

Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2020



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+ PREPARATION +

MEMORY VERSE OF THE MONTH

Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His steadfast love endures forever. *Psalms 107:1*

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

- P** Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.
- C** You have been our good and faithful Master.
- P** You have poured out blessings upon us.
- C** You have given us all we need to support this body and life.
- P** We meditate on all that You have done.
- C** We ponder the work of Your hands.
- P** On account of Your name, O Lord, preserve our lives.
- C** In Your righteousness, bring us out of trouble.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P** Indeed, our heavenly Father has done wonderful things for us. He has given us more than we could ever ask for or imagine. Yet, there have been times when we have been ungrateful for God's gifts, times when we have been lazy and selfish with what He has given us, times when we have been unfaithful servants. Yet, our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him and ask for His forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

- P** Heavenly Father,
- C** we confess that we have not been faithful with all of the good gifts You have given us. We have sinned in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have failed by our inactivity. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, O Lord, that we might be restored as Your servants.
- P** God hears your confession and has promised to be with you always. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** Amen. We are forgiven. We are restored in Jesus.

+ WORD +

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Zephaniah 1:7–16

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. ⁸And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice— "I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. ⁹On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. ¹⁰"On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. ¹¹Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.' ¹³Their goods 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." ¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. ¹⁵A day of wrath is that day, 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, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

G Thanks be to God.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14–30

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

G Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴[Jesus said:] "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²²And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master answered

him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SERMON “What are you drinking?” 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

CREED Apostles’ Creed

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

After each petition, please respond with the following:

P Lord, in your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

At the end of the prayer:

C Amen.

LORD’S PRAYER

BENEDICTION

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Congregation at Prayer and Devotions for the Week

Invocation In the name of the Father, and of the Son ✠, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

Introit (found on front page)

Catechism Review (found on front page)

Meditation: Portals of Prayer, www.lhm.org/dailydevotions, Other

Daily Scripture Readings

Sunday: Jeremiah 30:1-24; Matthew 26:57-75
Monday: Jeremiah 31:1-17, 23-24; Matthew 27:1-10
Tuesday: Jeremiah 33:1-22; Matthew 27:11-32
Wednesday: Jeremiah 37:1-21; Matthew 27:33-56
Thursday: Jeremiah 38:1-28; Matthew 27:57-66
Friday: Daniel 1:1-21; Matthew 28:1-20
Saturday: Daniel 2:1-23; Revelation 18:1-24

In Our Prayers This Week (as of Thursday morning)

Roger, health issues	Al, health issues
Bill, recovery	Linda, brain cancer
Larry, heart issues	Family of Darrell - passed away
Becky, back pain	Denise, addictions
Camilla, 7-year-old with brain cancer	Carrie, healing from a stroke
Jack, ongoing health issues	Vonna's mother
Beth, health issues	Lauren's mother
Eunice, Health Issues	Jackie's mother
Jim, Alzheimer's	Sharron's father
Roger, recovering	Ross, Covid
Lois, recovering	Carole, Covid
Larry, health issues	Denise, Covid
Chris, recovering after a fall	Amy, Covid

Sidney, granddaughter of Steinke's with medical issues

For those in nursing homes, medical professionals, those whose employment is in question, and that the Lord would miraculously make all signs of this virus disappear so all may know it is by His merciful hand. For peace and humility to dwell in the hearts of the people of our land.

Our Savior Families: Mary Jo, Gerald, Judy, Carol, Christopher, Peggy

Hymn of the Week "Fruitful Trees, The Spirit's Sowing" LSB 691

Collect (found on front page)

Apostles' Creed, Lord's Prayer, Benediction