

24th Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2020

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH & PRESCHOOL

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THE GOSPEL OF ST. MATTHEW SERVICE

Worship in a traditional order drawing words from Matthew's Gospel.

Matthew is the focus of Year A Gospel readings in the Lectionary.

Opening Hymn *Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding*

LSB 345; tune: 848



1 Hark! A thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is near," we
2 So, when next He comes in glo - ry And the world is



hear it say. "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,
wrapped in fear, He will shield us with His mer - cy



All you chil - dren of the day!" See, the Lamb, so long ex -
And with words of love draw near. Hon - or, glo - ry, might, do -

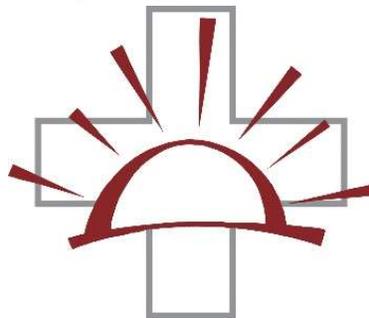


pect - ed, Comes with par - don down from heav'n. Let us
min - ion To the Fa - ther and the Son With the



haste, with tears of sor - row, One and all, to be for - giv'n;
ev - er liv - ing Spir - it While e - ter - nal a - ges run!

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Invocation (Based on Matthew 11:28-30)

P: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: ***Amen.***

P: Jesus says, “Come to Me all who are weary, and I will give You rest.

Take My yoke upon you, and learn from Me.

For I am gentle and lowly in heart.”

C: ***For You have promised we will find rest for our souls.***

P: For His yoke is easy, and His burden is light.

C: ***Amen.***

Confession and Absolution (Matthew 22:34-40;19:16-26;18:13-14,19-20;20:28)

P: When asked “Teacher, what is the great commandment in the Law?”, Jesus said,

C: ***You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart***

and with all your soul and with all your mind.

And you shall love your neighbor as yourself.

P: Jesus said, “If you would be perfect, go, sell what you possess and give to the poor, and you will have treasure in heaven; and come, follow Me.”

C: ***This brings us sorrow, Lord,***

Because we treasure many things which are not focused on You.

Who then can be saved?

P: Jesus declares, “With people this is impossible,

but with God all things are possible.”

He rejoices more over finding one lost sheep than over the ninety-nine that never went astray. It is not His will that one of you should perish.

C: ***For the Lord has promised:***

Where two or three are gathered in His Name,

He is among us with His forgiveness.

P: Indeed, He is here in the power of His forgiveness for you today.

He comes not to be served

but to serve, to give His life as a ransom for you.

Therefore, in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: ***Amen.***

Gloria in Excelsis (based on Matthew 20:28)

LSB 971, st. 2

2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, Name a - bove all names;
Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Hope for sin - ners slain.
kefran
Thank You, O my Fa - ther, For giv-ing us Your Son,
And leav - ing Your Spir-it Till the work on earth is done.

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Collect (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.

Acknowledgements

This liturgy arranged and written by the Rev. Dr. Benjamin C. Squires; with the assistance of the Pastors of Circuit 1 of the Northern Illinois District (LCMS).

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Anthem**'Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus****Adult Choir**

- Use the anthem's music and words to help you to meditate on God's Word and His truth for you today. Maintain this as meditative time.

'Tis so sweet to trust in Jesus, And to take him at his word;
Just to rest upon his promise, And to know, "Thus saith the Lord."
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!
Yes, 'tis sweet to trust in Jesus, Just from sin and self to cease;
Just from Jesus simply taking Life and rest, and joy and peace.
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!
I'm so glad I learned to trust thee, Precious Jesus, Savior, friend;
And I know that thou art with me, Wilt be with me to the end.
Jesus, Jesus, how I trust him! How I've proved him o'er and o'er!
Jesus, Jesus, precious Jesus! O for grace to trust him more!

Old Testament Reading Old Testament**Zephaniah 1:7-16(ESV)**

- 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.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

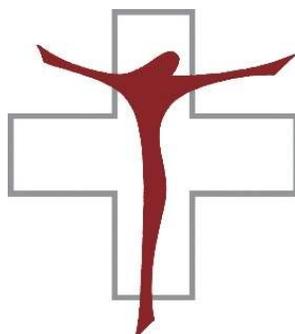
Epistle (New Testament Letter)

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11 (ESV)

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.

C: **Thanks be to God.**



Song of Praise

Here I am To Worship



1. Light of the world, You stepped down in - to dark - ness, o - pened my eyes, let me -
2. King of all days, oh so high - ly ex - alt - ed, glo - rious in heav - en a -



— see. — Beau - ty that made this — heart a - dore — You, hope of a life spent with —
—bove. — Hum - bly You came to the earth You cre - a - ted, all for love's sake be - came.

Chorus



— You. — So, here I am to wor - ship, here I am to bow down, here I am to
— poor. —



say that You're my God. — And You're al - to - geth - er love - ly, al - to - geth - er

1., 2, return to chorus 3.



wor - thy, al - to - geth - er won - der - ful to me. —

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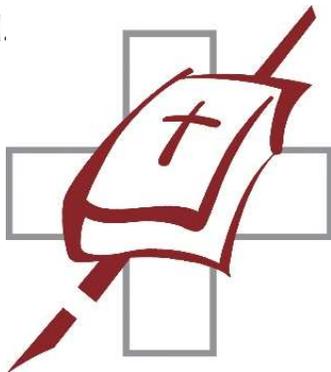
Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:14–30(ESV)

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: *Thanks be to God.*



Hymn of the Day

The Day Is Surely Drawing Near

LSB 508 sts. 1-2, 5, 7 7



1 The day is sure - ly draw - ing near When Je - sus, God's a - noint - ed,
2 The fi - nal trum - pet then shall sound And all the earth be shak - en,
5 My Sav - ior paid the debt I owe And for my sin was smit - ten;
7 O Je - sus Christ, do not de - lay, But has - ten our sal - va - tion;



In all His pow - er shall ap - pear As judge whom God ap -
And all who rest be - neath the ground Shall from their sleep a -
With - in the Book of Life I know My name has now been
We of - ten trem - ble on our way In fear and trib - u -



point - ed. Then fright shall ban - ish i - dle mirth, And flames on
wak - en. But all who live will in that hour, By God's al -
writ - ten. I will not doubt, for I am free, And Sa - tan
la - tion. O hear and grant our fer - vent plea: Come, might - y

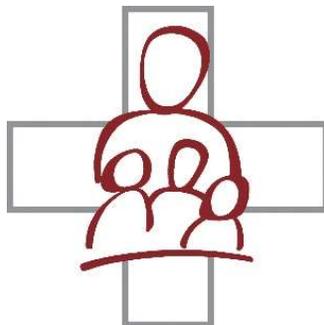


flames shall rav - age earth As Scrip - ture long has warned us.
might - y, bound - less pow'r, Be changed at His com - mand - ing.
can - not threat - en me; There is no con - dem - na - tion!
judge, and set us free From death and ev - 'ry e - vil.

Sermon

Buried Treasure

Matthew 25:14-30



Confession of Faith from Matthew 11:2-6; 16:13-16

P: When John the Baptist heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples and said to Jesus, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?”

C: ***Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”***

P: Jesus asked His disciples, using the title “Son of Man” to speak about Himself, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?”
And the disciples said, “Some say John the Baptist, others say Elijah, and others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.”
Then He asked them, “But who do you say that I am?”
And I also ask you, disciples here today, “Who do you say that Jesus is?”

C: ***Simon Peter replied, and we also say, “You are the Christ, the Son of the living God.” Amen.***

Prayer of the Church

(At the end of each petition Pastor and the congregation respond)

P: Lord, in your mercy,

C: ***Hear our Prayer.***

The Lord’s Supper: What We Believe

All Christians who are baptized and have been instructed are invited to receive Communion with us if you believe as we do—that the bread is the body of Christ, and the wine is the blood of Christ, truly present for us for the forgiveness of our sins.

If this is a new teaching to you, or if this is different than you believe, we ask that you wait to commune until we’ve had a further chance to talk. We invite those who are not communing to come to the rail, cross your arms, and receive a blessing from the Lord.



Communion Distribution

Communion will be held in the Bethel gym from 11:15am until Noon. Additional details on the communion process are available at the end of this bulletin.

Preface of the Lord's Supper (based on Matthew 21:1-11; 26:2; 3:17; 17:15; 25:34)

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: The Lord sent His prophet to say to the people of Zion, Jerusalem,
'Behold, your king is coming to you,
humble, and mounted on a donkey.'"

And when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the people welcomed Him saying:

C: "Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Hosanna in the highest!"

P: The whole city was stirred up, saying, "Who is this?" And the crowds said,

C: "This is the prophet Jesus, from Nazareth of Galilee."

P: But Jesus was not just another one of the prophets,
as God the Father declared at His Baptism:

C: "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased."

P: And God the Father reminded the disciples again at His Transfiguration:

C: "This is My beloved Son, with whom I am well pleased; listen to Him."

P: Then Jesus reminded the disciples in Jerusalem that "the Passover is coming,
and the Son of Man will be delivered up to be crucified." By His crucifixion, and
by His Supper, He extends this invitation: "Come, you who are blessed by my
Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world."

Proper Preface for Matthew

LSB "Apostles and Evangelists"

P: We pray: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all
places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God; for You
have mightily governed and protected Your holy Church, in which the blessed
apostles and evangelists proclaimed Your divine and saving Gospel. Therefore
with patriarchs and prophets, apostles and evangelists, with Your servant
Matthew, and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your
glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus (based on Matthew 26:26–29)

LSB 445, st. 1 & 3, alt.



1 When You woke that Thurs - day morn - ing, Sav - ior,
teach - er, faith - ful friend, What great gift that you would
give them, What last will and tes - ta - ment?
“Show Me and the world you love Me, Know Me
as the Lamb of God: Do this in re - mem - brance
of Me, Eat this bod - y, drink this blood.”

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Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB “Apostles and Evangelists”

P: You once proclaimed Your saving promise through the prophets of Israel, and by the apostles and evangelists You published the good news of Your saving promise fulfilled in the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Grant that we, being instructed in the doctrine of the blessed apostles and evangelists, may faithfully eat His body and drink His blood and declare His salvation to all the world.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

P: Lord, remember us in Your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

All: 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.

Words of Institution as in the Gospel of Matthew Matthew 26:17a, 20–21, 26–30

P: ¹⁷Now on the first day of Unleavened Bread,... ²⁰when it was evening, [Jesus] reclined at table with the twelve [to eat the Passover meal]. ²¹And as they were eating, he said, “Truly, I say to you, one of you will betray me.” ²⁶[Then] Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, “Take, eat; this is my body.” ²⁷And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, “Drink of it, all of you, ²⁸for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. ²⁹I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father’s kingdom.” ³⁰And when they had sung a hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives.

Pax Domini (The Peace of the Lord)

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

(We greet one another in peace saying “God’s peace” or “The Lord be with you.”)

Post-Communion Prayer (Based on Matthew 1:22-23; 2:5-6; 3:17; 3:16)

P: Let us pray. Lord, all this has taken place to fulfill what You had spoken by the prophet, “They shall call His Name Immanuel—God with us.” And it was also written, “From Bethlehem... shall come a ruler who will shepherd My people Israel.” Jesus came preaching, saying, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand,” and now we are the people dwelling in darkness who have seen a great light, those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, and on us a light has dawned in the Gospel of Jesus Christ and in His body and blood given to us.

C: Amen.

Benediction (Blessing) (Based on Matthew 28:18-20)

P: As Jesus said to His disciples before He ascended into heaven, He says to you,
“All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.
Go therefore and make disciples of all nations,
baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit,
teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you.
And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

C: Amen.

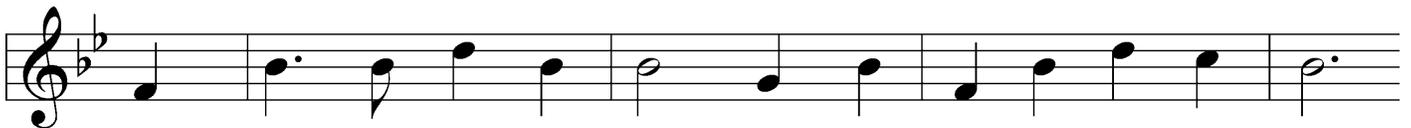
Closing Hymn

Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus

LSB 660



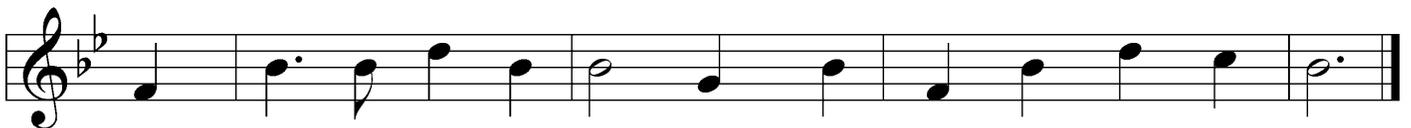
1 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus, Ye sol - diers of the cross.
2 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The trum - pet call o - bey;
3 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; Stand in His strength a - lone.
4 Stand up, stand up for Je - sus; The strife will not be long;



Lift high His roy - al ban - ner; It must not suf - fer loss.
Stand forth in might - y con - flict In this His glo - rious day.
The arm of flesh will fail you, Ye dare not trust your own.
This day the din of bat - tle, The next the vic - tor's song.



From vic - t'ry un - to vic - t'ry His ar - my He shall lead
Let all His faith - ful serve Him A - gainst un - num - bered foes;
Put on the Gos - pel ar - mor; Each piece put on with prayer.
The sol - diers, o - ver - com - ing, Their crown of life shall see



Till ev - 'ry foe is van - quished, And Christ is Lord in - deed.
Let cour - age rise with dan - ger And strength to strength op - pose.
Where du - ty calls or dan - ger, Be nev - er want - ing there.
And with the King of Glo - ry Shall reign e - ter - nal - ly.

Announcements



NOVEMBER 2020 WORSHIP SCHEDULE



NOVEMBER 15 - LIVESTREAM WORSHIP - 9AM
ANIMATE: PRACTICES: *COMMUNITY* 10:15-11:00AM*
INDOOR COMMUNION 11:15AM - NOON

NOVEMBER 22 - LIVESTREAM WORSHIP - 9AM
WRAP UP OF ANIMATE: PRACTICES 10:15-11:15AM*

NOVEMBER 25 - LIVESTREAM WORSHIP – 6:30PM

NOVEMBER 29 - LIVESTREAM WORSHIP - 9AM
ENRICHMENT & RECAP OVER
SABBATICAL EXPERIENCE 10:15-11:00AM*
INDOOR COMMUNION 11:15AM -NOON

BECKY LANZITO & KAREN LEICHT – ORGANISTS
ANN SOUZA - MUSIC DIRECTOR
MANDI DIVER – CHOIR/NEW MUSIC ACCOMPANIST
DAVID ZIEGLER - HANDBELL DIRECTOR

CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ABOUT THE SCHEDULE. USHERS ARE ALWAYS NEEDED FOR INDOOR COMMUNION. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN BEING AN USHER CONTACT ELDERS@BETHELGURNEE.ORG OR KATRINA JOHNS AT KATRINA@BETHELGURNEE.ORG . IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS ON THE ANIMATE SERIES, OR NEED MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT KATRINA.

***THESE SESSIONS ARE VIA ZOOM.**

INDOOR COMMUNION

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 11:15 A.M.- NOON

Pastor, Communion Elders and Ushers will wear masks and gloves and use sanitizer to clean off tables, trays, etc.

Communion Distribution Process

- An usher will greet you as you enter the lot.
 - Please park in west spots outside the gym.
 - Handicapped may pull into one of the curbside spots near the gym ramp.
 - You can let an usher know if you would need Communion brought to your car by Pastor and an Elder, using a tray to deliver it. The tray is wiped down after use.
- Enter the gym via the door at the top of the ramp.
- When you enter the gym, you will see spots for waiting marked on the floor. (Usher will help find spots to wait).
- When you are invited, approach the Communion kneelers. Families may stay together.
- You will receive a Communion liturgy card to follow.
- Pastor will place a wafer in your hand.
- An Elder will place an individual cup on the rail.
 - Please indicate if you desire alcohol removed wine.
- Pastor & Elder will speak brief words of distribution as you take the bread and wine.
- Put your cup in the container provided. You will exit the gym through the northeast door. If you need to use the ramp to leave the gym an usher will accompany you out the door and make sure you are safely out of the building and on the way to your car.