

SAVING GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST



the "Talents"

Sunday, November 19, 2023

11:45 am Parking Lot & Web Bulletin

INVOCATION

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

Amen

OPENING HYMN:

"You Servants of God!"

Hymn #252

You servants of God, your Master proclaim,
and publish abroad his wonderful name;
the name all-victorious of Jesus extol;
his kingdom is glorious and rules over all.

God rules on high, almighty to save;
And still he is nigh, his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus, our King!

"Salvation to God, who sits on the throne!"
let all cry aloud, and honor the Son;
the praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.

Then let us adore and give him his right:
all glory and power, all wisdom and might,
all honor and blessing with angels above
and thanks never ceasing for infinite love.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Heavenly Father, you are the giver of all life, but we turn away from you and decide for ourselves what we should do with our lives.

We don't trust that you have given us what we have out of love. We use our gifts and talents to get as much as we can for ourselves.

Jesus Christ, you have taken on the wrath of God for our sake so that we might understand the unmerited grace and mercy we have with our Heavenly Father

We are children of light, but often we run back to the darkness to hide and get away with things that displease our God and hurt those closest to us.

Holy Spirit, you keep us in the light clothed with the armor and protection of God.

We want to experience the freedom of being a servant of our generous God.

(moment of silence for reflection and self-examination)

Heavenly Father, you have laid every judgement against us on your Son Jesus Christ. We were selfish, arrogant, mean, and demanding, but all of this has been taken to the cross so that we would be your free servants in Jesus Christ. Therefore, as a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ and by his authority, I therefore declare to you, who do truly repent, the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Passing of the Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always. **And also with you.**

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

Heavenly Father, you have given us our lives. Forgive us whenever we've misheard your invitation to serve as a demand to perform for you. Grant us joy in using all that you have given us for the sake of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, Amen

Pastor's Welcome and Announcements

THE WORD

First Reading **Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18** **OT p. 839**

When Reading is concluded, the congregation responds, "Thanks be to God."

Second Reading **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11** **NT p. 1079**

(When Reading is concluded, the congregation responds, "Thanks be to God.")

Special Music **"My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness"** **Saving Grace Choir**
Accompanied by Tish DeYoung, Piano
Accompanied by Sara Hartwig, Flute

Gospel Acclamation **Alleluia** **p. 83**

Alleluia, Lord to whom shall we go?
You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia

Gospel **Matthew 25:14-30** **NT p.906**

(Before the Gospel is announced, the congregation says "Glory to you, O Lord!")

(After the Gospel is concluded, the congregation says, "Praise to you, O Christ!")

Sermon **"Strings Attached?"** **Pastor Dan Doran**

Response to the Word

HYMN OF THE DAY **"Lord of All Hopefulness"** **Hymn #469**

Lord of all hopefulness, Lord of all joy,
Whose trust, ever child-like, no cares can destroy,
Be there at our waking, and give us, we pray,
Your bliss in our hearts, Lord, at the break of the day.

Lord of all eagerness, Lord of all faith,
Whose strong hands were skilled at the plane and the lathe,
Be there at our labors, and give us, we pray,
Your strength in our hearts, Lord, at the noon of the day.

Lord of all kindness, Lord of all grace,
Your hands swift to welcome, your arms to embrace,
Be there at our homing, and give us, we pray,
Your love in our hearts, Lord, at the eve of the day.

Lord of all gentleness, Lord of all calm,
Whose voice is contentment, whose presence is balm,
Be there at our sleeping, and give us, we pray,
Your peace in our hearts, Lord, at the end of the day.

Reception of Offering

Apostles' creed

I believe in God the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the
virgin, Mary.**

He suffered under Pontius Pilate was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

HOLY COMMUNION

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**

Blessing and Prayer

SENDING HYMN

"Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"

Hymn #423

Lord, whose love in humble service
Bore the weight of human need,
Who upon the cross, forsaken,
Worked Your mercy's perfect deed:
We, Your servants, bring the worship

Not of voice alone, but heart;
Consecrating to Your purpose
Every gift which You impart.

Still Your children wander homeless;
Still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom;
Still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion
Healed the sick and freed the soul,
By Your Spirit send Your power
To our world to make it whole.

As we worship, grant us vision,
Till your love's revealing light
In its height and depth and greatness
Dawns upon our quickened sight,
Making known the needs and burdens
Your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to ardent service,
Your abundant life to share.

Keyboardist: Tish DeYoung
Reader: Pam Eberhardt

Psalm 90:1-8

- ¹ Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.
² Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.³ You turn people back to dust,
saying, "Return to dust, you mortals." ⁴ A thousand years in your sight
are like a day that has just gone by, or like a watch in the night.
⁵ Yet you sweep people away in the sleep of death— they are like the new grass of the morning:
⁶ In the morning it springs up new, but by evening it is dry and withered.
⁷ We are consumed by your anger and terrified by your indignation.
⁸ You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your presence.

A member of Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ
3735 Jeffers Rd, Eau Claire, WI 54703



Mailing Address: PO Box 1153, Eau Claire, WI 54702
Telephone (office) 715.514.3552
www.saving-gracechurch.com

Office Hours: Monday – Thursday 9:00 am – 4:00 pm

WORSHIP:

Sat 3:00 pm

**Sun 8:30 & 10:30 am with Livestream,
11:45 am Parking Lot**

David Irgens, Senior Pastor Dan Doran, Associate Pastor
Melissa Corlett, Education Director, Kathy Jaenke, Office Manager
Hannah DeYoung, Choir Director
Keith Muchow, Videography, Seth Anderson-Lind, Audio