

God's Service Sunday, November 17, 2024

26th Sunday after Pentecost

ELW Holy Communion Setting Four



WELCOME

November begins with All Saints Day and ends in or near Advent, when we anticipate Christ's coming again. It is fitting, then, that the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised forgiveness. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet together to provoke one another to love.

Let us prepare our hearts and minds to meet Jesus in water, word, bread and wine in God's service this morning as we listen to the prelude.

PRELUDE "Courante" by John Bull

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,
our refuge,
our delight,
our beginning and our end.

Amen.

Let us come in truth before the one who loves us
and has freed us from our sin.

Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,
**we confess that sin has taken hold of us
and we are complicit in its power.**

We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest.

Unbind us and set us free.

**Lead us again to the waters of rebirth,
that we may live just and generous lives
for the good of your world
and the care of our neighbors,
following in the servant way of Jesus.**

Amen.

These words are trustworthy and true:
Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross,
swallowing up death forever.

For his sake, you are † forgiven
and God remembers your sin no more.
Let your heart be glad again,
and rejoice in your salvation.
Amen.

GATHERING SONG “My Lord, What a Morning” (ELW 438)

Refrain

My Lord, what a morning;
my Lord, what a morning;
oh, my Lord, what a morning,
when the stars begin to fall.

1 You will hear the trumpet sound,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

2 You will hear the sinner cry,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

3 You will hear the Christian shout,
to wake the nations underground,
looking to my God's right hand,
when the stars begin to fall. *Refrain*

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GREETING (ELW p. 147)

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 148)

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.

**Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.**

**Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY (ELW p. 150)

Let us pray.

Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

FIRST READING: Daniel 12:1-3

The book of Daniel is an example of apocalyptic literature, which is full of strange visions and symbolism. Arising during times of great persecution, apocalyptic literature is concerned with God's revelation about the end time and the coming kingdom of God, when God will vindicate the righteous who have been persecuted.

A reading from Daniel.

¹“At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ² Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³ Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.”

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 16

¹ Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you;

I have said to the LORD, “You are my Lord, my good above all other.”

² **All my delight is in the godly that are | in the land,
upon those who are noble a- | mong the people.**

³ But those who run after | other gods
shall have their troubles | multiplied.

⁴ **I will not pour out drink offerings | to such gods,
never take their names up- | on my lips. R**

⁵ O LORD, you are my portion | and my cup;
it is you who up- | hold my lot.

⁶ **My boundaries enclose a | pleasant land;
indeed, I have a | rich inheritance.**

⁷ I will bless the LORD who | gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night | after night.

⁸ **I have set the LORD al- | ways before me;
because God is at my right hand, I shall | not be shaken. R**

⁹ My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spir- | it rejoices;
my body also shall | rest in hope.

¹⁰ **For you will not abandon me | to the grave,
nor let your holy one | see the pit.**

¹¹ You will show me the | path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures for- |
evermore. **R**

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25

Images of worship and sacrifice are used throughout Hebrews to highlight what Christ has uniquely accomplished through his death. Because we have received forgiveness through Christ's death, we live with sincere hearts by trusting in God's promises and encouraging love and good works from each other.

A reading from Hebrews.

¹¹ Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹² But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, “he sat down at the right hand of God,” ¹³ and since then has been waiting “until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet.” ¹⁴ For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

¹⁹ Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. ²⁴ And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵ not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

GOSPEL: Mark 13:1-8

In the last week of his life, Jesus warned his disciples concerning trials that were to come upon them and upon the world. He exhorts the listener: Do not be alarmed.

The holy gospel according to Mark.

Glory to you, O Lord.

¹ As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!” ² Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.”

³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?” ⁵ Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and they will lead many astray. ⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON (ELW p. 151)

HYMN OF THE DAY “O God of Love, O King of Peace” (ELW 749)

1 O God of love, O King of peace,
make wars throughout the world to cease;
our greed and sinful wrath restrain.
Give peace, O God, give peace again.

2 Remember, Lord, your works of old,
the wonders that our elders told;
remember not our sins' deep stain.
Give peace, O God, give peace again.

3 Whom shall we trust but you, O Lord?
Where rest but on your faithful word?
None ever called on you in vain.
Give peace, O God, give peace again.

4 Where saints and angels dwell above
 all hearts are knit in holy love;
 oh, bind us in that heav'nly chain.
 Give peace, O God, give peace again.

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APOSTLES' CREED (ELW p. 105)

**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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

O God, in the washing of water you set us free from the power of sin and death. Unite all the baptized in the covenant you have made with us, as we strive for your justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

By your merciful might you sustain all creation. Stir us from complacency with the harm we inflict on the earth, and urge us to adopt sustainable ways of life that protect and restore our planet. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

With a selfless power you protect all who take refuge in you. As nations rise against nations, defend all who are displaced or affected by war or violence (*especially* in Israel, Gaza, Lebanon, Iran, Ukraine and Russia). Empower all people and nations to pursue peace. Merciful God,
receive our prayer.

In your presence you give fullness of joy. Care for all for whom joy feels distant. Be present with persons experiencing depression, anxiety, addiction, or any mental illness. We ask your healing and wholeness for Shirley, Anna, Kay, Carolyn, Cheryl, Gene, Darla, Jim, Carol, the family of Lars Trahnstrom, families in our community who endure hunger, those who seek asylum or citizenship, our beloved for whom death is near, and these others we name now in our hearts and with our voices. (pause for names to be spoken). Watch over and uphold them. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

Through the years you have gathered your church and this community for worship, fellowship, formation, and service. Enable us to look beyond the walls of our building to perceive where you are calling us forward. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

With thanksgiving we remember (*Elizabeth of Hungary and all*) saints and angels who delight in your everlasting presence. As their lives inspire ours, provoke us always to love, holding fast to the confession of our hope in you. Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE (ELW p. 152)

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

SHARING GOD'S ABUNDANCE

Generous God, you graciously provide us with abundantly more than what we need and place us as stewards of it all. Remove our fear that we might trust in you, opening our own hands to share with the world the abundant goodness that flows from you.

If you have abundance to share this morning as offering, raise your hand and an usher will come by to collect it. If you are joining us online you may give at landerlutherans.org

Let us generously steward what God provides.

OFFERING MUSIC “Canticle of the Turning” arr. by Miller

SETTING OF THE TABLE “I Come with Joy” (ELW 482)

1 I come with joy, a child of God,
forgiven, loved, and free,
the life of Jesus to recall
in love laid down for me,

in love laid down for me.

- 2 I come with Christians far and near
to find, as all are fed,
the new community of love
in Christ's communion bread,
in Christ's communion bread.
- 3 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,
and strangers now are friends,
and strangers now are friends.
- 4 The Spirit of the risen Christ,
unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known,
alive among us here,
alive among us here.
- 5 Together met, together bound
by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world
the love that makes us one,
the love that makes us one.

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OFFERING PRAYER

Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup,
you offered yourself in love for the world,
and in this meal you nourish us with your life.
Fill us with your abundance,
that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger,
trusting in your name.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

DIALOGUE (ELW p. 152)

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE (ELW p. 153)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 153)

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE (ELW p. 153)

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:
the promise to Israel,
the rescue from Egypt,
the gift of the promised land,
the words of the prophets;
and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection,
we await his coming in power
to share with us the great and promised feast.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
that we who share in Christ's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.
Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants
of every time and every place,
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.
Through him, with him, in him,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,
now and forever.
Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (ELW p. 154)

Gathered into one 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Receive who you are; Become what you receive. Come to this table, you who are strong in faith and you who seek building up. You who have been to this sacrament often, and you who have not been for some time. You who have tried to follow Jesus and you who have failed. Come. It is Christ who bids us to meet him here with the saints of all times and all places and there is a place set just for you saint and sinner at his table. Amen.

COMMUNION (ELW p. 154)

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC "Morning Has Broken" arr. by Ashdown

COMMUNION SONG

**Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Faithful God,
you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink

in the body and blood of your Son.
Now send us out to labor with you,
in service to the world you have made,
and among the people you have made your home,
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, you took the form of a servant, offering yourself as food, comfort, and strength to a sick and hurting world. Anoint with a servant heart those who take your word and sacrament to our sisters and brothers in their homes/in prisons/in hospitals. Grant grace, mercy, healing, and hope to those who feast on your body and blood and receive your words of new life. May we all recognize that we have a place and a home in the body of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BLESSING

And now as you go on your way, may Christ go with you.
May he go before you to lead you,
behind you to encourage you,
beside you to befriend you,
above you to watch over you,
and always, always within you to give you his peace.
In the name of the Father, +the Son and the Holy Spirit, amen.

SENDING SONG “Canticle of the Turning” (ELW 723)

1 My soul cries out with a joyful shout
that the God of my heart is great,
and my spirit sings of the wondrous things
that you bring to the ones who wait.
You fixed your sight on your servant's plight,
and my weakness you did not spurn,
so from east to west shall my name be blest.
Could the world be about to turn?

Refrain

My heart shall sing of the day you bring.

Let the fires of your justice burn.
Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,
and the world is about to turn.

2 Though I am small, my God, my all,
you work great things in me,
and your mercy will last from the depths of the past
to the end of the age to be.
Your very name puts the proud to shame,
and to those who would for you yearn,
you will show your might, put the strong to flight,
for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*

3 From the halls of pow'r to the fortress tow'r,
not a stone will be left on stone.
Let the king beware for your justice tears
ev'ry tyrant from his throne.
The hungry poor shall weep no more,
for the food they can never earn;
there are tables spread, ev'ry mouth be fed,
for the world is about to turn. *Refrain*

4 Though the nations rage from age to age,
we remember who holds us fast:
God's mercy must deliver us
from the conqueror's crushing grasp.
This saving word that our forebears heard
is the promise which holds us bound,
till the spear and rod can be crushed by God,
who is turning the world around. *Refrain*

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Upcoming Commemorations

Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died 1231 Sunday, November 17, 2024

Born in Hungary, Elizabeth was betrothed to the son of the Landgrave of Thuringia, and at age four was taken to be raised with him at the Wartburg Castle. Ten years later they were married. She was very generous to the poor, and after her husband's death she lived in cruel hardship until her own death at age twenty-four.

Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100

Saturday, November 23, 2024

Clement was the third bishop of Rome. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the congregation in Corinth, still struggling with the same problems that led to Paul's letters to them. As did Paul, he focused on the need for love among Christians.

Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, died 1927

Saturday, November 23, 2024

Pro grew up in a time when the Mexican revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the wealthy. He became a Jesuit priest, and worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Falsely accused of throwing a bomb at a government official, he was executed, but not before crying out "Long live Christ the King!"

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