



November 16, 2025

Altar Guild Sunday

Rev. Ken Bersche

Maggie Kent, Secretary

## Prelude

### Processional Hymn *Please Stand*

“When Morning Gilds the Skies”

- ♪ When morning gilds the skies, My heart, awaking, cries, “May Jesus Christ be praised!”  
When evening shadows fall, This rings my curfew call: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
- ♪ When mirth for music longs, This is my song of songs: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”  
God’s holy house of prayer Hath none that can compare With “Jesus Christ be praised!”
- ♪ No lovelier antiphon In all high heav’n is known Than “Jesus Christ be praised!”  
There to the\_ eternal Word The\_ eternal psalm is heard: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
- ♪ Ye nations of mankind, In this your concord find: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”  
Let all the earth around Ring joyous with the sound: “May Jesus Christ be praised!”
- ♪ Sing, suns and stars of space, Sing, ye that see His face, Sing, “Jesus Christ be praised!”  
God’s whole creation o’er, Both now and evermore Shall Jesus Christ be praised!

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 807—Text: Katholisches Gesangbuch, 1828, Würzburg;  
tr. Robert S. Bridges, 1844–1930, alt.; Text: Public domain*

## Invocation

For I know that my Redeemer lives, and at the last he will stand upon the earth.

*Job 19:25*

**Let the redeemed of the Lord say so, whom he has redeemed from trouble.**

*Psalms 107:2*

You have led in Your steadfast love the people whom You have redeemed;

**You have guided them by Your strength to Your holy abode.**

*Exodus 15:13*

This is the day that the Lord has made;

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

*Psalms 118:24*

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

*Matthew 28:19b*

**Amen.**

## Confession and Absolution

The Lord has delivered us from the domain of darkness

**And transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption,  
the forgiveness of sins.**

*Colossians 1:13-14*

Almighty God and Father,

**We confess, as Your people, our sinful human nature and the thoughts, words, and  
actions that are evil in Your sight. We need Your rescue. We need Your righteousness.**

**We need a Redeemer. Mercifully draw near to us, O Lord. For the sake of Jesus Christ  
and His cross, rescue us from our troubles and cover our sin with true righteousness.**

**Redeem our lives, that our days and deeds would be directed in Your peace. Amen.**

Upon this your confession, I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, “by the power of God, who saved us and called us to a holy calling, not because of our works but because of His own

purpose and grace, which He gave us in Christ Jesus,” I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### **Hymn of Praise** *Please Be Seated*

“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.

~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!

♪ Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness

To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love. ~Great is...

♪ 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. ~Great is....

Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 809—Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866–1960; Text: Public domain

### **Prayer**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray. O Lord, almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may live and abide forever in Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### **Psalmody**

Psalm 98

Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

**The Lord has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!

**With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the Lord!**

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!

**Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together**

Before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

**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.**

## Old Testament Reading

Malachi 4:1–6

<sup>1</sup>“For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the Lord of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. <sup>2</sup>But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. <sup>3</sup>And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the Lord of hosts.

<sup>4</sup>“Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel.

<sup>5</sup>“Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes. <sup>6</sup>And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction.”

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## The Epistle

2 Thessalonians 3:1–13

<sup>1</sup>Finally, brothers, pray for us, that the word of the Lord may speed ahead and be honored, as happened among you, <sup>2</sup>and that we may be delivered from wicked and evil men. For not all have faith. <sup>3</sup>But the Lord is faithful. He will establish you and guard you against the evil one. <sup>4</sup>And we have confidence in the Lord about you, that you are doing and will do the things that we command. <sup>5</sup>May the Lord direct your hearts to the love of God and to the steadfastness of Christ.

<sup>6</sup>Now we command you, brothers, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that you keep away from any brother who is walking in idleness and not in accord with the tradition that you received from us. <sup>7</sup>For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us, because we were not idle when we were with you, <sup>8</sup>nor did we eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day, that we might not be a burden to any of you. <sup>9</sup>It was not because we do not have that right, but to give you in ourselves an example to imitate. <sup>10</sup>For even when we were with you, we would give you this command: If anyone is not willing to work, let him not eat. <sup>11</sup>For we hear that some among you walk in idleness, not busy at work, but busybodies. <sup>12</sup>Now such persons we command and encourage in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living.

<sup>13</sup>As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good.

This is the Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual Hymn

“All People That on Earth Do Dwell”

- ♪ All people that on earth do dwell, Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.  
Him serve with mirth, His praise forthtell; Come ye before Him and rejoice.
- ♪ Know that the Lord is God indeed; Without our aid He did us make.  
We are His folk, He doth us feed, And for His sheep He doth us take.
- ♪ O enter then His gates with praise; Approach with joy His courts unto.  
Praise, laud, and bless His name always, For it is seemly so to do.
- ♪ For why? The Lord our God is good: His mercy is forever sure.  
His truth at all times firmly stood And shall from age to age endure.

*Please Stand*

♪ To Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, The God whom heav'n and earth adore,  
From us and from the angel host Be praise and glory evermore.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 791—Text: William Kethe, d. c. 1593, alt.; Text: Public domain*

## Holy Gospel

Luke 21:5–36

The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-first chapter.

### Glory to You, O Lord.

<sup>5</sup>And while some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, he said, <sup>6</sup>“As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down.” <sup>7</sup>And they asked him, “Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?” <sup>8</sup>And he said, “See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, ‘I am he!’ and, ‘The time is at hand!’ Do not go after them. <sup>9</sup>And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once.” <sup>10</sup>Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. <sup>11</sup>There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. <sup>12</sup>But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name's sake. <sup>13</sup>This will be your opportunity to bear witness. <sup>14</sup>Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, <sup>15</sup>for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. <sup>16</sup>You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. <sup>17</sup>You will be hated by all for my name's sake. <sup>18</sup>But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup>By your endurance you will gain your lives.

<sup>20</sup>“But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. <sup>21</sup>Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it, <sup>22</sup>for these are days of vengeance, to fulfill all that is written. <sup>23</sup>Alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress upon the earth and wrath against this people. <sup>24</sup>They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled.

<sup>25</sup>“And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, <sup>26</sup>people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. <sup>27</sup>And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. <sup>28</sup>Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

<sup>29</sup>And he told them a parable: “Look at the fig tree, and all the trees. <sup>30</sup>As soon as they come out in leaf, you see for yourselves and know that the summer is already near. <sup>31</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. <sup>32</sup>Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all has taken place. <sup>33</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>34</sup>“But watch yourselves lest your hearts be weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and cares of this life, and that day come upon you suddenly like a trap. <sup>35</sup>For it will come upon all who dwell on the face of the whole earth. <sup>36</sup>But stay awake at all times, praying that you may have strength to escape all these things that are going to take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.”  
This is the Gospel of the Lord.

### Praise to You, O Christ.

## Nicene Creed

### Children's Message *Please Be Seated*

#### The Hymn

"I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry"

- ♪ I was there to hear your boring cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.  
I was there when you were but a child, with a faith to suit you well;  
In a blaze of light you wandered off to find where demons dwell.
- ♪ When you heard the wonder of the Word I was there to cheer you on;  
You were raised to praise the living Lord, to whom you now belong.  
If you find someone to share your time and you join your hearts as one,  
I'll be there to make your verses rhyme from dusk 'til rising sun.
- ♪ In the middle ages of your life, not too old, no longer young,  
I'll be there to guide you through the night, complete what I've begun.  
When the evening gently closes in, and you shut your weary eyes,  
I'll be there as I have always been with just one more surprise.
- ♪ I was there to hear your boring cry, I'll be there when you are old.  
I rejoiced the day you were baptized, to see your life unfold.

*Text & Tune: John Carl Ylvisaker, b. 1937; Christian Copyright License International #1217384*

#### Proclamation of the Word

"How Much in That Direction?"

Luke 21:5-6

#### Offering and Musical Offering

**Prayer of the Church** *Please Stand Each petition is concluded with the following:*

Lord, in Your mercy.

**Hear our prayer.**

#### Admonition to Communicants

#### Words of Our Lord

#### The Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

#### Proclamation of Christ

As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

#### Lord's Prayer

**Distribution Hymns** *Please Be Seated*

“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.
- ♪ 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.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 783—Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–79; Text: Public domain*

**Benediction**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on You with favor and + give You peace.

*Numbers 6:24–26*

**Amen.**

**Recessional Hymn** *Please Be Seated*

“The Church’s One Foundation”

- ♪ The Church’s one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord; She is His new creation  
By water and the Word. From heav’n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
- ♪ Elect from ev’ry nation, Yet one o’er all the earth; Her charter of salvation:  
One Lord, one faith, one birth. One holy name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses With ev’ry grace endued.
- ♪ Though with a scornful wonder The world sees her oppressed, By schisms rent asunder,  
By heresies distressed, Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, “How long?”  
And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.
- ♪ Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war She waits the consummation  
Of peace forevermore Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest.
- ♪ Yet she on earth has union With God, the Three in One, And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won. O blessèd heav’nly chorus! Lord, save us by Your grace  
That we, like saints before us, May see You face to face.

*Lutheran Service Book, Hymn 644—Text: Samuel J. Stone, 1839–1900, alt.; Text: Public domain*

**Postlude**