

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2020

Faith Lutheran Church

Online

Georgetown, TX 78628

512-863-7332

flcms.org

(The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod)

WELCOME

INVOCATION:

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP: *Psalm 90:1-2*

Pastor: Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.

People: Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever You had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting You are God

Pastor: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

People: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

OPENING HYMN: “God Has Spoken by His Prophets” (LSB, # 583)

God has spoken by His prophets,
Spoken His unchanging Word;
Each from age to age proclaiming
God, the one, the righteous Lord.
In the world’s despair and turmoil,
One firm anchor holds us fast:
God is king, His throne eternal;
God the first, and God the last.

God has spoken by Christ Jesus,
Christ, the everlasting Son,
Brightness of the Father’s glory,
With the Father ever one;
Spoken by the Word Incarnate,
God of God, before time was;
Light of Light, to earth descending,

He reveals our God to us.
God is speaking by His Spirit,
Speaking to our hearts again,
In the ageless Word declaring
His own message, now as then.
Through the rise and fall of nations
One sure faith yet standing fast;
God abides, His Word unchanging;
God the first, and God the last.

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CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION:

*Pastor: 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.*

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

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

**People: 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.**

*Pastor: 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.*

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

Pastor: Let us pray.

People: Lord of time and eternity, You are everlasting and Your word is forever true. That we may honor You now and forever, arm us by Your Spirit for faithful and fruitful discipleship that actively awaits the return of Your Son, Jesus Christ, in Whose name we pray. Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING: *Zephaniah 1:7–16*

Be silent before the Lord God!

For the day of the Lord is near;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated His guests.

And 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.

On that day I will punish

everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.

"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.

Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!

For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.

At 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.'

Their 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."

The 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.
A 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,
a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

RESPONSORY: Psalm 90:11-12

*Lector: Who considers the power of Your anger,
and Your wrath according to the fear of You?*

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

EPISTLE READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While 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. But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But 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. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, Who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with Him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

RESPONSORY: Psalm 90:3-4

Lector: You return man to dust and say, "Return, O children of man!"

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

Lector: Please rise, as you are able.

Lector: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter:

People: Glory to You, O Lord!

GOSPEL READING: *Matthew 25:14–30*

[Jesus said:] “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And 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.’ His 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.’ And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’ His 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.’ He 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, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ But 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? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For 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. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

Lector: This is the Gospel of our Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ!

Lector: We confess together our Christian faith, using the Apostles' Creed

CONFESSION OF FAITH: The Apostles' Creed

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!

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The Children's Message will return to its regularly scheduled place when we are able to increase the length of the worship service. Until then, it is available online at www.flcms.org/index.php/media/sermons.

HYMN: "Awake, O Sleeper, Rise from Death" (LSB, #697)

Awake, O sleeper, rise from death,
And Christ shall give you light;
So learn His love, its length and breadth,
Its fullness, depth, and height.

To us on earth He came to bring
From sin and fear release,
To give the Spirit's unity,
The very bond of peace.

Then walk in love as Christ has loved,
Who died that He might save;
With kind and gentle hearts forgive
As God in Christ forgave.

For us Christ lived, for us He died,
And conquered in the strife;
Awake, arise, go forth in faith,
And Christ shall give you life.

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SERMON: “Plugged In” (1 Thessalonians 5:1-11)

OFFERTORY:

While the Coronavirus may have changed the way we come through the front doors of church, thanks be to God it has not prevented us from coming to Church! Please consider, as you are able, returning thanks and giving today at www.flcms.org/index.php/give.

OFFERTORY HYMN: “Rise! To Arms! With Prayer Employ You ” (LSB, #668, verse 3)

Wisely fight, for time is fleeting;
The hours of grace are fast retreating;
Short, short is this our earthly way.
When the Lord the dead will waken
And sinners all by fear are shaken,
The saints with joy will greet that day.
Praise God, our triumph's sure.
We need not long endure
Scorn and trial.
Our Savior King
His own will bring
To that great glory which we sing.

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PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

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.

BENEDICTION: 2 Corinthians 13:14

Pastor: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: “Be Strong in the Lord ” (LSB, #665, verses 1, 4, and 5; Tune: Hanover)

Be strong in the Lord
In armor of light,
With helmet and sword,
With shield for the fight;
On prayer be dependent,
Be belted and shod,
In breastplate resplendent:
The armor of God.

Though Satan presume
To test you and try,
In helmet and plume
Your head shall be high;
Beset by temptation
Be true to your Lord,
Your helmet salvation
And Scripture your sword.

So wield well your blade,
Rejoice in its pow'rs,
Fight on undismayed
For Jesus is ours!
Then in Him victorious
Your armor lay down,
To praise, ever glorious,
His cross and His crown.

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DISMISSAL:

Please be seated
and kindly wait for an usher to dismiss your row.

+ † +

Go in peace and serve the Lord!

In Christian Service:

All disciples of the Lord Jesus

with

Proclaimer – Rev. Bill Crowe

Liturgist – Rev. Walt Pohland

Online Musicians:

Organ, Vocals, Guitar – Adam Perez

Vocals, Piano – Amanda Theilen

Vocals – Lauren Brezina

Live Musicians:

Organist – Phyllis Draheim

Vocals – Amanda Theilen, Lauren Brezina

Piano – Austin Angerman

Lay Readers:

Online Reader – Al Basler

9:30 Reader – Al Basler

11:00 Reader – Susan Schmid

Children's Chapel:

DCE Jonathan Loesch, DCE Austin Angerman