

**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  
26<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
November 17, 2024 – New Member Sunday  
8:00 AM Traditional Worship**

**Pastor:** Paula Geister-Jones    **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman  
**Organist/Pianist:** Linda Kunz    **Flute/Piccolo:** Andy Quam  
**Lector:** Sharie Buskager  
**Acolytes:** Caitlyn Helm & Ella Pavolonis  
**Ushers:** Jeffrey Morgan, Jerry Graffin, Jerry Buskager, Mark Holzuter  
**Technical Support:** Thomas Lehr, Roger Slack

November begins with All Saints Day and ends in or near Advent, when we anticipate Christ’s coming again. It is fitting, then, that the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised forgiveness. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet together to provoke one another to love.

**CALL TO WORSHIP “November Song” by Isaacson**

**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: "We Praise You, O God" ELW #870**

**vs. 1: We praise you, O God, our redeemer, creator;  
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.  
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;  
we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.**

**vs. 2: We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers;  
through trial and tempest our guide you have been.  
When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,  
and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.**

**vs. 3: With voices united our praises we offer  
and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.  
With you, Lord, beside us,  
your strong arm will guide us.  
To you, our great redeemer, forever be praise!**

**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.

**SALUTATION**

**P:** The Lord be with you.  
**C:** And also with you.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**P:** Let us pray.  
**C:** Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

*Sit*

**FIRST READING: Daniel 12: 1-3**

<sup>1-2</sup> “That’s when Michael, the great angel-prince, champion of your people, will step in. It will be a time of trouble, the worst trouble the world has ever seen. But your people will be saved from the trouble, every last one found written in the

Book. Many who have been long dead and buried will wake up, some to eternal life, others to eternal shame. <sup>3</sup>“Men and women who have lived wisely and well will shine brilliantly, like the cloudless, star-strewn night skies. And those who put others on the right path to life will glow like stars forever.

**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. 5: Yet she on earth has union  
with God, the Three in One,  
and mystic sweet communion  
with those whose rest is won.  
Oh, blessed heav'nly chorus!  
Lord, save us by your grace,  
that we, like saints before us,  
may see you face to face.**

*The Gospel is announced...*

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to 13<sup>th</sup> chapter of Mark.

**C: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: Mark 13: 1-8**

As he walked away from the Temple, one of his disciples said, “Teacher, look at that stonework! Those buildings!” <sup>2</sup>Jesus said, “You’re impressed by this grandiose architecture? There’s not a stone in the whole works that is not going to end up in a heap of rubble.” <sup>3-4</sup>Later, as he was sitting on Mount Olives in full view of the Temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew got him off by himself and asked, “Tell us, when is this going to happen? What sign will we get that things

are coming to a head?" 5-8 Jesus began, "Watch out for doomsday deceivers. Many leaders are going to show up with forged identities claiming, 'I'm the One.' They will deceive a lot of people. When you hear of wars and rumored wars, keep your head and don't panic. This is routine history, and no sign of the end. Nation will fight nation and ruler fight ruler, over and over. Earthquakes will occur in various places. There will be famines. But these things are nothing compared to what's coming.

**P:** The gospel of the Lord.

**C:** Praise to you, O Christ.

*Sit*

### **SERMON**

*Stand*

**HYMN: "When Peace Like a River" ELW #785**

**vs. 1: When peace like a river attendeth my way,  
when sorrows like sea billows roll,  
whatever my lot, thou hast taught me to say,  
it is well, it is well with my soul.**

#### ***Refrain***

**It is well (it is well)  
with my soul, (with my soul,)  
it is well, it is well with my soul.**

**vs. 2: Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come,  
let this blest assurance control,  
that Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
and has shed his own blood for my soul. *Refrain***

**vs. 3: He lives--oh, the bliss of this glorious thought;  
my sin, not in part, but the whole,  
is nailed to his cross and I bear it no more.  
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul! *Refrain***

### **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:** O God, in the washing of water you set us free from the power of sin and death. Unite all the baptized in the covenant you have made with us, as we strive for your justice and peace in all the earth. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

**P:** By your merciful might you sustain all creation. Stir us from complacency with the harm we inflict on the earth, and urge us to adopt sustainable ways of life that protect and restore our planet. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

**P:** With a selfless power you protect all who take refuge in you. As nations rise against nations, defend all who are displaced or affected by war or violence. Empower all people and nations to pursue peace. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

**P:** In your presence you give fullness of joy. Care for all for whom joy feels distant. Be present with persons experiencing depression, anxiety, addiction, or any mental illness. Bring them healing and wholeness. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

**P:** Through the years you have gathered your church and this community for worship, fellowship, formation, and service. Enable us to look beyond the walls of our building to perceive where you are calling us forward. Merciful God,

**C: receive our prayer.**

**P:** With thanksgiving we remember saints and angels who delight in your everlasting presence. As their lives inspire ours, provoke us always to love, holding fast to the confession of our hope in you. 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 “Morceau de Concours” Brieff/Fauré**

### **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.**

### **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

#### **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.**

### **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

**P:** Behold, God is making all things new. Take your place in the new creation.

### **COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION**

*Music is played as those who wish to come forward for communion come forward and kneel at the communion rail. Others are invited to commune in your pew.*

### **COMMUNION BLESSING**

**P:** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace till life everlasting.

**C: Amen.**

### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**P:** Faithful God,

**C: you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. 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: "O God of Every Nation" ELW #713 (\*see note about hymn)**

**vs. 1: O God of ev'ry nation,  
of ev'ry race and land,  
redeem your whole creation  
with your almighty hand;  
where hate and fear divide us**



and bitter threats are hurled,  
in love and mercy guide us  
and heal our strife-torn world.

vs. 2: From search for wealth and power  
and scorn of truth and right,  
from trust in bombs that shower  
destruction through the night,  
from pride of race and station  
and blindness to your way,  
deliver ev'ry nation,  
eternal God, we pray.

vs. 4: Keep bright in us the vision  
of days when war shall cease,  
when hatred and division  
give way to love and peace,  
till dawns the morning glorious  
when truth and love shall reign,  
and Christ shall rule victorious  
o'er all the world's domain.

*\*This hymn was first sung in November 1958. To appreciate the context, we need to remember that the late 1950s followed two world wars and the Korean War. The Cold War was fully blown by 1958. The world was concerned with the nuclear threat that could lead to World War III. The Rev. Reid (author of the text) writes from personal experience. Reid served in the United States Army Medical Corps (1943-1945), earned three battle stars, and was imprisoned in Germany for eight months. He understood the nature of war. In the final stanza he pleads for a "bright . . . vision" of the cessation of "war . . . , hatred and division." Offering an antithesis to the metaphorical night that shadows a world of impending destruction and looking toward the "dawn" where Christ will reign in "truth and justice."*

**POSTLUDE: "Llangloffan" set by Callahan and Biery**