

**Stewardship 2025
United in Christ**



**Yesterday,
Today and
Tomorrow**

Psalm 46:7 “The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.”

**WELCOME TO WORSHIP
25th Sunday after Pentecost
November 10, 2024 – Honoring our Veterans
8:00 AM Traditional Worship**

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman

Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz

Lector: Bob Kluge

Acolytes: Charlie Brabender and Addy Borchert

Ushers: Jim Lunde, Dan Matson, Myron Sime

Technical Support: Thomas Lehr, Roger Slack

Widows are visible everywhere in today’s readings. Jesus denounces those scribes who pray impressive prayers but devour widows’ houses. He commends the poor widow who in his view gave far more than the major donors. Jesus doesn’t see her simply as an object of compassion or charity. She, like the widow of Zarephath who shares her last bit of food with Elijah, does something of great importance.

CALL TO WORSHIP “God of Our Fathers” First Class Ringers

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end.

C: Amen

P: Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Brief silence for reflection.

P: Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,

C: we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power. We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free. Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.

P: These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are **+** forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation.

C: Amen.

Stand

HYMN: "Eternal Father, Strong to Save" ELW #756

**vs. 1: Eternal Father, strong to save,
whose arm has bound the restless wave,
who bade the mighty ocean deep
its own appointed limits keep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.**

**vs. 2: O Savior, whose almighty word
the winds and waves submissive heard,
who walked upon the foaming deep,
and calm amid the storm didst sleep:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.**

**vs. 3: O Holy Spirit, who didst brood
upon the chaos dark and rude,
and bid its angry tumult cease,
and give, for wild confusion, peace:
oh, hear us when we cry to thee
for those in peril on the sea.**

vs. 4: O Trinity of love and pow'r,
all trav'lers guard in danger's hour
from rock and tempest, fire and foe,
protect them wheresoe'er they go;
thus evermore shall rise to thee
glad hymns and praise from land and sea.

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.**

LITANY

P: You are the treasured people of the Lord.

C: **a people holy to the Lord our God.**

P: Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

C: **Talk about them when you are home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

P: One does not live by bread alone,

C: **but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**

HYMN OF PRAISE: "Ten Thousand Reasons" ACS #1097

PRAISE, THANKSGIVING

Ten Thousand Reasons

Bless the Lord, O My Soul

1097

Refrain

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;
wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,
O my soul; I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.

The image shows three staves of musical notation in treble clef with a key signature of three sharps (F#, C#, G#). The first staff is labeled 'Refrain' and contains the lyrics 'Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul;'. The second staff contains the lyrics 'wor-ship his ho - ly name. Sing like nev - er be-fore,'. The third staff contains the lyrics 'O my soul; I'll wor-ship your ho - ly name.'.

SALUTATION

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: O God, you show forth your almighty power chiefly by reaching out to us in mercy. Grant us the fullness of your grace, strengthen our trust in your promises, and bring all the world to share in the treasures that come through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Sit

ANTHEM “Mansions of the Lord” by Wallace & Glennie-Smith Chancel Choir

*To fallen soldiers let us sing, where no rockets fly nor bullets wing;
Our broken brothers let us bring to the mansions of the Lord.
No more bleeding, no more fight, no prayers pleading through the night;
Just divine embrace, eternal light in the mansions of the Lord.
Where no mothers cry and no children weep,
we will stand an guard though the angels sleep;
All through the ages safely keep, the mansions of the Lord.*

FIRST READING: 1 Kings 17: 8-16

⁷⁻⁹ Eventually the brook dried up because of the drought. Then God spoke to him: “Get up and go to Zarephath in Sidon and live there. I’ve instructed a woman who lives there, a widow, to feed you.” ¹⁰⁻¹¹ So he got up and went to Zarephath. As he came to the entrance of the village he met a woman, a widow, gathering firewood. He asked her, “Please, would you bring me a little water in a jug? I need a drink.” As she went to get it, he called out, “And while you’re at it, would you bring me something to eat?” ¹² She said, “I swear, as surely as your God lives, I don’t have so much as a biscuit. I have a handful of flour in a jar and a little oil in a bottle; you found me scratching together just enough firewood to make a last meal for my son and me. After we eat it, we’ll die.” ¹³⁻¹⁴ Elijah said to her, “Don’t worry about a thing. Go ahead and do what you’ve said. But first make a small biscuit for me and bring it back here. Then go ahead and make a meal from what’s left for you and your son. This is the word of the God of Israel: ‘The jar of flour will not run out and the bottle of oil will not become empty before God sends rain on the land and ends this drought.’” ¹⁵⁻¹⁶ And she went right off and did it, did just as Elijah asked. And it turned out as he said—daily food for her and her family. The

jar of meal didn't run out and the bottle of oil didn't become empty: God's promise fulfilled to the letter, exactly as Elijah had delivered it!

L: The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL CANTICLE: "The Church's One Foundation" ELW #654 vss. 1 & 5

**vs. 1: 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.**

**vs. 2: 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.**

The Gospel is announced...

P: The Holy Gospel according to the 12th chapter of Mark.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Mark 12:38-44

³⁸⁻⁴⁰ He continued teaching. "Watch out for the religion scholars. They love to walk around in academic gowns, preening in the radiance of public flattery, basking in prominent positions, sitting at the head table at every church function. And all the time they are exploiting the weak and helpless. The longer their prayers, the worse they get. But they'll pay for it in the end." ⁴¹⁻⁴⁴ Sitting across from the offering box, he was observing how the crowd tossed money in for the collection. Many of the rich were making large contributions. One poor widow came up and put in two small coins—a measly two cents. Jesus called his disciples over and said, "The truth is that this poor widow gave more to the collection than all the others put together. All the others gave what they'll never miss; she gave extravagantly what she couldn't afford—she gave her all."

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

SERMON

Stand

HYMN: "Day by Day" ELW #790

**vs. 1: Day by day, your mercies, Lord, attend me,
bringing comfort to my anxious soul.**

**Day by day, the blessings, Lord, you send me
draw me nearer to my heav'nly goal.**

**Love divine, beyond all mortal measure,
brings to naught the burdens of my quest;
Savior, lead me to the home I treasure,
where at last I'll find eternal rest.**

**vs. 2: Day by day, I know you will provide me
strength to serve and wisdom to obey;
I will seek your loving will to guide me
o'er the paths I struggle day by day.**

**I will fear no evil of the morrow,
I will trust in your enduring grace.**

**Savior, help me bear life's pain and sorrow
till in glory I behold your face.**

**vs. 3: Oh, what joy to know that you are near me
when my burdens grow too great to bear;
oh, what joy to know that you will hear me
when I come, O Lord, to you in prayer.**

**Day by day, no matter what betide me,
you will hold me ever in your hand.**

**Savior, with your presence here to guide me,
I will reach at last the promised land.**

APOSTLE'S 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 to the dead.***

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 INTERCESSION

P: Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

A Brief Silence

P: Renew your church, O God. Make us servants to one another for the sake of the gospel. Instill a heart for service and a passion for justice in our bishops, deacons, pastors, and lay leaders. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Renew your creation, O God. Sustain the earth and seas and all that is in them. Kindle in us a reverent awe for all creatures great and small, and strengthen us in our pursuit of climate justice. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Renew the nations, O God. Heal our nation's veterans from the unseen wounds of war. Tend to their trauma and soothe burdened consciences. Guide leaders of the world to end conflicts and pursue peace. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Renew your people, O God. Protect those in our communities who are vulnerable or ill. Accompany persons who are unemployed or underemployed, children who are in foster care, and those who live alone. Watch over and uphold them. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Renew this congregation, O God. Give us clarity in our mission and boldness in our witness. Bless our ministries that attend to basic needs of any who lack sufficient resources, that all may live with dignity. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: Happy are those whose help was in you. We give thanks for all your faithful ones who praised you as their God all their life long. As we eagerly wait for you, inspire us by their lives of service. Merciful God,

C: receive our prayer.

P: We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Sit

OFFERTORY “This is My Song” Kyla Betts

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray.

C: Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name. Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

**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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stand

BLESSING

P: The Ancient One, enthroned, the Crucified One, now risen, the Indwelling One, poured out, ✠ bless you now and forever.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

C: Thanks be to God.

SENDING HYMN: "Jesus Shall Reign" ELW #434 vss. 1, 2 & 4

vs. 1: Jesus shall reign where'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

vs. 2: To him shall endless prayer be made,
and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.

vs. 4: Blessings abound where'er he reigns:
the pris'ners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blest.

POSTLUDE "Duke Street" set by Hopson