



“Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”
Matthew 25:13

Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost

November 8, 2020

Shared on Augsburg Lutheran Church YouTube Channel

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. 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.

*The mission of Augsburg Evangelical Lutheran Church is to glorify God
by proclaiming the gospel of Jesus Christ through
worship, witness, education, service and fellowship.*

SERVICE OF THE WORD

Evangelical Lutheran Worship (ELW) Setting Four

The paraments are green during the season of Pentecost to indicate our growth in faith as we follow the teachings and ministry of Christ.

✠ GATHERING ✠

ACCLAMATION

Timothy Olsen

Alleluia. Keep awake and be ready,
for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Alleluia.
(Matthew 24:42, 44)

OPENING PRELUDE Intermezzo, Op. 118, No. 2
Robert Ulery, piano

Johannes Brahms

We stand.

RINGING OF THE BELL

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

We stand. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

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

Amen.

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.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive 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.

In the mercy of almighty God,
Jesus Christ was given to die for us,
and for his sake God forgives us all 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.

Amen.

The assembly turns to face the cross as it enters the sanctuary, following the cross as we have followed Jesus into this holy place and time of corporate worship.

GATHERING HYMN 827 Arise, My Soul, Arise!

NYT YLÖS, SIELUNI



Nyt y - lös, sie - lu - ni, nous' y - lös mul - last' täs - tä!
 1 A - rise, my soul, a - rise! Stretch forth to things e - ter - nal
 2 Now hear the harps of heav'n! Oh, hear the song vic - to - rious,



Käy jal - kain juu - reen Ju - ma - lan ja Ka - rit - san.
 and has - ten to the feet of your re - deem - er God,
 the nev - er - end - ing an - them sound - ing through the sky!



Ja vaikk' ei sil - mä - ni va - lo - a Her - ran kes - tä,
 who, hid from mor - tal eyes, yet dwells in light su - per - nal;
 To mor - tals is not giv'n to join in strains so glo - rious;



niin kui - ten - kin sä rie - mü - ten käy lau - la - maan.
 so wor - ship God in hum - ble - ness, your sov - 'reign Lord.
 yet here on earth we too can sing our prais - es high!



I - äi - seen i - loon ja juh - laan ja - loon
 The ban - quet of love a - waits you a - bove;
 Christ bought with his blood the ran - somed of God;



oot Ka - rit - san sä suu - riin häi - hin kut - sut - tu.
 yet here you have a fore - taste of the feast to come!
 to him be ev - er - last - ing pow'r and vic - to - ry.



Tai - va - han kun - ni - a on Her - ran ar - mos - ta
 Re - joice, my soul, re - joice, to heav'n lift up your voice:
 And let the great a - men re - sound through heav'n a - gain.



sun o - sa - si, sun pe - rin - tös ja ta - va - ras.
 **Siis rie - müit - se ja a - jat - te - le au - tuut - tas.*
 1, 2 Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia!

**The Finnish stanza repeats the last line of music.*

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

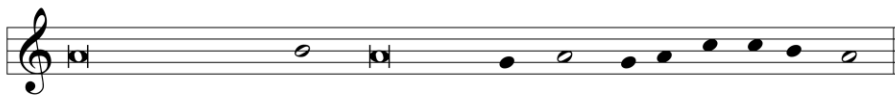
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE

Refrain
Assisting minister



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

All



1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us



free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and



strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the



hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and



might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

Final Refrain



This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain has be-



gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

After the prayer the assembly responds: **Amen.**

We sit.

WELCOME

✠ WORD ✠

FIRST READING Amos 5:18-24

Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD! Why do you want the day of the LORD? It is darkness, not light; as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 70

Setting by Nancy Raabe

Refrain: Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.

¹Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;

O LORD, make haste to help me.

²Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;

let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced. **℟**

³Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat over me

turn back because of their shame.

⁴Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;

let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great is the LORD!” **℟**

⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.

You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry. **℟**

SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* **Thanks be to God.**

We stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

We sit.

SERMON

Pastor Wollner

We stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY 436 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying

WACHET AUF

1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
 2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
 3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and

on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
 heart with joy is spring - ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
 an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym - bal's clear - est tone.

Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
 Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
 Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to

thrill - ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid - ens! Night is past.
 grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
 bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.

The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
 Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
 No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun - d'ring might

Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
 Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
 of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!

go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
 and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
 There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556-1608; tr. composite
 Music: WACHET AUF, Philipp Nicolai
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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 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

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

Each portion of the prayers concludes:

Lord, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

Amen.

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

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

We sit.

✠ THANKSGIVING ✠

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Zion Hears the Watchmen Singing

J.S. Bach

*Zion hört die Wächter singen, das Herz tut ihr vor Freude springen,
sie wacht und stehet eilend auf.*

*Ihr Freund kommt vom Himmel prächtig, von Gnaden stark, von Wahrheit mächtig,
ihr Licht wird hell, ihr Stern geht auf.*

*Nun komm, du werthe Kron, Herr Jesu, Gottes Sohn! Hosianna!
Wir folgen all zum Freudensaal und halten mit das Abendmahl.*

Zion hears the watchmen singing, and all her heart with joy is springing.
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.

Her dear friend comes down, all glorious, the strong in grace, in truth victorious:
her star is ris'n; her light is come.

Now come, O Blessed One, Lord Jesus, God's own Son. Sing hosanna!
Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all, and follow to the banquet hall.

We stand.

OFFERTORY HYMN

Praise God, from whom all bles - sings flow; praise God, all
crea - tures here be - low; praise God a - bove, ye
heav'n - ly host; praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

✠ SENDING ✠

BLESSING

The Lord bless you...and ✠ give you peace.



SENDING HYMN 494 For the Bread Which You Have Broken

OMNI DIE

1 For the bread which you have bro - ken, for the wine which you have poured,
 2 By this prom - ise that you love us, by your gift of peace re - stored,
 3 With the saints who now a - dore you, seat - ed at the heav'n - ly board,
 4 In your ser - vice, Lord, de - fend us; in our hearts keep watch and ward;

for the words which you have spo - ken, now we give you thanks, O Lord.
 by your call to heav'n a - bove us, hal - low all our lives, O Lord.
 may the church still wait - ing for you keep love's tie un - bro - ken, Lord.
 in the world to which you send us let your king - dom come, O Lord.

Text: Louis F. Benson, 1855–1930, alt.

Music: OMNI DIE, *Gross Catolisch Gesangbuch*, Nürnberg, 1631; arr. William Smith Rockstro, 1823–1895

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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!**POSTLUDE** *from* Toccata in G, BWV 916

J. S. Bach

*Robert Ulerý, piano****Soli Deo Gloria***

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Announcements

The altar flowers today are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of The Reverend Stephen Paul Gerhard by his widow, Barbara Gerhard.

This week we keep in prayer Molly Montgomery, 133 Sycamore Commons Lane, Advance, NC 27006-7480. Please send **Molly** a note.

Reminder that The Annual Meeting (Part 1) of Augsburg Lutheran Church will take place this morning, November 8 at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Part 2 of the Annual Meeting will be November 22 at 11:00 a.m. via Zoom.

Week two of Pastor Paul's and Intern Paul's Bible study continues Tuesday, November 10. Join them as they explore how the Psalms were differently used by their original recipients, the Hebrew people. A Zoom link to this 2:00 p.m. study will be sent via Flocknote. As always, everyone is welcome and no preparation is required.

Virtual Greeting for Augsburg Services – We miss seeing you! Greeting coordinator Art Kainz invites you to volunteer to video a greeting at the start of our services. Contact Art at arthurkainz@gmail.com for the simple instructions.

If you have not submitted your photo for the Augsburg Directory, please do so as [time is running out to be included](#). Email them to Kathy Barnes at kathy@alcws.org.

Please remember to return your 2021 Statement of Intent card as soon as possible! You may fill it out online at www.alcws.org/intent2021, mail it in, or drop it off at the office.

We keep you in prayer during our time apart. Our pastors continue to be available for your pastoral care needs. If you would like to reach a pastor, please call their cell phones, send them a text, or an email. Pastor Paul is 803-331-5970 or seniorpastor@alcws.org and Pastor Lori is 336-414-2838 or pastoralassociate@alcws.org

God's work continues at Augsburg, and while we can't gather in person, our hands can still help carry out that work wherever we are through our love and our resources. Because important ministries continue during our facilities closure, offerings can still be shared through any of these suggested options: drop it in the mail, use the bill pay services that your bank offers, or use Realm to give online. Visit our website—www.augsburglutheran-ws.org—and click on “Give Now” for more information. Thank you for all the ways that you support God's work at Augsburg, your Stewardship Team.

Readings for next week: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18; Psalm 90:1-8, 12; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30

Worship attendance for services last week: 215 views on YouTube.

Providing Service Today

Bulletin Cover Artist

Aiden Richardson

Reader

Anderson Lippard

Preaching

Pastor Wollner

Quartet

Karen Kooken, Daniele Olsen, Timothy Olsen, Bruce Tippet

Greeters

Jim and Edith Eubanks

Assisting Minister

Pastor Carter

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A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, North Carolina Synod

Rev. Paul A. Wollner, Senior Pastor

Rev. Lori H. Carter, Pastoral Associate for Congregational Care

Dr. Timothy Olsen, Cantor

Nancy Carbone, Parish Administrator

Kathy Barnes, Executive Assistant

Leigh Anna Voigt, Dir. of Faith Formation

Bruce Tippet, Youth Music and Handbell Dir.

Robin Welch, Youth Coordinator

Paul Anders, WFU Divinity Student Intern

Hannah Norem, Communications Assistant

Reggie Jackson, Lead Sexton

Carl Davis and John Stepney, Sextons

Augsburg Lutheran Church is a Stephen Ministry Congregation