

Our Saviour

Lutheran Church

Your
TALENT
*is God's gift
to you.
What you do with it
is your gift
back to God.*
Leo Buscaglia

Saturday Worship † 18 November 2023
25th Saturday after Pentecost † Lectionary 33 A

6194 Dumfries Rd. Warrenton, VA 20187 + 540.347.3224. + www.oslc-warrenton.org

GATHERING

Gathering Song

O Christ the Same

ELW760

O Christ the same, through all our story's pages -
Our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears;
Eternal Lord, the king of all the ages,
Unchanging still amid the passing years:
O living Word, the source of all creation,
Who spread the skies and set the stars a-blaze;
O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation,
We bring our thanks for all our yesterdays.

O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing
our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide;
Still as of old upon your body bearing
the marks of love in triumph glorified:
O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heaven -
O Prince of life, in all your saving power;
O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given:
we bring our thanks for this the present hour.

O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping
Our lives and loves, our days and years remain;
Our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping,
Our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain:
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows,
For all our hopes when earth shall fade and flee;
O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows,
We bring our thanks for all that is to be.

Confession and Forgiveness

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

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

C **Amen.**

P Let us bow before God in humility, confessing our sin.

Holy One,

C **we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community.**

Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation.

Amen.

P Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through † Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice!

Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

C **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

L Let us pray.

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.

C **Amen.**

Children's Message

Children come forward during "This Little Light of Mine".

WORD

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

L A reading from the prophet Zephaniah.

⁷Be 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.

¹²At 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.”

¹³Their 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.

¹⁴The 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.

¹⁵That 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,
¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷ 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.

¹⁸Neither 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.

L The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12

L We will read the Psalm responsively. The congregation will read the sections in bold print.

¹Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.

²**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the
earth were born, from age to age you are God.**

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

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

⁵you sweep them away like a dream,
they fade away suddenly like the grass:

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

⁷For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.

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

⁹When you are angry, all our days are gone;

we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

¹⁰The 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.

¹¹Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?

¹²So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

L A reading from First Thessalonians.

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When 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! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But 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. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

L The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

The congregation remains seated during the multi-voice presentation of the lesson.

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus: ¹⁴*This is how it will be.* It will be like a landowner who is going on a trip. He instructed his slaves about caring for his property. ¹⁵He gave five talents to one slave, two to the next, and then one talent to the last slave—each according to his ability. Then the man left.

¹⁶Promptly the man who had been given five talents went out and bartered and sold and turned his five talents into ten. ¹⁷And the one who had received two talents *went to the market and* turned his two into four. ¹⁸And the slave who had received just one talent? He dug a hole in the ground and buried his master's money there.

¹⁹Eventually the master came back from his travels, *found his slaves*, and settled up with them. ²⁰The slave who had been given five talents came forward and told his master how he'd turned five into ten; *then he handed the whole lot over to his master.*

Master: ²¹Excellent. *You've proved yourself not only clever but loyal.* You've executed a rather small task masterfully, so now I am going to put you in charge of something larger. *But before you go back to work, come join my great feast and celebration.*

Jesus: ²²Then the slave who had been given two talents came forward and told his master how he'd turned two into four, *and he handed all four talents to his master.*

Master: ²³Excellent. *You've proved yourself not only clever but loyal.* You've executed a rather small task masterfully, so now I am going to put you in charge of something larger. *But*

before you go back to work, come join my great feast and celebration.

Jesus: ²⁴Finally the man who had been given one talent came forward.

Servant: Master, I know you are a hard man, *difficult in every way. You can make a healthy sum when others would fail.* You profit when other people are doing the work. You grow rich on the backs of others. ²⁵So I was afraid, *dug a hole*, and hid the talent in the ground. Here it is. You can have it.

Jesus: ²⁶*The master was furious.*

Master: You are a pathetic excuse for a servant! *You have disproved my trust in you and squandered my generosity.* You know I always make a profit! ²⁷You could have at least put this talent in the bank; then I could have earned a little interest on it! ²⁸Take that one talent away, and give it to the servant who doubled my money from five to ten.

Jesus: ²⁹You see, everything was taken away from the man who had nothing, but the man who had something got even more. ³⁰And as for the slave who made no profit *but buried his talent in the ground?* His master ordered his slaves to tie him up and throw him outside into the utter darkness where there is miserable mourning and great fear.

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

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

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

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

Prayers of the People

When prompted, everyone is encouraged to call out names of people, places or organizations for which they are thankful or that are in need of God's care.

The minister begins the prayers:

P Remembering the caring and generous works of God, we pray for the church, creation, and the needs of our neighbors.

Hear now the names we speak before you and each other.

The minister concludes the prayers:

P Into your hands, O God, we commend those for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

C Amen.

MEAL

Sharing Our Gifts

- L Let us offer back to God what God has first given us: ourselves, our time and our possessions, signs of his gracious love.

Our offerings support the work of the church here and around the world. Please pass the baskets from front to back. You may also make an offering online at www.oslc-warrenton.org by clicking the “DONATE” tab on the homepage. Thank you!

Offertory Song *O God Beyond All Praising* Spiritoso Ringers

Offering Prayer

- L Let us pray together.
C **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

- P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Thanksgiving at the Table

P Holy God, mighty and merciful,
C **your mercy endures forever.**

P By your promise you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures, granting them life and calling them to flourish. You bound yourself to your people of old, showing them steadfast love and calling them to be a light to the nations. Holy God, mighty and merciful,
C **your mercy endures forever.**

P By your promise, you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved, who in the night in which he was betrayed, 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.

With this bread and cup we remember his life laid down and lifted up; Holy God, mighty and merciful,
C **your mercy endures forever.**

P Send your Holy Spirit upon us and these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be for us the Body and Blood of your Son. Holy God, mighty and merciful,
C **your mercy endures forever.**

P With earth and its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, with [*... and*] all the saints, we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus, in your Spirit, now and forever.
C **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer

P Let us pray as our Savior taught us.

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.

Sharing Holy Communion

*All baptized Christians are invited to share Christ's Body.
If you wish to receive Holy Communion, please come
forward and stand or kneel around the altar.*

Communion Song

Our Father

The words of Christ passed down through generations.
The Son of God teaching us to pray.
Echoed words,
Father have Your will, Your way in me
Completely.

We wholly trust You're faithful in provision.
Amazing grace, mercy for our sins.
May we forgive
The way that You've forgiven us, oh Lord
So we can sing.

Refrain:

Our Father, hallowed be Your Name.
Forever our God be exalted.
Your kingdom come and in us, let Your will be done,
Our Father.

Lead us from the valley of temptation.
Deliver us from the evil one.
Lord, You reign and here we stand,
Victorious in Your Name,
Together we pray. *(Refrain)*

Yours is the kingdom and power and glory,
God of authority, ancient of days.
Yours is the wisdom and honour
Forever and always (and always)
We pray. *(Repeat)*
(Refrain 2x)

We pray, our Father. We pray, our Father.

Prayer After Communion

L 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.

C Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

P May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

The blessing of God, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

C Amen.

Sending Song

I'll Fly Away

Some glad morning when this life is o'er, I'll fly away;
To a home on God's celestial shore, I'll fly away.

Chorus:

I'll fly away, O glory, I'll fly away.
When I die, hallelujah, by and by,
I'll fly away.

When the shadows of this life have grown, I'll fly away.
Like a bird from prison bars has flown, I'll fly away.

(Chorus)

Just a few more weary days and then, I'll fly away.
To a land where joys shall never end, I'll fly away.

(Chorus)

Dismissal

L Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Copyright Acknowledgements

Images

Cover art from: <http://bitsofpositivity.com/2010/07/28/your-talent-wordart-freebie/>

Music

O Christ the Same: Text: © Hope Publishing Company (ASCAP), Music: Public Domain

Lord of Light: Text © Union of Welsh Independents | Music © 1942, Ren. 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

The Joy of the Lord: Twila Paris © 1991 Ariose Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | Mountain Spring Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com | CCLI License # 2800659 | CCLI Song # 801765

Our Father: Brooke Ligertwood, Jonas Myrin, Scott Ligertwood © 2014 Hillsong MP Songs (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | Hillsong Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) | For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com | CCLI License # 2800659 | CCLI Song # 7019980

I'll Fly Away: Albert E. Brumley © Words: 1932 Hartford Music Company. Renewed 1960 Albert E. Brumley And Sons (Admin. by ClearBox Rights, LLC) | Music: 1932 Hartford Music Company. Renewed 1960 Albert E. Brumley And Sons (Admin. by ClearBox Rights, LLC) | For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com | CCLI License # 2800659 | CCLI Song # 26399

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.

Bible Readings

Gospel Reading from The Voice Bible © 2012 Thomas Nelson, Inc. The Voice™ translation © 2012 Ecclesia Bible Society All rights reserved.

Liturgical Elements

sundaysandseasons.com © 2002 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Some liturgical material © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS009239

Thanksgiving at the Table: All Creation Sings Form E. From sundaysandseasons.com/Library © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.