



Sunday, November 19, 2023
The Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Service Theme
A TIME FOR FAITHFUL SERVICE

As we wait for Christ to return, we are not to be sedentary. The reason Christ has not yet returned is that there is still work to be done. And Christ carries out his good work through us, his Church. So, until Christ comes again and says, "Stop!" believers will be busy with faithful service. Christ has given every believer gifts and talents. And when Christ entrusts us with those gifts and talents, he calls us to use them all for his glory in service of the Gospel. In the time between Christ's first and second coming, we use everything the master has given us to live according to his will and to carry out his mission.

Hymn

CW 481 - O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made

**1 O God, your hand the heavens made And all that they contain;
The world appeared at your command, And in it now you reign.
The restless sea, the land, the sky Your handiwork declare;
The touch of your creative pow'r Is present ev'rywhere.**

**2 To us are given gifts divine; All talents you have sent.
Inspire us now to use them well Your kingdom to extend.
We hold each gift a trust from you Nor claim it as our own;
We gratefully acknowledge, Lord, All things are yours alone.**

**3 Deliver us from selfish aims; True stewards we would be.
Endow us with a deep desire To live unselfishly.
A full accounting we must give And see you face to face;
Let us approach your throne with joy, Supported by your grace.**

Opening Prayer

M: In the name of Jesus our Lord and by the power of the Holy Spirit, we call on you, dear heavenly Father:

C: Hear us for Your name's sake.

M: We approach you confidently at the beginning of this day, for we rely on Jesus, our Redeemer, for the full forgiveness of sins:

C: Receive our thankful worship for His sake.

M: By the Holy Spirit increase our knowledge of You and of Your will for our lives. Fill our hearts with joy and peace into eternity:

C: In You, O Lord, have we taken refuge; never let us be ashamed.

M: O Lord, our Rock and our Fortress, assure us that because you live, we shall live also:

C: In You we hope: Our praise is for You. Amen

M: Let us pray:

Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith, and present us at last holy and blameless before you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

Old Testament Lesson
Isaiah 1:10-18 (EHV)

How did Israel respond to all of God's gifts? With grudging service, which is not faithful service. How does God respond to Israel? By promising to make them as pure as newly fallen snow.

¹⁰Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom!
Listen to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah!

¹¹What do your many sacrifices mean to me? says the LORD.
I have more than enough rams as burnt offerings
and enough fat from well-fed animals.

I am not pleased with the blood of bulls
or the blood of lambs and male goats.

¹²When you come to appear before me,
who has asked for this from your hands:
this trampling on my courts?

¹³Stop bringing worthless offerings!
Your incense is an abomination to me.
I cannot stand your sinful assemblies
on the new moons, Sabbaths, and holy days.

¹⁴Deep in my soul I hate your new moons and your appointed feasts.
They have become a burden to me.
I am tired of putting up with them.

¹⁵When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you.
Indeed, even though you make many prayers, I will not hear.
Your hands are full of blood.

¹⁶Wash yourselves. Purify yourselves.
Remove your evil deeds from my sight.
Stop doing evil. ¹⁷Learn to do good.
Seek justice. Relieve the oppressed.
Seek justice for the fatherless. Plead for the widow.

¹⁸Come now, and let us reason together, says the LORD.
Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow.
Though they are as red as crimson, they will be like wool.

Psalm 92
(page 101)

Refrain



Lord, let your mer-cy be on us, as we place our trust in you.

Psalm tone



How great are your works, O LORD,*
how profound your thoughts!

The senseless man does not know,*
fools do not understand,

that though the wicked spring up like
grass*

and all evildoers flourish,

they will be forever destroyed.*

But you, O LORD, are exalted
forever.

Refrain

The righteous will flourish like a palm
tree,*

they will flourish in the courts of our
God.

They will still bear fruit in old age,*
they will stay fresh and green,

proclaiming, "The LORD is upright;*
he is my rock, and there is no
wickedness in him."

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son*
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,*
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Refrain

Epistle
Romans 12:1-8 (EHV)

When we keep God's mercy in view, we understand and appreciate the gifts he gives us in Christ, and we use those gifts faithfully.

Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. ²Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect.

³So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you. ⁴For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. ⁵In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us. If the gift is prophecy, do it in complete agreement with the faith. ⁷If it is serving, then serve. If it is teaching, then teach. ⁸If it is encouraging, then encourage. If it is contributing, be generous. If it is leadership, be diligent. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully.

Verse of the Day

Alleluia! Alleluia! Be faithful, even to the point of death, and I will give you life as your victor's crown. Alleluia! (Revelation 2:10)

Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
These words are writ-ten that we may be-lieve
that Je-sus is the Christ, the Son of God.
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!

Gospel
Luke 19:11-27 (EHV)

Through a parable, Jesus calls his followers to faithfully invest the Gospel – using their various gifts and talents to share it with others as they joyful await his return as King.

¹¹As they were listening to these things, Jesus went on to tell a parable, because he was near Jerusalem, and the people thought that the kingdom of God was going to appear at once. ¹²So he said, "A man of noble birth traveled to a distant country to receive a kingdom for himself and then to return. ¹³He called ten of his servants and gave them ten minas. 'Conduct business until I return,' he said to them.

¹⁴"But his subjects hated him and sent a delegation after him, saying, 'We do not want this man to be king over us.'

¹⁵"When he returned after receiving the kingdom, he summoned the servants to whom he had given the money. He wanted to find out what they had gained by conducting business.

¹⁶“The first one came to him and said, ‘Master, your mina has earned ten more minas.’

¹⁷“He said to him, ‘Well done, good servant! Because you were faithful in a very small matter, you will have authority over ten cities.’

¹⁸“The second one came and said, ‘Master, your mina has produced five more minas.’

¹⁹“So he said to him, ‘You will be over five cities.’

²⁰“And another one came and said, ‘Master, here is your mina that I laid away in a piece of cloth. ²¹For I was afraid of you, since you are a demanding man. You take what you did not deposit and reap what you did not sow.’

²²“He said to him, ‘You wicked servant, I will judge you with your own words! You knew that I am a demanding man, taking what I did not deposit and reaping what I did not sow. ²³Then why did you not put my money in the bank? Then, when I returned, I could have collected it with interest!’

²⁴“He said to those standing there, ‘Take the mina away from him and give it to the one who has the ten minas.’

²⁵“But they said to him, ‘Master, he already has ten minas!’

²⁶“I tell you that to everyone who has, more will be given, but from the one who does not have, even what he has will be taken away. ²⁷Now as for those enemies of mine who did not want me to be king over them, bring them here and kill them in front of me.’”

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Hymn

CW 456 - Forth in Your Name, O Lord, I Go

**1 Forth in your name, O Lord, I go,
My daily labor to pursue,
Determined only you to know
In all I think or speak or do.**

**2 Oh, let me cheerfully fulfill
The task your wisdom has assigned
And do your good and perfect will—
In all my works your presence find!**

**3 May I find you at my right hand;
Your eyes see truly what I do.
I labor on at your command
And offer all my works to you.**

**4 Give me to bear your easy yoke
And ev’ry moment watch and pray
And still to things eternal look
And hasten to your glorious day.**

**5 For you I joyously employ
Whatever you in grace have giv’n;
I run my daily course with joy
And closely walk with you to heav’n.**

Sermon Text & Theme

Luke 19:11-27 ... Be Faithful Stewards of the King's Mina.

- 1) The King commands faithful stewardship.
- 2) The King rewards faithful stewardship.
- 3) The King condemns unfaithful stewardship.

The Apostles' Creed

(Melody: CW 365 "Love Divine, All Love Excelling")

I believe in God the Father, Maker of the heav'n and earth. And in Jesus Christ, our Savior, God's own Son, of human birth. Virgin born, the Lord incarnate, whom the Spirit did conceive, suffered under Pontius Pilate; He's the God whom I believe.

Crucified, was dead and buried; Down to hell in victory; From the dead He rose the third day; Up to heaven triumphantly. There at God's right hand He's ruling, by his will the world is led. He will come to judge the nations, both the living and the dead.

I believe in God the Spirit; in His Church, His chosen band. They are joined in sweet communion; Holy in his sight they stand. I believe in sins forgiven; I believe I'll rise again; I believe in life eternal. Amen! Amen! Amen!

Offertory Prayer

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

(Please stand)

M: My fellow disciples, in the Lord's Supper, Jesus is coming to us in a very special way: as we receive the bread and the wine of communion, Jesus is present to give us his actual body and blood, and to personally pronounce forgiveness to each one of us. Because of the Lord's presence and his forgiveness in communion, the Apostle Paul wrote, "*A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup.*" (1 Corinthians 11:28) Therefore, before the Lord comes to meet with us, let us honestly ask ourselves before God who knows our hearts:

- 1) Do you confess that you have sinned against God and deserve his anger and punishment? If so, then answer, "I do confess!"

C: I do confess!

M: It is good for you to confess, because God's word says, "*When I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long.*" (Psalm 32:3)

- 2) Are you sorry for the sins you have committed against God by things you have done, said and thought, and by the things you have failed to do? If so then answer, "I do repent!"

C: I do repent!

M: It is right for you to repent, because God's Word says, "*If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not within us.*" (1 John 1:8)

3) Do you now believe that God will forgive you and save you for the sake of Jesus' perfect life and redeeming death? If so then answer, "I do believe!"

C: I do believe!

M: It is right for you to believe because Jesus himself says, "*God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life.*" (John 3:16)

4) Do you now promise by the power of the Holy Spirit to make every effort to turn away from sin and live for your Lord? If so then answer, "I do so promise!"

C: I do so promise!

M: It is right for you to promise, because God's Word says, "*Produce fruit in keeping with repentance.*" (Matthew 3:8)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

M: As repentant and forgiven sinners, we now come to meet with our Lord.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace.

Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

Hymn

CW 616 - Feed Your Children, God Most Holy

**Feed your children, God most holy; Comfort sinners poor and lowly.
Jesus, bread of life from heaven, Bless the food you here have given.
As these gifts the body nourish, May our souls in graces flourish
Till with saints in heav'nly splendor At your feast due thanks we render.**

THANKSGIVING

M: O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: And his mercy endures forever.

Prayer of the Church

M: Eternal God and Father, we give you thanks for the blessings we share as members of your holy Church, for your gracious Word and sacraments, for opportunities to worship and to grow in faith and knowledge, for occasions to serve and be served, for fellowship with believers in our congregation and in our synod.

C: Help us to rejoice in these blessings, dear Lord, and to use them faithfully.

M: Jesus Christ, Lord of the Church, you give grace to your people by calling us to be your witnesses in the world. Open our eyes to see the great and noble mission that lies before us. In the hurting eyes of the lonely, in the pained eyes of the sick, and in the searching eyes of the lost, help us to see your face, O Jesus, and to serve others as we would serve you.

C: Awaken us to the opportunities you give to proclaim your message of love.

M: Holy Spirit, giver of life, through Word and sacrament bestow on us the wisdom and power we need to witness clearly and to act boldly. Help us to speak the truth in love, to give the reason for the hope we have, and to conduct ourselves with gentleness and respect.

C: Set our hearts on fire as we work and witness for Christ.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray for a family member, an acquaintance, a neighbor, or a friend who does not believe in you, or whose faith is weak or troubled.

Silent prayer.

M: Bless the Church with men and women who are willing to proclaim your Word in places where we cannot go. Keep them and their loved ones in your care, and let nothing hinder their work. By the power of the gospel, restore their spirits each day, so that they do not lose heart as they serve us and others.

C: Move us to support them with our sincere prayers and generous offerings.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

M: Wherever your Word is proclaimed, O Lord, grant it success. Let your kingdom come to us and others, so that we and many more might join the assembly of saints and angels to sing your praise forever.

C: Savior of all, hear our prayer and help us in our mission. Amen.

Lord's Prayer

**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.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever.
Amen.**

BLESSING

M: The grace of our Lord ✠ Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: Amen.

Hymn

CW 332 - Go, My Children, with My Blessing

- 1 Go, my children, with my blessing, Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are my own.
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever.
Go, my children, with my blessing—You are my own.**
- 2 Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.
Here you heard my dear Son's story; Here you touched him, saw his
glory.
Go, my children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.**
- 3 Go, my children, fed and nourished, Closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you; Here his tender comfort stilled you.
Go, my children, fed and nourished, Joyful and free.**
- 4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you And give you peace;
I the Lord will be your Father, Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, my children; I will keep you And give you peace.**

Announcements

Church Cleaners:

November 26 - Andrew // December 3 – Peter

DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

Su (19)	9:00 am	Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:30 am	Worship & Communion
	11:30 am	Coffee Hour
	3:00 pm	Worship and Communion in Poltimore
	4:00 pm	Christmas Parade Volunteers meet.
	5:30 pm	Christmas Parade

Pastor will be in the US from November 20th-29th.

*If you need to contact him during that time, please use his US phone number
(512) 887-8982*

Th (23)	6:00 pm	Illuminé (at St. Paul's)
Su (26)	10:30 am	Lay lead Worship
	11:30 am	Coffee Hour
Tu (28)	7:00 pm	Budget Council Meeting
Th (30)	6:00 pm	Illuminé (at St. Paul's)
	6:30 pm	Youth Confirmation (W)
Fr (1)	3:00 pm	Women's Bible Study
	4:30 pm	Youth Confirmation (D)

Su (3)	9:00 am	Sunday School and Bible Class
	10:30 am	Worship & Communion
	11:30 am	First Fellowship
	3:00 pm	Worship and Communion in Poltimore



Divine Word

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