

**November 19, 2023, 10:30 am**

**The 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost**

**ELW Setting One**



**Our Saviour**

**Lutheran Church**

**Warrenton, VA**

**[OSLC-warrenton.org](http://OSLC-warrenton.org)**

## GATHERING

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

### PRELUDE

*Please observe a prayerful silence as we prepare to worship.*

### Confession and Forgiveness

*The assembly stands and turns to face the cross at the entrance.*

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✝ and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

Let us pray. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.**

**Amen.**

*The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.*

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

**GATHERING SONG**

**O GOD, OUR HELP IN AGES PAST (1,4,5 & 6)**

**#632**

*Hymn numbers (#) are for the red hymnal, Evangelical Lutheran Worship.*

- 1 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast,  
and our eternal home:
  
- 4 A thousand ages in your sight  
are like an evening gone,  
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.
  
- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
bears all our years away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream  
dies at the op'ning day.
  
- 6 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
still be our guard while troubles last and our eternal home.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

**.GREETING**

*The presiding minister greets the assembly in the words of 2 Corinthians 13:4.*

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.**

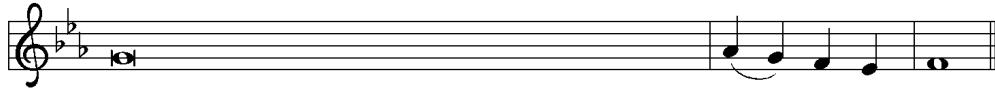
# KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



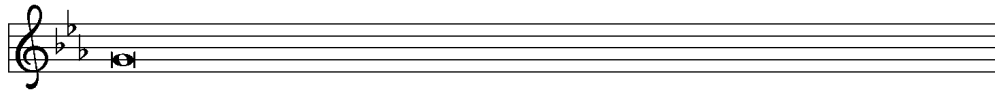
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



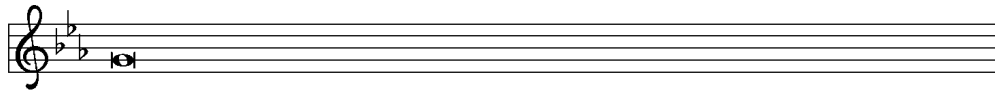
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

*The presiding minister leads the prayer of the day.*

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**WORD**

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

**CHILDREN’S SERMON THIS LITTLE LIGHT OF MINE**

**#677**

*Children are invited to come to the front for a brief lesson while we all sing.*

This little light of mine, I’m goin’-a let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I’m goin’-a let it shine.  
This little light of mine, I’m goin’-a let it shine.  
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

**HANDBELL ANTHEM**

**O GOD BEYOND ALL PRAISING**

**GUSTAV HOLST**

**FIRST READING: ZEPHANIAH 1:7, 12-18**

A reading from Zephaniah.

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD!  
For the day of the LORD is at hand;  
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,  
he has consecrated his guests.

<sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,  
and I will punish the people  
who rest complacently on their dregs,  
those who say in their hearts,  
“The LORD will not do good,  
nor will he do harm.”

<sup>13</sup>Their wealth 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.

<sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near,  
near and hastening fast;  
the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter,  
the warrior cries aloud there.

<sup>15</sup>That day will be a day of wrath,  
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,  
<sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry  
against the fortified cities  
and against the lofty battlements.

<sup>17</sup>I will bring such distress upon people  
that they shall walk like the blind;  
because they have sinned against the LORD,  
their blood shall be poured out like dust,  
and their flesh like dung.

<sup>18</sup>Neither their silver nor their gold  
will be able to save them  
on the day of the LORD's wrath;  
in the fire of his passion  
the whole earth shall be consumed;  
for a full, a terrible end  
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **PSALM 90:1-8 [9-11] 12**

<sup>1</sup>Lord, you have been our refuge  
from one generation to another.

<sup>2</sup>**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were  
born,**

**from age to age you are God.**

<sup>3</sup>You turn us back to the dust and say,  
"Turn back, O children of earth."

<sup>4</sup>**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past  
and like a watch in the night;**

<sup>5</sup>you sweep them away like a dream,  
they fade away suddenly like the grass:

<sup>6</sup>**in the morning it is green and flourishes;  
in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

<sup>7</sup>For we are consumed by your anger;  
we are afraid because of your wrath.

<sup>8</sup>**Our iniquities you have set before you,  
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

<sup>9</sup>When you are angry, all our days are gone;  
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

<sup>10</sup>**The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;  
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly  
and we are gone.**

<sup>11</sup>Who regards the power of your wrath?  
Who rightly fears your indignation?

<sup>12</sup>**So teach us to number our days  
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

A reading from the first letter to the Church at Thessalonica.

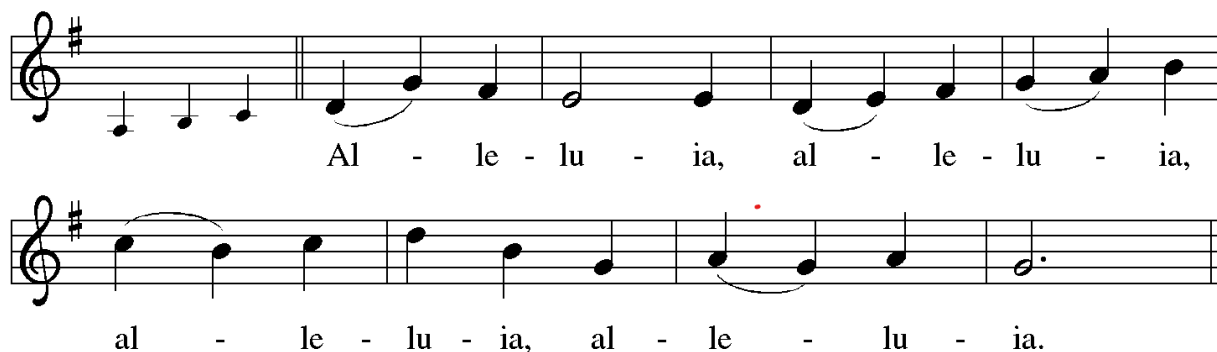
<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (JOHN 15:4, 5)

Alleluia. Abide in me as I abide in you; those who abide in me bear much fruit. **Alleluia.**



The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the acclamation, with lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,'. The second staff continues the melody for the second line, with lyrics 'al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.' The music is written in a simple, melodic style with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp.

## GOSPEL: MATTHEW 25:14-30

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>14</sup>“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ <sup>26</sup>But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have



received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

The gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

**LORD OF LIGHT (1,2 & 4)**

**#688**

1 Lord of light, your name outshining  
all the stars and suns of space,  
use our talents in your kingdom  
as the servants of your grace;  
use us to fulfill your purpose  
in the gift of Christ your Son:

*Refrain*

Father, as in highest heaven,  
so on earth your will be done.

2 By the toil of faithful workers  
in some far outlying field,  
by the courage where the radiance  
of the cross is still revealed,  
by the victories of meekness,  
through reproach and suff'ring won: *Refrain*

4 By the prayers of faithful watchers,  
never silent day or night;  
by the cross of Jesus, bringing  
peace to all and healing light;  
by the love that passes knowledge,  
making all your children one: *Refrain*

Text: Howell E. Lewis, 1860-1953, alt.  
Text © Union of Welsh Independents

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*The assisting minister leads the prayers for those in need.*

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

*A brief silence.*

Gracious God, you give talents and gifts to all your people, and you equip the church to serve. Turn us from fear and self-serving ways, that we use our talents to glorify you and encourage our neighbor. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the faith formation ministries of our church. Give to all children, youth, and adults who study your word the breastplate of faith and love. Shape us by your love and show us how to encourage one another. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

O God, in whom we hope, we pray for all who are in need. Provide for those who experience homelessness or hunger, support the under- or unemployed, and comfort any who are suffering this day *especially* the Warming Center at St. Luke's Lutheran Church in Culpepper. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

You teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. Where there is sickness or sorrow, bring healing, and where there is loneliness, reveal your love in community. We remember before you (especially). Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Gracious God, you are faithful in all generations. For the promise of life and rest and for the witness of those who have died in faith (especially) we praise your goodness. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

## **THE PEACE**

The peace of the Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

*The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace. Online worshipers may greet one another in the "Comments" section.*

## MEAL

*God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.*

### OFFERING

*While the organ plays, an offering is gathered for the mission of the church.*

### OFFERTORY HYMN PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSING FLOW

*As the offering is brought forward, the assembly stands.*

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. Amen.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

### OFFERING PRAYER

*The assisting minister may lead the following prayer.*

Let us pray together.

**God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.  
Amen.**

### DIALOGUE

*The presiding minister greets the assembly and invites all present to give thanks.*

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

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

*The assembly sings the Sanctus, based on Isaiah 6:1-8 and Matthew 21:9*

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of  
pow-er and might, heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
san - na in the high-est. Blessed is he who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

## THANKSGIVING PRAYER

*Those with hearing difficulty may follow the text below as the presider offers a sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving.*

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal: surrounded by evil and bordered by death we appeal to you, our Sovereign, our Wisdom, and our Judge.

We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace and promised an end to injustice and harm.

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.

Remembering, therefore, the sacrifice of his life and death and the victory of his resurrection, we await with all the saints his loving redemption of our suffering world.

Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son: teach us your mercy and justice, and make all things new in Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

**Amen**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

*The presiding minister may introduce the Lord's Prayer.*

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**

*The presiding minister addresses the assembly.*

There is a place for you at the banquet.

**Let us come and feast at Jesus' table.**

*The assembly may be seated.*

**LAMB OF GOD**

*We sing the canticle Agnus Dei, based on John 1:29*

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have  
mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the  
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a -  
way the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

## **COMMUNION**

*When invited, gather at the altar, standing or kneeling. Receive the Body of Christ in your hand. When the cup is offered, you may drink from it or dip the bread into it. If you prefer not to receive one or both elements, indicate this by crossing your arms in front of your chest and the minister will offer you a blessing.*

*If you require a gluten free wafer, please let the pastor know before the service. If you desire to have the sacrament brought to your seat, simply notify an usher.*

*We believe that Christ is truly present in the elements of bread and wine. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive him there. To learn about being baptized, speak to a pastor.*

## **MUSIC DURING COMMUNION**

*The organ plays as the people come forward.*

## **BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

**Amen**

## **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*The assisting minister leads the prayer after communion.*

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

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

## **BLESSING**

*The presiding minister proclaims God's blessing.*

Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SENDING SONG      I WANT TO WALK AS A CHILD OF THE LIGHT      #ELW 815**

1      I want to walk as a child of the light.  
I want to follow Jesus.  
God set the stars to give light to the world.  
The star of my life is Jesus.

*Refrain*

In him there is no darkness at all.  
The night and the day are both alike.  
The Lamb is the light of the city of God.  
Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

2      I want to see the brightness of God.  
I want to look at Jesus.  
Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,  
and show me the way to the Father. *Refrain*

3      I'm looking for the coming of Christ.  
I want to be with Jesus.  
When we have run with patience the race,  
we shall know the joy of Jesus. *Refrain*

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934  
TEXT © 1970, 1975 CELEB

**DISMISSAL**

*The assisting minister may send the assembly into mission.*

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

## UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

### **Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100**

**Thursday, November 23, 2023**

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**

**Thursday, November 23, 2023**

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!"

### **Justus Falckner, died 1723; Jehu Jones, died 1852; William Passavant, died 1894; pastors in North America**

**Friday, November 24, 2023**

Not only was Falckner the first Lutheran ordained in North America, but he published a catechism which was the first Lutheran book published on the continent. Jones was the Lutheran church's first African American pastor and carried out missionary work in Philadelphia which led to the formation there of the first African American Lutheran congregation (St. Paul's). William Passavant helped to establish hospitals and orphanages in a number of cities and was the first to introduce deaconesses to the work of hospitals in the United States.

### **Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, died 1748**

**Saturday, November 25, 2023**

**Thought by many to be the greatest hymnwriter in the English language, Watts as a youth was critical of the quality of the metrical psalter of the time. He wrote about 600 hymns—many based on the psalms, but others that are not.**

*Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS009239. New Revised Standard Version Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.*

*Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, admin Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission. O God Beyond All Praising: Gustav Holst. Arranged by Diane McAninch © 2001 Agape (a div. of Hope Publishing Company) Carol Stream, Illinois 69188. International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved.*