

## TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Enter into the Joy of Your Master

November 14 & 15, 2020

### AS WE GATHER

We read today about three servants. Two were good and faithful. One was evil and faithless. Two enter into the joy of their master. One does not. Our Lord has entrusted us with many good and gracious gifts and sends us into the world to make disciples and multiply the gifts we have received. Yet, it is not our own work that leads us into the joy of our Master; rather, it is our Master's work on our behalf. Jesus' saving work of death and resurrection brings us into the joy of our Master.

### WELCOME

### GUATEMALA TUITION SUPPORT

### STEWARDSHIP STORY – Dale Pipkorn

“The counsel of the Lord stands forever,  
the plans of His heart to all generations.” Psalm 33:11

### ✠ PREPARATION ✠

### OPENING HYMN#411 “I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”

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.  
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.

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.  
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.

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.  
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.

(Rise)

### INVOCATION & OPENING SENTENCES

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

**People: Amen.**

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

**People: You have been our good and faithful Master.**

Pastor: You have poured out blessings upon us.

**People: You have given us all we need to support this body and life.**

Pastor: We meditate on all that you have done.

**People: We ponder the work of your hands.**

Pastor: On account of your name, O Lord, preserve our lives.

**People: In your righteousness, bring us out of trouble.**

### CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Indeed, our heavenly Father has done wonderful things for us. He has given us more than we could ever ask for or imagine. Yet, there have been times when we have been ungrateful for God's gifts, times when we have been lazy and selfish with what He has given us, times when we have been unfaithful servants. Yet, our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him and ask for His forgiveness.

*Silence for reflection.*

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

**People: we confess that we have not been faithful with all of the good gifts you have given us. We have sinned in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have failed by our inactivity. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, O Lord, that we might be restored as Your servants.**

Pastor: God hears your confession and has promised to be with you always. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen. We are forgiven. We are restored in Jesus.**

**HYMN OF PRAISE #941 'We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God'**

We praise You and acknowledge You, O God, to be the Lord,  
The Father everlasting, by all the earth adored.  
To You all angel powers cry aloud, the heavens sing,  
The cherubim and seraphim their praises to You bring:  
"O holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
Your majesty and glory fill the heavens and the earth!"

The band of the apostles in glory sing Your praise;  
The fellowship of prophets their deathless voices raise.  
The martyrs of Your kingdom, a great and noble throng,  
Sing with the holy Church throughout all the world this song:  
"O all majestic Father, Your true and only Son,  
And Holy Spirit, Comforter forever Three in One!"

*Musical Interlude*

You, Christ, are King of glory, the everlasting Son,  
Yet You, with boundless love, sought to rescue ev'ry one:  
You laid aside Your glory, were born of virgin's womb,  
Were crucified for us and were placed into a tomb;  
Then by Your resurrection You won for us reprieve  
You opened heaven's kingdom to all who would believe.

You sit in splendid glory, enthroned at God's right hand,  
Upholding earth and heaven by forces You command.  
We know that you will come as our Judge that final day,  
So help Your servants You have redeemed by blood, we pray;  
May we with saints be numbered where praises never end,  
In glory everlasting. Amen, O Lord, amen!

**SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in you. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

**☩ WORD ☩**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *Zephaniah 1:7-16* (The Day of the Lord is near.)

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. <sup>8</sup>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. <sup>9</sup>On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. <sup>10</sup>"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. <sup>11</sup>Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. <sup>12</sup>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.' <sup>13</sup>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." <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 mighty man cries aloud there. <sup>15</sup>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, <sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

**EPISTLE** *1 Thessalonians 5:1-11* (Let us live as children of the light.)

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>While people are saying, "There is peace and

<sup>4</sup> continued

security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. <sup>4</sup> But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. <sup>5</sup> For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. <sup>6</sup> So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. <sup>7</sup> For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. <sup>8</sup> 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. <sup>9</sup> For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup> who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. <sup>11</sup> Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### CHILDREN’S PRAYER

#### CHILDREN’S SONG

#### “Make Me a Servant”

AGPS 174

Make me a servant, humble and meek,  
Lord, let me lift up those who are weak.

And my the pray’r of my heart always be:

Make me a servant, make me a servant, make me a servant today.

(Repeat song)

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Matthew 25:14–30* (The parable of the talents)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

**People: Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>14</sup> “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. <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> He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. <sup>17</sup> So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. <sup>18</sup> But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. <sup>19</sup> Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> 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.’ <sup>21</sup> His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have

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been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’ <sup>22</sup> 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.’ <sup>23</sup> 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.’ <sup>24</sup> 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, <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 answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? <sup>27</sup> 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. <sup>28</sup> So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. <sup>29</sup> 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. <sup>30</sup> And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**People: Praise to you, O Christ.**

### SERMON HYMN #508 “The Day Is Surely Drawing Near”

The day is surely drawing near When Jesus, God’s anointed,  
In all His power shall appear As judge whom God appointed.  
Then fright shall banish idle mirth, And flames on flames shall ravage earth  
As Scripture long has warned us.

The final trumpet then shall sound And all the earth be shaken,  
And all who rest beneath the ground Shall from their sleep awaken.  
But all who live will in that hour, By God’s almighty, boundless pow’r,  
Be changed at His commanding.

The books are opened then to all, A record truly telling  
What each has done, both great and small, When he on earth was dwelling,  
And ev’ry heart be clearly seen, And all be known as they have been  
In thoughts and words and actions.

*Musical Interlude*

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May Christ our intercessor be And through His blood and merit  
Read from His book that we are free With all who life inherit.  
Then we shall see Him face to face, With all His saints in that blest place  
Which He has purchased for us.

O Jesus Christ, do not delay, But hasten our salvation;  
We often tremble on our way In fear and tribulation  
O hear and grant our fervent plea: Come, mighty judge, and set us free  
From death and ev'ry evil.

**SERMON "Using What God Has Given" Matthew 25:14-30**

(Rise)

**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.

**OFFERINGS** Offering plates will be placed in the narthex and elevator room for gathering at the end of the service.

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

*Brief Silence*

Pastor: Almighty God, you have made us your people and preserved us through the ministry of your Word and Sacraments. Continue to pour out upon us grace upon grace, that we may be kept in faith and guarded in hope. Bless all pastors and missionaries who serve Christ and His people, especially our Together in Mission Partners, Chuck Ferry and family and Rachel Meyer. Bless our pastor as he deliberates the calls to serve. Lead and guide us all to do your will. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, make your Church throughout the world one in doctrine, confession and life. Deliver us from confusion and error by the power of your Holy Spirit. Deliver all unbelievers and convert their hearts to repentance and faith. Strengthen all Christians in their faith and in their vocation of service as your children. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord of all, deliver the nations from oppression and ungodly rulers and governments. Bless our own nation as it endures this extended election process. Bless all in authority, that righteousness may flourish and justice prevail. Bless and protect those who protect us: the men and women of our armed services, police, firefighters, and all first responders. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord of hosts, as we have celebrated Veteran's Day this past week, we thank you for all the men and women who have served faithfully over the years to defend us. Grant us thankfulness of heart and recognition of their sacrificial service to the peoples of our nation. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: God, our Refuge and Strength, save us from all disaster and calamity, deliver us from war and violence, and rescue us from this pandemic. Help us to rejoice in the good fruits of the earth, bless all noble occupations, and grant us thankful hearts to receive the fruits of the earth you supply for our common good. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: Lord of our salvation, bless us to be united in spirit as we work together as your people. Grant success to our Generations United in Mission ministry expansion campaign. Grant us all generous heart willing to sacrificially give and unity in fulfilling your plans from generation to generation. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: God of every gift and provision, receive with our song of praise and sacrifice of thanksgiving the tithes and offerings we bring. Grant that through the gifts of our resources, and the good use of the skills, talents and time you have given us, you may be glorified in all we are and do. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: God of healing and restoration, give to the sick healing, to the suffering relief, to the grieving hope and to the dying peace. Hear us on behalf of those who have requested our prayers especially Edith, Arlene, Margie, Don, Jan, Louis, Dawn, Carol, Debbie, Mary, Dennis, Diane, June, Jerry, Cindy, Shirley, Sarah, Gladys, Shirley and Sarah. Sustain us in the day of trial, deliver us from all our enemies of body and soul, and keep us steadfast in the day of trouble. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: God of our salvation, bless us with repentance and faith as we receive the body and blood of Christ this day. Grant us faithful hearts that look and long for the life of the world to come. Remembering that here we have no abiding city on earth, give us your aid so that we may by true faith and godly life prepare for the coming of our Savior, doing the works you have called us to do. Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

Pastor: All these things and whatever else you know we need, we lift before your throne of grace; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

#### **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.**

#### **✠ SACRAMENT ✠**

#### **THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

#### **THE PEACE OF THE LORD**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

#### **AGNUS DEI**

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O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.  
O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;  
Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

**DISTRIBUTION** Wait for the usher to direct you to come forward. Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

#### **HYMN #783 "Take My Life and Let It Be"**

Take my life and let it be Consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
Take my moments and my days, Let them flow in ceaseless praise.  
Take my hands and let them move At the impulse of Thy love;  
Take my feet and let them be Swift and beautiful for Thee.  
Take my voice and let me sing Always, only for my King;  
Take my lips and let them be Filled with messages from Thee.

#### *Musical Interlude*

Take my silver and my gold, Not a mite would I withhold;  
Take my intellect and use Ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.  
Take my will and make it Thine, It shall be no longer mine;  
Take my heart, it is Thine own, It shall be Thy royal throne.  
Take my love, my Lord, I pour At Thy feet its treasure store;  
Take myself, and I will be Ever, only, all for Thee.

### **HYMN #809 “Great Is Thy Faithfulness”**

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.  
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;  
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

**Refrain: Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;  
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain*

### **HYMN #643 “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing”**

Sent forth by God’s blessing, Our true faith confessing,  
The people of God from His dwelling take leave.  
The Supper is ended. O now be extended  
The fruits of this service in all who believe.  
The seed of His teaching, Receptive souls reaching,  
Shall blossom in action for God and for all. His grace did invite us,  
His love shall unite us To work for God’s kingdom and answer His call.

With praise and thanksgiving To God ever living,  
The tasks of our ev’ry day life we will face.  
Our faith ever sharing, In love ever caring,  
Embracing His children of each tribe and race.  
With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;  
Unite us as one in this life that we share.  
Then may all the living With praise and thanksgiving  
Give honor to Christ and His name that we bear.

### **COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

### **POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have graced us with your presence in this Sacrament, and we pray that you would keep us in the one true faith until life everlasting when we enter into the joy of our Master; through the same Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN #821 “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:  
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation Has redeemed us by His blood.”

Alleluia! Bread of heaven, Here on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! Here the sinful Flee to You from day to day.  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth’s Redeemer, hear our plea  
Where the songs of all the sinless Sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:  
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation Has redeemed us by His blood.”

Preacher

Liturgist

Lectors

Director of Parish Music

Pastor Harold Bender

Pastor Noah Kegley

Jodi Drew, Bob Reynolds

Michelle Prince

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