

*November 15, 2020*  
*The Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost*

*St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church*

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*St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church exists by the grace of God to be the body of Christ in Holbrook. Therefore, we proclaim God's word to the world, teach the faithful, administer the sacraments, and show the love of Christ in care for our community.  
Welcome! Every person who comes to worship is a special gift from God. Thank you for being with us today!*

## Serving in God's house

Presiding Minister: Rev. Dr. George Kirkup  
Assisting Minister: Rev. Bruce Nathan (11am)  
Readers: Scott Krause (9am)  
Organist: Marie Diane Melfi

*Stand*

### We Give Thee But Thine Own

*LSB 781:1,6*

- 1 We give Thee but Thine own, Whate'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is Thine alone, A trust, O Lord, from Thee.  
6 And we believe Thy Word, Though dim our faith may be:  
Whate'er for Thine we do, O Lord, We do it unto Thee.

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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**P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C** who made heaven and earth.

**P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C** and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

**P** O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C** I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

**P** Upon this your confession... I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

*Psalm 143*

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!  
In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!

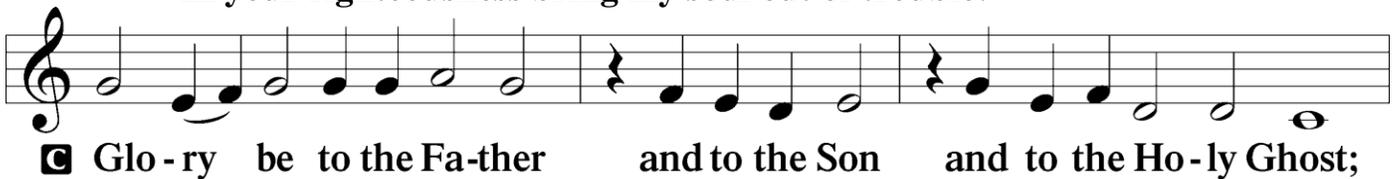
**Enter not into judgment with your servant,  
for no one living is righteous before you.**

I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done;  
I ponder the work of your hands.

**I stretch out my hands to you;  
my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**

Teach me to do your will, for you are my God!  
Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!

**For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life!  
In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!**



Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!  
In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!

☐ **Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

☐ **Glory be to God on High,**

☐ **and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.**

**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee.**

**we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.**

**O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.**

**O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;**

**O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,**

**that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.**

**Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.**

**Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.**

**For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.**

**Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,**

**art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And with thy spirit.**

**P** Let us pray...

**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

OLD TESTAMENT READING

*Zephaniah 1:7–16*

**A** The Old Testament Reading for the Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost is from Zephaniah, chapter one.

Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. And 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. On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud.

"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. Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. At 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.' Their 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."

The 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. A 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, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

*Psalm 90:1–12*

Lord, you have been our dwelling place  
in all generations.

**Before the mountains were brought forth, or ever you had formed the earth and the world, from everlasting to everlasting you are God.**

You return man to dust  
and say, "Return, O children of man!"

**For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past,  
or as a watch in the night.**

You sweep them away as with a flood;  
they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning:

**in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;  
in the evening it fades and withers.**

For we are brought to an end by your anger;  
by your wrath we are dismayed.

**You have set our iniquities before you,  
our secret sins in the light of your presence.**

For all our days pass away under your wrath;  
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

**The years of our life are seventy, or even by reason of strength eighty;  
yet their span is but toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.**

Who considers the power of your anger,  
and your wrath according to the fear of you?

**So teach us to number our days  
that we may get a heart of wisdom.**

EPISTLE

*1 Thessalonians 5:1–11*

**A** The Epistle is from First Thessalonians, chapter five.

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While 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. But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But 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. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

**A** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

ALLELUIA

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HOLY GOSPEL

*Matthew 25:14–30*

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

**C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

[Jesus said:] “It will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And 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.' His 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.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His 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.' He 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, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But 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? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For 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. And 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 be to Thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

*LSB back cover*

*Sit*

The Day Is Surely Drawing Near

*LSB 508:1*

The day is surely drawing near When Jesus, God's anointed,  
In all His power shall appear As judge whom God appointed.  
Then fright shall banish idle mirth, And flames on flames shall ravage earth  
As Scripture long has warned us.

SERMON

**"The Rich Get Richer"**

*Stand*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

**P** Lord, in Your mercy,

**C** hear our prayer.

(11AM only continue to SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT)

*Stand*

LORD'S PRAYER

COLLECT FOR THE WORD

**P** Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, You have caused... through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
 The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.  
 The Lord life up His countenance upon you and ✠ give you peace.
- C** **Amen, amen, amen.**

## Take My Life and Let It Be

LSB 783:1-2

- 1 Take my life and let it be consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
 Take my moments and my days, let them flow in ceaseless praise.
- 2 Take my hands and let them move at the impulse of Thy love;  
 Take my feet and let them be swift and beautiful for Thee.

## Sung Benediction

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.  
 The Lord bless you. The Lord keep you. Alleluia. Amen

*In Holy Communion, our Lord invites us to eat and drink His true body and blood. In preparation for this sacrament, each communicant will examine himself and come to the Lord's Table seeking forgiveness of sins. As the catechism says, "a person is truly worthy and well prepared who has faith in these words: 'Given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins.'" Therefore we expect all communicants to have been baptized, instructed in the Christian faith, repent of their sins, and believe that Jesus here offers His true body and blood for their forgiveness.*

## SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

- P** The Lord be with you.  
**C** **And with thy spirit.**  
**P** Lift up your hearts.  
**C** **We lift them up unto the Lord.**  
**P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.  
**C** **It is meet and right so to do.**  
**P** It is truly meet right and salutary ... evermore praising God and saying:  
**C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;**  
**heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.**  
**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**  
**Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.**  
**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

LORD'S PRAYER

(11AM only)

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

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- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.  
**C** **Amen.**

*Sit*

DISTRIBUTION

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How Clear Is Our Vocation, Lord  
Saints, See the Cloud of Witnesses

*LSB 853*  
*LSB 667*

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,  
**C** and His mercy endureth forever.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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BENEDICTION



**IN OUR PRAYERS:** Barbara Widera, Gene Maceiko, Gladys Kuehl, David Spengler, Charlie Mannino, Joyce Barbagallo, Arlene Enz

**CHURCH MEMBERS:** Marie Melfi, Nancy Cataldo, John Wimmer, Ken Skjeveland, Rich and Betty Kuerner, MaryAnne Boucher, Yvonne Germano, Elizabeth and Bill Armstrong, Shirley Debra, Mercedes Lee

**OUR SHUT-INS:** Dorothy Kranz, Charles and Ethel Nenstiel

**THOSE IN THE MILITARY:** Jonathan Swedborg (Rangers), Mark Kummer (USN), Kristine Broger (USA), Michael Deck (USAF), Patrick Ullrich (USA)

**OUR CHILDREN:** Andrew Zeo, Erin Nicole Kuerner, Emma Ullrich, Rebecca Shannon, Emily Heuthe, Kaitlyn Martin, Casey Angelo, Ryleigh Barovgdsn, Liam Balroop, Thomas Cataldo, Stephen Enz

**FRIENDS OF ST. JOHN'S:** Bonnie Krumsiek, Michelle Melfi, Esther Laub, Bill Leidich, Jacquelyn Berntsen, Joan Wiemer, Edward Greco, Denise Costo, Frank Sandmeyer, Sunil Balmick, Janice Hanhan, Balmick Persaud, Bonnie Rivera, Beth Laine Mattarella, Bob Selkirk, Carloyn & Harry Gronlund, Bonnie Schulman, Annette Barone, Kim Hoffes, Mary and Elaine Ott, Ann and Christine Schulz, Michele Marquardt, Michael and Joanne Yandlino, Augie and Frances Clements, Alex Wernikowski, Eric Harbord, Rose Neiver, Michael Schepp, Heather Williams, Dee Jannaracullo, Joan Heuthe, Valerie Lake