Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8th, 2026 - Divine Service 4 - LSB 203ff



Announcements

Opening Hymn | 516 ***"Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying"***

Confession and Absolution

Please stand.
The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

In the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *[Matt. 18:20; 28:19b]*

Our help is in the name of the Lord
who made heaven and earth. *[Psalm 124:8 32:5]*
If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared. *[Psalm 130:3-4]*

Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. *[Luke 18:13]*

Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen

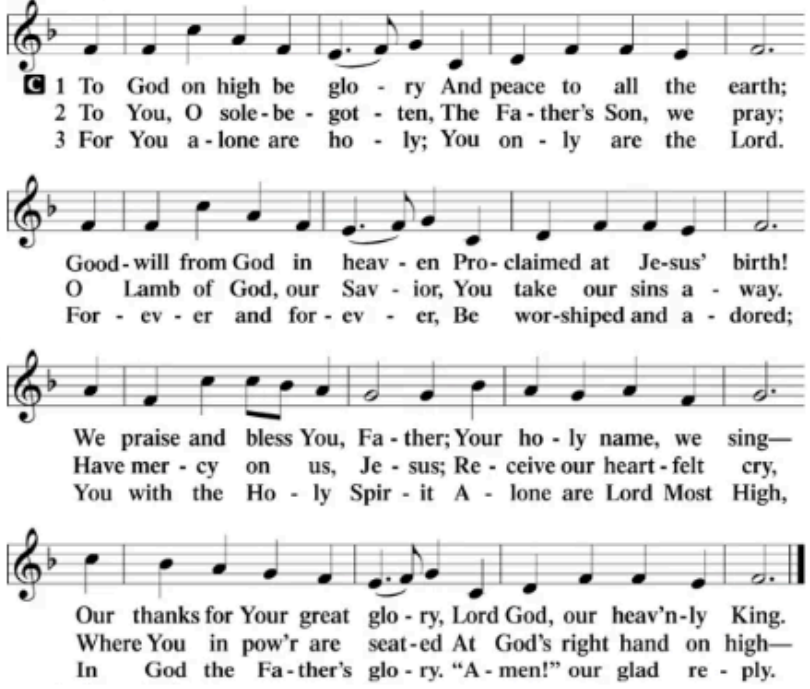
Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority. I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✝ Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *[John 20:19-23]*

The Gospel Prepares Us for Our Heavenly Bridegroom's Coming

The Day of the Lord is *"darkness, and not light" (Amos 5:18, 20)* for all who trust in their own righteousness and piety. The Lord will not accept their *"burnt offerings and grain offerings,"* nor will He look upon their *"peace offerings" (Amos 5:22)*. Instead, He desires a heart of faith that trusts in Him, which lets *"justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream" (Amos 5:24)* in love for the neighbor. In order for the "lamps" of our lives to burn brightly with such love, we must be filled with the *"oil"* of forgiveness through faith in our Bridegroom, Jesus Christ *(Matt.25:1–4)*. Therefore, as we await His coming, wisdom directs us *"to the dealers" (Matt. 25:9)*, that is, to the ministers of His Gospel. Thus we wait upon the Lord, and we *"encourage one another with these words" (1 Thess. 4:18)*. Waking or sleeping, we are prepared to meet Him when He comes *"with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God,"* and *"we will always be with the Lord" (1 Thess. 4:16, 17)*.

Published by LCMS Worship.Used by permission. All rights reserved.

Hymn of Praise | *"Gloria in Excelsis"* ***p204***



Salutation and Collect of the Day *[2 Timothy 4:22]*

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Please be seated.

Today's Readings from God's Word

The First Reading is from Amos 5:18-24

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why would you have the day of the Lord?
It is darkness, and not light, 19 as if a man fled from a
lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and
leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him.
20 Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it? 21 "I hate, I despise
your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn
assemblies.
22 Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and
grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace
offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look
upon them. 23 Take away from me the noise of your
songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
24 But let justice roll down like waters, and
righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

The Epistle Reading is from 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

13 But we do not want you to be uninformed,
brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may
not grieve as others do who have no hope. 14 For since
we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so,
through Jesus, God will bring with him those who
have fallen asleep. 15 For this we declare to you by a
word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are
left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede
those who have fallen asleep. 16 For the Lord himself
will descend from heaven with a cry of command,
with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of
the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise
first. 17 Then we who are alive, who are left, will be
caught up together with them in the clouds to meet
the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the
Lord. 18 Therefore encourage one another with these
words.
This is the Word of the Lord
Thanks be to God.

Please stand to greet the Gospel reading singing the Alleluia verse.

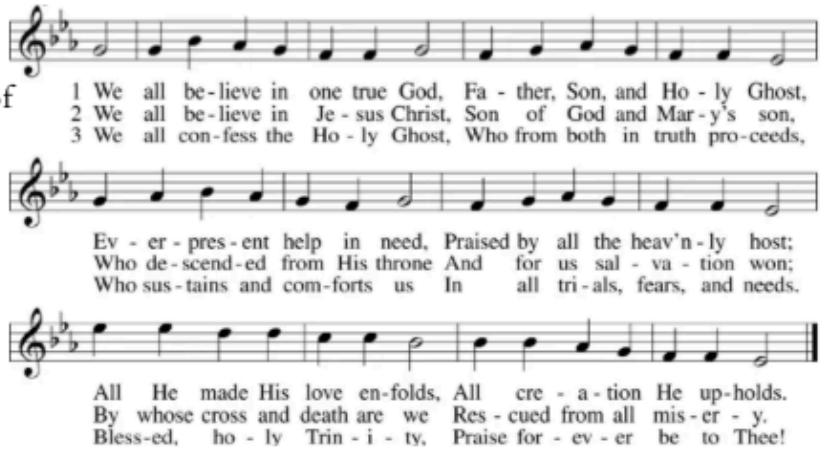


The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter.

Glory to You, O Lord.

1 [Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten
virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the
bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish, and five
were wise. 3 For when the foolish took their lamps,
they took no oil with them, 4 but the wise took flasks
of oil with their lamps. 5 As the bridegroom was
delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. 6 But at
midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom!
Come out to meet him.' 7 Then all those virgins rose
and trimmed their lamps. 8 And the foolish said to the
wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are
going out.' 9 But the wise answered, saying, 'Since
there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather
to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' 10 And while
they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and
those who were ready went in with him to the
marriage feast, and the door was shut. 11 Afterward the
other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to
us.' 12 But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not
know you.' 13 Watch therefore, for you know neither
the day nor the hour."
This is the Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, O Christ.

Creedal Hymn | 953 *"We All Believe in One True God"*



Children's Message

Children are invited to come forward for a message by Pastor Fitch.

Sermon Hymn | 490 "Jesus Lives! The Victory's Won"

Sermon

In Amos, Yahweh is the primary **ch**_____ & **sp**_____,
described as the **a**____ **p**_____ roaring for justice.
Israel believed their **p**_____ signaled Yahweh's **a**_____.
Apex predators are animals that **p**____ on other animals and have no natural **e**_____.
What is the Oceanic apex predator? **O**____.
Of North America? **P**____ **b**____/**G**____ **b**____.
Of Indiana? **C**_____. Of Ancient Israel? *The* **L**____.
If God is your **p**_____, only God can be your **s**_____.
Hosea 5:14 - *"Therefore, this lion will now* **d**_____ *his own people."*
Why? They've **i**_____ His calls to **r**_____ *(Amos 1:2; 4:6–12).*
"Woe" in v18 is a lament, for **I**_____ will be Yahweh's next prey.
Ordinary apex predators are **e**_____,
but there is no escape from Yahweh *(v 19).*
You, me and **e**_____ belongs to Him alone.
Yahweh is the most **r**_____ apex predator.
In *Amos 5:5-6* He tries to talk Israel out of being **c**_____!
V14-15 He even tells His prey how to **e**_____!!
V18-24, He **w**_____ them about their upcoming **c**_____!!!
He takes no pleasure in the **d**_____ of the wicked,
He wants them to **t**____ to Him and **l**_____.
Wrath is God's **a**_____ work: to bring about **r**_____.
This prepares us for His **p**_____ work: **m**_____.
Christ crucified & risen is the **G**____-size **s**_____
to our **G**_____-size **p**_____!
We have no worse **e**_____ and no better **f**_____ than apex predator Yahweh.

Prayers of the Church *[1 Timothy 2:1-4]*

After each petition, the pastor will say, "...Let us pray to the Lord;" the congregation responds ***"Lord have mercy."***

Offering

In Person | Mail to Church | Bank Bill Pay | Scan QR

Please stand.

Preface

The Lord be with you.
And also with you *[2 Timothy 4:22]*
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord. *[Colossians 3:1]*
Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
It is right to give Him thanks and praise *[Psalm 136]*

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally.

Because He is now risen from dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus *[Isaiah 6:3, Matthew 21:9]*



Text: Stephen P. Starke

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only begotten son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life. In your righteous judgement You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, Our Lord, and made His cross a life giving tree for all who trust in Him. We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

The Lord's Prayer *[Matthew 6:9-13]*

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.

The Words of Our Lord

[Matt. 26:26-28; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Cor. 22:23-25]

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini *[John 20:19]*

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

Amen.

Agnus Dei *[John 1:29]*



Text: Stephen P. Starke

Distribution of Holy Communion

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us. [Matt. 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29]

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith confessed at this altar, any who have not been instructed, in doubt, or holding a different confession from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor or an elder. [1 Cor. 11:17-34]

Dist. Hymn | 461 *"I Know that My Redeemer Lives"*
| 744 *"Amazing Grace"*

When all have communed, please stand.

Nunc Dimittis *LSB 211*



Post-Communion Collect

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Benedicamus

Let us bless the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Benediction

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

Amen.

Please be seated.

Closing Hymn | 921 *"On What Has Now Been Sown"*

Sending

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Acknowledgments: Artwork from Edward Riojas. Used by permission. Unless otherwise indicated, Scripture quotations are from the ESV® Bible (The Holy Bible, English Standard Version®), copyright © 2001 by Crossway, a publishing ministry of Good News Publishers. Used by permission. All rights reserved. Created by Lutheran Service Builder © 2026 Concordia Publishing House. One License #A-710394

Faith Lutheran Church, Preschool & Extended Care - A Member Congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod

PO Box 1164
Columbus, IN 47202
(812) 342-3587
www.faithontheweb.org

Pastor: Josiah Fitch
pastor@faithontheweb.org
Office: Leah Otte
office@faithontheweb.org

Pastor Emeritas: Richard Tremain
Education Chair: Susan Waltz
Trustee Chair: Bill Schnackel

Council Chair: Tom Rafferty
Elder Chair: Mike Waltz
Mercy Ministry Chair: Regina Allman

Faith
Lutheran Church, Preschool & Extended Care

The purpose of this congregation shall be to serve its members and community and to spread the Kingdom of God by preaching the Word of God, by the administration of the Sacraments and by the religious instruction of youth and adults, according to the confessional standard of the Lutheran Church, and to foster Christian fellowship and charity. It shall also be the purpose and the responsibility of this congregation to provide a Christian and parochial education for its children to the best of its ability.