SUNDAY ORDER OF WORSHIP

8:30 AM

November 15, 2026 - Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

PRELUDE *Christ, Be Our Light* ELW 715

MINISTRY OF FRIENDSHIP - ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE DAY:

- **TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**
- **PLEASE SILENCE ALL CELL PHONES AND SMART WATCHES**
- **WELCOME TO ALL THOSE WHO ARE VISITING WITH US TODAY**

[Please stand as you are able]

BRIEF ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: In the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(silence for reflection and self-examination)

P: Most merciful God,
C: we confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P: Almighty God, in his mercy, has given his Son to die for us and, for his sake, forgives our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the Church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE *10,000 Reasons*

Chorus
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. *Chorus*

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. *Chorus*

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 unending
Ten thousand years, and then forevermore! *Chorus*

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APOSTOLIC GREETING

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray…(*silence*) Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

[Please sit]

WORD

FIRST READING Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.

Lector: A reading from Zephaniah.

Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth 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. The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, 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, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Lector: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God**.

PSALM 90:1-12

L: Lord, you have been our refuge
from one generation to another.
**C: Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,
from age to age you are God.**
L: You turn us back to the dust and say,
"Go back, O child of earth."
**C: For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
and like a watch in the night.**

L: You sweep us away like a dream;
we fade away suddenly like the grass.
C: In the morning it is green and flourishes;
in the evening it is dried up and withered.
L: For we consume away in your displeasure;
we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.
C: Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.
L: When you are angry, all our days are gone;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.
C: The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.
L: Who regards the power of your wrath?
Who rightly fears your indignation?
C: So teach us to number our days,
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ..

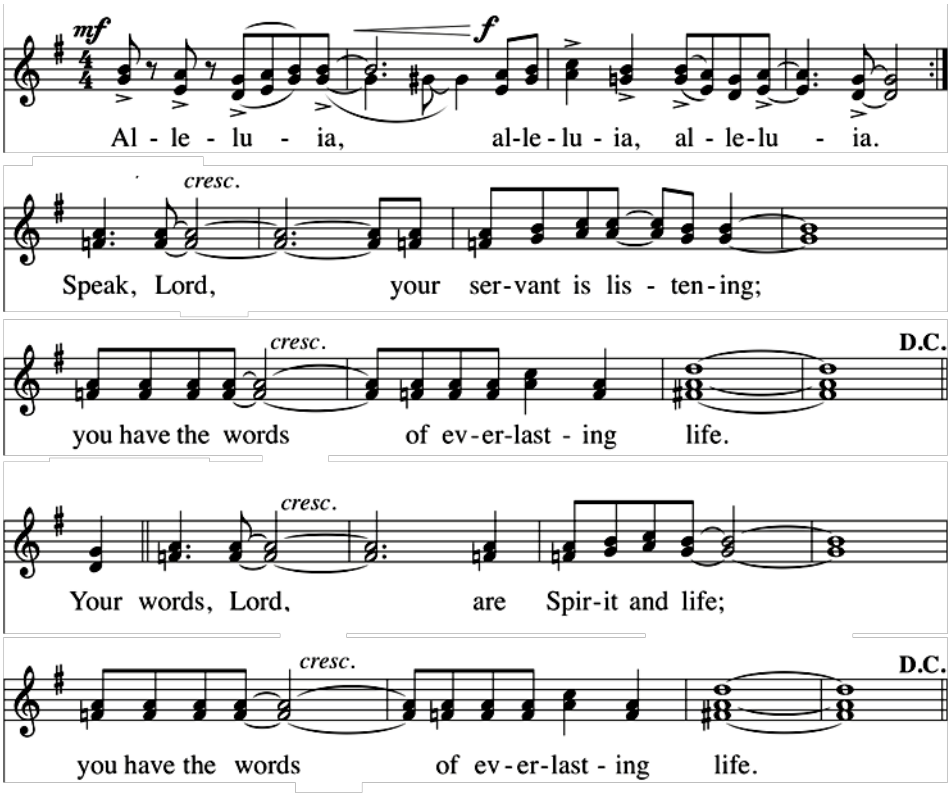
Lector: A reading from First Thessalonians.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who are drunk, get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are

doing.Lector: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

[Please stand as you are able]

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

P: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Matthew.
C: Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

P: The Holy Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

[Please sit]

SERMON **Pastor Finley**

[Please stand as you are able]

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HYMN OF THE DAY *Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us* **ELW 707**

PROFESSION OF FAITH: APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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.
On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

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

A: Merciful God, we beg your forgiveness for our forgetfulness. We forget all the goodness you have shown us, and so we forget to show mercy to others. Turn us around, and remind us to pray for not only our friends and family but for those who consider themselves our enemies. Keep us mindful that we are ALL your creatures, and bring us together in peace.

A: Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

A: Strong and wise God, you have been our refuge from one generation to another. Teach us to number our days, that we may apply our hearts to wisdom. Make us bold to tell others of your loving kindness. Raise up faithful leaders for your Church and inspire us all to proclaim your glory.

A: Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

A: Surprising Lord God, you know the times and seasons of our lives. You know our needs and our cares. You ask us to be awake and alert to what is going on around us. Help us to see anyone in need, and encourage us to reach out with your mercy to each one. Keep us always walking in your light

A: Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

A: Gracious Lord, through your son Jesus, we have learned of your love for all creation and your mercy for the brokenhearted. We bring before you today these friends and loved ones for your special care: that we name silently in our hearts or with our voices now … (long pause) … We pray that they may receive an abundance of your healing power.

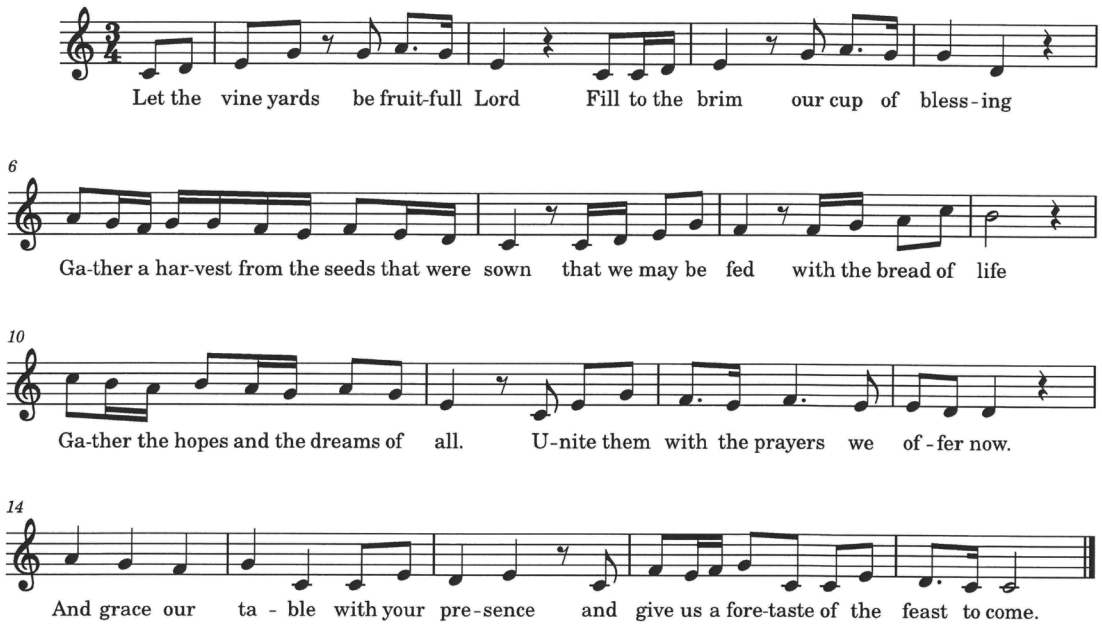
A: Lord, in your mercy, C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.
C: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

THE OFFERTORY *Let the Vineyards*



arr. by Chad Watkins

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Blessed are you,

C: O Lord our God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts. With them we offer ourselves to your service and dedicate our lives to the care and redemption of all that you have made, for the sake of him who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

MEAL

GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

P: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



arr. by Chad Watkins

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

P: Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:
Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.
You have filled all creation with light and life;
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations.
You rescued Israel, your chosen people.
Through the prophets you renewed your promise;
and, at this end of all the ages, you sent your Son,
who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom
and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

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

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of his body and drink of his blood
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Therefore, gracious Father, with Christ's body and blood
we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power
to share with us the great and promised feast.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,
the spirit of our Lord and of his resurrection,
that we who receive the Lord's body and blood
may live to the praise of your glory
and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P: Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place,
and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest
until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

**C: Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all honor and glory is yours, almighty Father, now and forever. Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

INVITATION & FRACTURE

P: This is the bread that comes down from heaven and gives life to the world.

C: Lord, give us this bread always.

[Please sit]

LAMB OF GOD



arr. by Chad Watkins

DISTRIBUTION OF HOLY COMMUNION: INTINCTION AND COMMON CUP

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION *Be Still* Cash, Jobe

[Please stand as you are able]

TABLE BLESSING

P: May this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

A: Pour out upon us the spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of those whom you have fed with one heavenly food; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please return your Estimate of Giving.
- Please ensure all doors are closed and locked if you open an exterior door. Pull or push on it to make sure.

SENDING

SENDING HYMN **Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ** **ELW 674**

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

A: Glorify God. Spread the Word. **C: Love One Another.**

POSTLUDE