

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

To Him Who Has, More Will Be Given

November 15 & 16, 2014

AS WE GATHER

The end of the Church Year is about the end—literally. The time of God’s mercy will end and God will call all people to account. Today, we encounter the difficult parable of the talents with the promise that to him who has, more will be given. What does this mean for us? We live in an age of egalitarianism in which we expect to be treated the same. God does not treat us the same; our differences matter to God. He loves us equally but acknowledges our differences. To one He gives ten, to another five, and to another one. All are His gifts, to be used for His purpose. Different, but uniquely precious, we use them for His glory and so He promises us to enter into His joy.

WELCOME

This righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. There is no difference, for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God, and are justified freely by his grace through the redemption that came by Christ Jesus. (Romans 3:22-24, NIV)

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

5:00 PRE-SERVICE BELL ANTHEM *“Reflections”* arr. Matthew Compton

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN #763 “When Peace, Like a River”

When peace, like a river, attendeth my way; When sorrows, like sea billows, roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, It is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul, It is well with my soul.

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control, That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.
It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

He lives oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;
My sin, not in part, but the whole, Is nailed to His cross, and I bear it no more,
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.

And, Lord, haste the day when our faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll,
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall descend;
Even so it is well with my soul. It is well with my soul,
It is well, it is well with my soul.

(Rise)

INVOCATION

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

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

People: We confess to you, O Lord, and to one another, that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you above all things nor our neighbor as ourselves. Forgive us our sins and grant us the aid of your Holy Spirit to amend our sinful lives.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die 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.

Pastor: May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Glory to God in the Highest”

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To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus’ birth!
We praise and bless you, Father; Your holy name, we sing –
Our thanks for your great glory, Lord God, our Heav’nly King.

To You, O solebegotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high.

For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshipped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High.
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Mighty Lord, the day is coming when you will call to account all people. Help us to use rightly and for your glory all that you have given to us, that we may not fear the return of Jesus in His glory. Give us courage and confidence that He has equipped us with every grace and that we may serve Him faithfully here and enter into His eternal joy when He comes again; 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 great day of the Lord is near.)

Be silent before the Sovereign LORD, for the day of the LORD is near. The LORD has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated those he has invited. On the day of the LORD's sacrifice I will punish the princes and the king's sons and all those clad in foreign clothes. On that day I will punish all who avoid stepping on the threshold, who fill the temple of their gods with violence and deceit. "On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will go up from the Fish Gate, wailing from the New Quarter, and a loud crash from the hills. Wail, you who live in the market district; all your merchants will be wiped out, all who trade with silver will be ruined. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps and punish those who are complacent, who are like wine left on its dregs, who think, 'The LORD will do nothing, either good or bad.' Their wealth will be plundered, their houses demolished. They will build houses but not live in them; they will plant vineyards but not drink the wine. "The great day of the LORD is near-- near and coming quickly. Listen! The

cry on the day of the LORD will be bitter, the shouting of the warrior there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of trouble and ruin, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness, a day of trumpet and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the corner towers.

EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11 (The day of the Lord will come suddenly.)

Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate and the hope of salvation as a helmet. For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

5:00 ANTHEM

"Pass It On"

Grades 5/6

10:30 CHOIR ANTHEM *"10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)"* Choral Setting by Lloyd Larson

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship his holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship your holy name. The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning, it's time to sing your song again. Whatever may pass, and whatever lies before me, let me be singing when the evening comes. Bless the Lord, O my soul, my soul; worship his holy name. Sing like never before, my soul; You're rich in love and you're slow to anger. Your name is great and your heart is kind. For all your goodness, I will keep on singing; ten thousand reasons for my heart to find. Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship his holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship your holy name. And on that day when my strength is failing, the end draws near and my time has come; still my soul will sing your praise upending ten thousand years and then forevermore! Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul; worship his holy name. Sing like never before, O my soul; I'll worship your holy name. I'll worship your holy name.

(Rise)

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

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained

five more. So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.' "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' "The man with the two talents also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.' "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' "Then the man who had received the one talent came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.' "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. " 'Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

(Be seated)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SERMON HYMN #508 "The Day Is Surely Drawing Near" Stanzas 1-4

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 hours, By God's almighty, boundless pow'r,
Be changed at His commanding.

5 continued

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.

Then woe to those who scorned the Lord And sought but carnal pleasures,
Who here despised His precious Word And loved their earthly treasures!
With shame and trembling they will stand And at the judge's stern command
To Satan be delivered.

SHARING OF STORIES FROM GUATEMALA – Members of the Groundwork Guatemala Team

SERMON

"No Room For Complacency In View of the Great Day" Zephaniah 1:7-16

HYMN #508 "The Day Is Surely Drawing Near" Stanzas 5-7

My Savior paid the debt I owe And for my sin was smitten;
Within the Book of Life I know My name has now been written.
I will not doubt, for I am free, And Satan cannot threaten me;
There is no condemnation!

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.

(Rise)

NICENE CREED *(found on the inside back cover of the hymnal)*

(Be seated)

OFFERINGS As your offering is collected, please sign our attendance book located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

5:00 BELL ANTHEM DURING OFFERING *“Day by Day”* arr. Matthew Compton

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Brothers and sisters in Christ, our God is great and powerful, and He promises to hear and answer the prayers of His people. Lord God, heavenly Father, you created us male and female and gave the gift of marriage as both a reflection of your love for your Church and the foundation of society on earth. We pray for all the marriages of our congregation, Lord. Work in those relationships so that husband and wife love and honor each other. Mend and heal any marriages under the attack of the evil one.

People: Strengthen the commitment of married couples and enrich their lives through the gift of each other, as you intended from the very beginning. We give you thanks for John and Arlene who celebrate 68 years of marriage. Continue to bless them in their life together. Bless Jean as she remembers the anniversaries of her departed loved ones.

Pastor: Father, you also have given us order, peace and fellowship with our brothers and sisters in the faith. Thank you for the blessing of our Synod, and guide both its leaders and its various organizations so that they honor and follow you above all else.

People: Direct the affairs of our church body and our local congregation alike. Keep us faithful to the end, Lord, even as you have preserved and strengthened us to this day.

Pastor: Lord Jesus, you warned your disciples that as the end drew near, there would be signs in heaven and on earth — yet you told them not to be afraid. Preserve us, faithful Lord, from evils of body and soul; protect us from natural disasters, plagues and pestilence.

People: Enable us, through all things, to be faithful stewards of the gifts of creation.

Pastor: Compassionate Lord, protect, comfort and heal those in distress especially Shirley, Russ, Bill, Ken, Ginger, Robert, Pastor Stanton, Cindy, Marilyn, Gretchen, Ray, Jack, Mark, Richard, Virginia, Rosalie and Sarah.

People: Sustain them in sickness, and if it be your will, restore them to the fellowship of the saints on earth until that day when we hear you say, “Well done, good and faithful servant!” We give you thanks for your healing hand upon Jean during her recent surgery.

Pastor: Almighty God, we ask you to comfort the family and friends of Laylah Petersen and the entire community affected by her tragic death. By your Spirit, console all those who are troubled and fill them with hope and peace through faith in Christ.

People: As we live in this sinful world, strengthen us to let our lights shine in word and deed, bringing hope in the face of hopelessness, and sharing the good news of the gospel.

Pastor: Heavenly Father, you are the source of all joy and every good gift. We rejoice with the Osells as they celebrate Rachel’s 15th birthday.

People: Grant us all hearts filled with thanksgiving for all the blessings you give to us each and every day.

Pastor: Bless us as we prepare to receive your gifts in the Sacrament of Christ’s body and blood.

People: Forgive our sins, strengthen our faith, and confirm us in the knowledge that you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

Pastor: Blessed are you, Father, for your unchanging love toward us in Jesus Christ. Hear us and answer us in the name and for the sake of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

+ SACRAMENT +

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.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION 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 #562 “All Mankind Fell in Adam’s Fall”

All mankind fell in Adam’s fall; One common sin infects us all.
From one to all the curse descends, And over all God’s wrath impends.
Through all our pow’rs corruption creeps And us in dreadful bondage keeps;
In guilt we draw our infant breath And reap its fruits of woe and death.
From hearts depraved, to evil prone, Flow thoughts and deeds of sin alone;
God’s image lost, the darkened soul Seeks not nor finds its heav’nly goal.
But Christ, the second Adam, came To bear our sin and woe and shame,
To be our life, our light, our way. Our only hope, our only stay.
As by one man all mankind fell And, born in sin, was doomed to hell,
So by one Man, who took our place, We all were justified by grace.
We thank You, Christ; new life is ours, New light, new hope, new strength, new pow’rs.
This grace our ev’ry way attend Until we reach our journey’s end.

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.

HYMN #730 “What Is the World to Me”

What is the world to me With all its vaunted pleasure
When You, and You alone, Lord Jesus, are my treasure!
You only, dearest Lord, My soul’s delight shall be;
You are my peace, my rest. What is the world to me!
The world seeks to be praised And honored by the mighty
Yet never once reflects That they are frail and flighty.
But what I truly prize Above all things is He,
My Jesus, He alone. What is the world to me!
The world seeks after wealth And all that mammon offers
Yet never is content Though gold should fill its coffers.
I have a higher good, Content with it I’ll be:
My Jesus is my wealth. What is the world to me!
What is the world to me! My Jesus is my treasure,
My life, my health, my wealth, My friend, my love, my pleasure,
My joy, my crown, my all, My bliss eternally,
Once more, then, I declare: What is the world to me!

COMMON DISMISSAL

(Rise)

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: Lord of love, you sent your Son to redeem your lost and fallen creation, and by His sacrificial death and victorious resurrection He has restored us to you. Keep us, amid the changes and chances of this present life, that we may look for our Savior's return in glory, and live in anticipation of the eternal life He comes to bring. Make us wise to use the time we have now well, so that we may be prepared to receive Him when He comes again on the day of the Lord; through Jesus Christ, 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 #813 "Rejoice, O Pilgrim Throng" Stanzas 1-3, 6 & 7

Rejoice, O pilgrim Throng! Rejoice, give thanks and sing;
Your festal banner wave on high, The cross of Christ your king.

Refrain Rejoice! Rejoice! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

With voice as full and strong As ocean's surging praise,
Send forth the sturdy hymns of old, The psalms of ancient days. **Refrain**

With all the angel choirs, With all the saints on earth
Pour out the strains of joy and bliss, True rapture, noblest mirth. **Refrain**

At last the march shall end; The wearied ones shall rest;
The pilgrims find their home at last, Jerusalem the blest. **Refrain**

Praise Him who reigns on high, The Lord whom we adore:
The Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, One God forevermore. **Refrain**

5:00 POSTLUDE

"Rejoice!" arr. Kevin McChesney

Preacher
Liturgist
Lectors
Acolytes
Organist
Accompanist 5:00
Grades 5/6 Director
Bell Director
Choir Director
Music Coordinator

Pastor Harold Bender
Pastor Gregg Stanton
Debbie Ulbing, Marc Stefanic, Jim Laux
Adam Biedenbender, Josh Elmer, Elena Gonzalez-Clark
Roger Gottschalk
Jo Bender
Danielle Jackson
Matthew Compton
Nancy Hoelke
Kim Woller