

WELCOME TO WORSHIP
Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 8, 2026
9:15 AM Worship Lite

Pastor: Paula Geister-Jones **Lay Ministry Administrator:** Jenny Hoffman
Organist/Pianist: Linda Kunz
Lector: Michael Warwick **Acolyte:** Gretchen Wethal & Myles Rostowfske
Ushers: Austin Gallagher
Technical Support: Thomas Lehr, Roger Slack

Today Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

CALL TO WORSHIP: "Blessed Assurance" Knapp/Carlson

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS
All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers.
C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy God,

C: we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.

P: Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

C: Amen.

Stand

GATHERING SONG: "Give Me Oil in My Lamp" #158 Life Songs

vs. 1: Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning.
Give me oil in my lamp, I pray.
Give me oil in my lamp, keep me burning.
Keep me burning till the break of day.

Refrain: Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
sing hosanna to the king of kings (2x)

vs. 2: Give me love in my heart, keep me sharing.
Give me love in my heart, I pray.
Give me love in my heart, keep me sharing.
Keep me sharing till the break of day. Refrain…

vs. 4: Give me faith in my heart, keep me praying.
Give me faith in my heart, I pray.
Give me faith in my heart, keep me praying.
Keep me praying till the break of day. Refrain…

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 at 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.

SONG OF PRAISE: "Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"
#886 ELW vss. 1, 3 & 6

vs. 1: Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of his grace!

vs. 3: The name of Jesus charms our fears
and bids our sorrows cease,
sings music in the sinner's ears,
brings life and health and peace.

vs. 6: To God all glory, praise, and love
be now and ever giv'n
by saints below and saints above,
the church in earth and heav'n.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY
P: Let us pray.
C: O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GOSPEL SONG: "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" #172 ELW
Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Halle, halle, hallelujah.
Halle, halle, hallelujah.

Hallelujah. Hallelujah.

The Gospel is announced…

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 25th Chapter

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13

Narrator: Jesus told a parable.[1-5] "God's kingdom is like ten young virgins who took oil lamps and went out to greet the bridegroom. Five were silly and five were smart. The silly virgins took lamps, but no extra oil. The smart virgins took jars of oil to feed their lamps. The bridegroom didn't show up when they expected him, and they all fell asleep. [6] "In the middle of the night someone yelled out,

Someone (All): 'He's here! The bridegroom's here! Go out and greet him!'

Narrator: [7-8] "The ten virgins got up and got their lamps ready. The silly virgins said to the smart ones,

Silly Virgins (Men and Boys): 'Our lamps are going out; lend us some of your oil.'

Smart Virgins (Women and Girls): [9] 'There might not be enough to go around; go buy your own.'

Narrator: [10] "They did, but while they were out buying oil, the bridegroom arrived. When everyone who was there to greet him had gone into the wedding feast, the door was locked. [11] "Much later, the other virgins, the silly ones, showed up and knocked on the door, saying,

Silly Virgins (Men and Boys): 'Master, we're here. Let us in.'

Narrator: [12] "He answered, 'Do I know you? I don't think I know you.' [13] "So stay alert. You have no idea when he might arrive.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sit

CHILDREN'S WORD / THE WORD

Stand

SONG OF THE WORD: "What a Fellowship, What a Joy Divine" #774 ELW

vs. 1: What a fellowship, what a joy divine,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
what a blessedness, what a peace is mine,

leaning on the everlasting arms.

Refrain: Leaning, leaning, safe and secure from all alarms;
leaning, leaning, leaning on the everlasting arms.

vs. 2: Oh, how sweet to walk in this pilgrim way,
leaning on the everlasting arms;
oh, how bright the path grows from day to day,
leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*...

vs. 3: What have I to dread, what have I to fear,
leaning on the everlasting arms?
I have blessed peace with my Lord so near,
leaning on the everlasting arms. *Refrain*...

APOSTLE'S CREED

P: Do you believe in God the Father?
C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

P: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?
C: 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.

P: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?
C: 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: United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence

P: You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict. Uphold veterans and those who care for them. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.

C: Amen.

THE SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

C: And also with you.

Sit

OFFERING SONG: "Make Me a Servant" #137 Lifesongs

Make me a servant Humble and meek.
Lord let me lift up Those who are weak.
And may the prayer of my heart always be
Make me a servant. Make me a servant.
Make me a servant today.

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 holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.

C: Amen.

DISMISSAL

P: Go in peace. Encourage one another.

C: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE: "Oh, Happy Day When We Shall Stand" Herman/Miller