



Sunday, November 16th, 2025

23rd Sunday after Pentecost

The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the meantime.

The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Do not be weary in doing what is right."

(+ invites you to rise in body or in spirit)

GATHERING

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

Prelude

Foundation

Clarence Smith

by John Behnke

Welcome and Announcements

Pr. Neal Cannon

Confession and Forgiveness

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.

Baptized into Christ, let us confess our sin.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Merciful God,
**you free us to love others,
but we neglect our neighbors and follow our own way.
You lead us by the Spirit of joy and peace,
but we turn away from the abundant life you offer.
You surround us with patience, kindness,
and generosity,
but we grow weary in doing what is right.
In your mercy, forgive us.
Do not give up on us.
Heal us, break our bonds,
and show us the path of life.**

Amen.

You belong to Christ Jesus
and you are God's children through faith.
In the cross of ✝ Christ,
and through the power of the Holy Spirit,
your sins are forgiven.
Clothed with Christ, you are a new creation.
Amen.

+Gathering Hymn

Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer

ELW 618



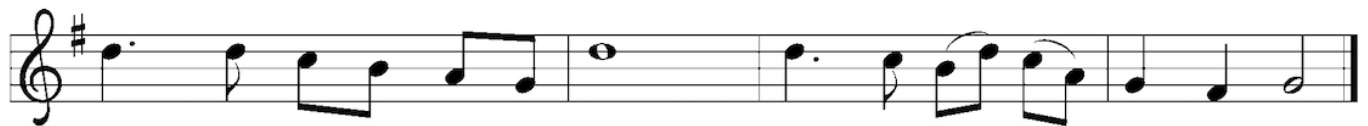
1 Guide me ev - er, great Re - deem - er, pil - grim through this
2 O - pen now the crys - tal foun - tain where the heal - ing
3 When I tread the verge of Jor - dan, bid my anx - ious



bar - ren land. I am weak, but you are might - y; hold me
wa - ters flow; let the fire and cloud - y pil - lar lead me
fears sub - side; death of death and hell's de - struc - tion, land me



with your pow'r - ful hand. Bread of heav - en, bread of heav - en,
all my jour - ney through. Strong de - liv - 'rer, strong de - liv - 'rer,
safe on Ca - naan's side. Songs and prais - es, songs and prais - es



feed me now and ev - er - more, feed me now and ev - er - more.
shield me with your might - y arm, shield me with your might - y arm.
I will raise for - ev - er - more, I will raise for - ev - er - more.

+Greeting

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.**

+Prayer of the Day

O God, the protector of all who trust in you, without you nothing is strong, nothing is holy. Embrace us with your mercy, that with you as our ruler and guide, we may live through what is temporary without losing what is eternal, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

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

First Reading

2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

A reading from the second letter of Paul to the Thessalonians, the third chapter.

⁶ Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. ⁷ For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, ⁸ and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. ⁹ This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. ¹⁰ For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. ¹¹ For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. ¹² Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. ¹³ Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

+Gospel Acclamation



Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Al-le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The musical score is written for four staves in two systems. Each system has a soprano and alto staff (treble clef) and a tenor and bass staff (bass clef). The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The melody is simple and repetitive, with the lyrics 'Al-le - lu - ia' repeated three times. The lyrics are written below the staves, with hyphens indicating the syllables are spread across multiple notes.

+Gospel Reading

Luke 21:5-19

The Holy Gospel according to the book of Luke, the twenty-first chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

⁵ When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, [Jesus] said, ⁶ “As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down.”

⁷ They asked him, “Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?” ⁸ And he said, “Beware that you are not led astray, for many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is near!’ Do not go after them.

⁹ “When you hear of wars and insurrections, do not be terrified, for these things must take place first, but the end will not follow immediately.” ¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation and kingdom against kingdom; ¹¹ there will be great earthquakes and in various places famines and plagues, and there will be dreadful portents and great signs from heaven.

¹² “But before all this occurs, they will arrest you and persecute you; they will hand you over to synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors because of my name. ¹³ This will give you an opportunity to testify. ¹⁴ So make up your minds not to prepare your defense in advance, ¹⁵ for I will give you words and a wisdom that none of your opponents will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be betrayed even by parents and siblings, by relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all because of my name. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your souls.”

The Gospel of our Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

+Hymn of the Day

How Firm a Foundation

ELW 796



1 How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,
 2 "Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dis - mayed,
 3 "When through fi - 'ry tri - als your path - way shall lie,
 4 "Through - out all their life - time my peo - ple shall prove



is laid for your faith in Christ Je - sus, the Word!
 for I am your God and will still give you aid;
 my grace, all - suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply.
 my sov - 'reign, e - ter - nal, un - change - a - ble love;



What more can he say than to you he has said
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,
 The flames shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign
 and then, when gray hairs shall their tem - ples a - dorn,



who un - to the Sav - ior for ref - uge have fled?
 up - held by my righ - teous, om - nip - o - tent hand."
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine."
 like lambs they shall still in my bo - som be borne."

Prayers of the People

After each prayer petition, you will hear “Hear us, O God”, Please respond, “Your mercy is great”.

Today and throughout the week, please keep the following people in your prayers:

Mark Thorson, Luther Jacobson, Bev Gulbrandson, Trevor Pettigrew, Betty Hassenstab, Mark Hassenstab, Bernice Deike, Denise Smith, Orv Holland, Jill Heinecke, Joan Thompson,

We also pray for the families of those who have died this past month:

Dorothy Olson, Myrna Luse, Curt Provo

+Passing of the Peace

We invite you to share a greeting with those around you.

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Stewardship Moment

Commitment Sunday Liturgy

Members are invited to place their commitment cards into the offering basket as an act of worship and love. This is our moment to say “yes” to God’s call. We bring our commitments and our lives, trusting that God will use them for good in the world.

Our stewardship culminates in offering our one life—our time, talents, and treasures—for God’s purposes in the world. God calls us to live this one life in love and service, as a living offering.

Today we respond to God’s generosity by offering our pledges and commitments for the coming year. These are not merely financial gifts, but acts of faith—symbols of our trust in God’s provision and our desire to share in God’s work of love and justice.

We gather in gratitude, for all that God has done.

We bring our hearts and hands in thanksgiving.

God’s grace overflows, and we are called to respond with joy.

We come to offer our gifts, our lives, and our commitment to God’s work.

Let us worship God—Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer.

Amen.

Offering

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. Offerings of check or cash may be placed in a basket near the ushers as you depart.

*Do you want to make a donation, but don't have cash or a checkbook handy?
Scan the QR code with a smartphone to make an electronic donation.*



Musical Offering

A Satisfied Mind
Wayne Schmieg, soloist

Clarence Smith

Prayer of Dedication for Offering and Commitment Cards

God of abundance,
receive these commitments as signs of our faith and gratitude.
Bless each household and every gift offered today.
May our giving reflect your love
and empower your church to serve with compassion and joy.
Through Christ our Lord.
Amen.

MEAL

Holy Communion

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.

Proper 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:

Sanctus



Thanksgiving at the Table

Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

Give us today our daily bread.

**Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.**

**Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

The kingdom of God is set before you.

Eat and rejoice.

For those participating online or with individual communion kits, the pastor will now offer the words of institution for you. The remaining assembly will be invited forward forward after the song Lamb of God. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. Please indicate to your usher if you wish communion to be brought to you.

Lamb of God

Je - sus, Lamb of God, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins, have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world,

grant us peace, grant us peace.

Communion Hymn

ELW 773 Precious Lord

ELW 744 Lord, Be Glorified

Post-Communion Blessing and Prayer

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. **Amen.**

Mothering God,

you gathered us to your table

and we drank deeply of your grace.

Send us out by your Spirit to love our neighbors as ourselves

and proclaim your love in Jesus' name.

Amen.

SENDING

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

Final Blessing

+Sending Hymn**Christ is Made the Sure Foundation****ELW 645**

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and
2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of
3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from
4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,
hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,
you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er
to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est
with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter
ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.
ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.
in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.
one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

Text: Latin hymn, c. 7th cent.; tr. John Mason Neale, 1818–1866, alt.

Music: WESTMINSTER ABBEY, Henry Purcell, 1659–1695; arr. Ernest Hawkins, 1802–1868

+Dismissal

Go in peace. Live by the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude***Allegro Maestoso*****Clarence Smith**

from Water Music, George F Handel

We're so happy you joined us for worship today!

Woodlake is dedicated to the mission of Jesus Christ! In this community of faith, we share life in its entirety, with all its joys and sorrows. We believe all people are created in the image of God and are offered God's love, grace, and forgiveness, regardless of religious tradition, age, gender identity and expression, race, education, economic status, mental or physical abilities, sexual orientation, or family structure. Woodlake stands on the ancestral land of the Dakota people. We honor indigenous histories and cultures and acknowledge the need to engage in reconciliation with our indigenous neighbors. We are committed to the work of social justice. We extend a special welcome to you and to all in Christ's love.

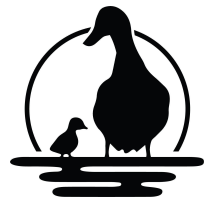
Worship Times

Sunday at 10:00am

*The service is
live-streamed at:
youtube.com/
WoodlakeLutheranChurch*

**Wednesday Mornings:
8:30am Worship**
in the Chapel, followed by
fellowship in the Fireside Room

2120 West 76th Street
Richfield, MN 55423
Phone: 612-866-8449
office@woodlakechurch.org



Pastors

Rev. Neal Cannon
Rev. Micah Pearson

AV Technician

Arthur Beck

Interim Directors of Worship

Clarance Smith
Dan Bridston

Ushers

Gary Nix
Laurie Nix
Darren Berquist

Assisting Minister

Laurie Franklin

Sacristan

Cheryl Buranen