*

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. This affords us the opportunity to lead lives in godliness and holiness as we work to bring Christ into the lives of others as God desires that all be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth (1 Timothy 2:2-4). 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 Veterans Day this week, 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 or who serve our country far from home. We also pray for their families in their absence, that Your care may 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: Let us thank our veterans for their service. We thank you for your service to our country and pray God's continued blessings upon you.
Let us all stand for the prayers of the Church.

Stand *(as you are able)*

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

P: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs. . . . Lord of Light, in Your Son You brought light into this world that no darkness could overcome and no one could extinguish. Bless all pastors and church workers in their work of tending to the church's lamp through the ministry of Word and Sacrament, that they be faithful in calling us to attention and pointing us to the One for whom we wait with hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Loving Father, in Holy Baptism You have given us the gift of faith, making us

wise to the salvation You have brought in Jesus. Keep us from falling into foolish ways and embolden us to share the blessing of all that Jesus has done with those who have no hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Almighty God, we know neither the day nor the hour that Jesus will return, but You do. Keep us mindful of the ways we have fallen asleep in our waiting, that we remain alert to the ways You are active and ruling in our world, especially through the ones You have given authority to watch and protect us. Be with our president and Congress; all law enforcement, fire protection, and medical personnel; and all who serve in the military. Guide their work of shielding Your people with mercy and justice. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Merciful Lord, Look upon the faces of Your children and all those whose needs we bring before You today. 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*). O Lord, keep them firm in their faith and their trust in You. Grant them relief, healing, and hope. Lord, in Your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Lord of Life, since Jesus died and rose again, You have transformed the ways that we grieve, filling those moments with hope. Be with all who are in mourning, that they be comforted with the sure and certain hope of the resurrection and of the reunion with those who have died in the faith. 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.

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: "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers" *LSB, hymn #515*

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.

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.

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.

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!

See You In Worship Next Week!

After worship prayer
Lord God, You have called Your servants to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown. Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go but only that Your hand is leading us and Your love supporting us; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. AMEN.

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 my mother, Ginny, by Mellody McDonald; also to the glory of God and in memory of our little angel, Winona June Harris, by Kayla Smith & David Harris, brother Asher & sister Veda, Carol Ginger and Kim Smith.

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

Rev. Karl J. Koeppen . . . . . Senior Pastor	**Rev. David Baker** . . . . . Missionary to Mongolia
Rev. Roger A. Drinnon . . . . . Associate Pastor	**Rev. Ross Engel** . . . . . Adopt-A-Chaplain
Mr. Brian Porter . . . . . Principal	**Church & School Office:** 932-0312
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