



Sunday, November 8, 2020
Twenty--third Sunday after Pentecost
Holy Communion

November 8, 2020 • 9:00 AM, 11:00 AM Service

WELCOME TO EMMANUEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

INTRODUCTION

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.

PRELUDE

Praeludium in F-dur

J.S. Bach

MEDITATIVE MOMENT

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

TRINITARIAN CHIMES

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

The assembly is seated.

*Currently there is **NO CONGREGATIONAL SINGING**. Please silently meditate upon the words to this song.*

SOLO:

GATHERING SONG

Oh, God Our Help in Ages Past

1 O God, our help in ages past,
our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast,
and our eternal home:

2 Before the hills in order stood
or earth received its frame,
from everlasting you are God,
to endless years the same.

3 A thousand ages in your sight
are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night
before the rising sun.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.

GREETING

Beloved, remembered by God
and remembering both the call and the promises of God:
the everlasting love of the Father, the gift of the Son,
and the strength of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18–24

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the Lord would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The Lord demands justice and righteousness in the community.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Keep awake and be ready, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. Alleluia!

(Matt. 24: 42, 44)

GOSPEL: Matthew 25: 1-13

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

The holy gospel according to Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Pastor Steven Wigdahl

A time of reflection follows the sermon.

The assembly is seated. Please meditate silently upon the words.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Wait for the Lord

Taizé

Wait for the Lord,
Whose day is near.
Wait for the Lord:
Keep watch, take heart!

Prepare ye the way of the Lord, make a straight path for Him! (Refrain)

The glory of the Lord shall be revealed. (Refrain)

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THE 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.**

*Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

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. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We bring to you, Christ, members and friends of Emmanuel who need your healing touch.

(Names from our congregation...)

Into your loving hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **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.

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, and may say, "Peace be with you," or similar words.

OFFERING

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

During this time, the table is set.

OFFERTORY

We Are An Offering **Members of the Emmanuel Choir**
Jan Parmelee, Denise Larson, Jan Gazdic, Jeff Heier

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OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

God of all goodness,
generations have turned to you,
gathered around your table,
and shared your abundant blessings.

Number us among them
that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance,

and give thanks for your rich blessings,
we may feast upon your very self
and care for all that you have made,
through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.
Amen.

DIALOGUE THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

There is a place for you at the banquet.
Come and feast at Jesus' table.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers and those at home say
The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
and each person may respond Amen.

(Parents are encouraged to bless their children at this time. Follow the instructions from the Presiding Minister).

Jesus Christ is the host of this Holy Communion, in which we celebrate the Real Presence of Our Lord among us. Jesus' presence is in the sanctuary. Jesus' presence is also real in your home. Please have bread and wine available and ready (or juice). All the baptized are welcome to participate this morning in their homes during the livestream worship. Follow the presiding pastor for instructions.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus,

in this simple meal you have set a banquet.

Sustain us on the journey,

strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,

and give us glad and generous hearts

as we meet you on the way.

Amen.

BLESSING

May the God of all creation,

in whose image we are made,

who claims us and calls us beloved,

who strengthens us for service,

give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

The blessing of God,

Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit,

be with you today and always.

Amen.

The assembly is seated. Please meditate silently upon the words.

SENDING SONG

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

St. Olaf Choir

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, keep your lamps trimmed and burning,

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

Children, don't be weary, children, don't be weary, children don't be weary, 'til your work is done.

Christian journey soon be over, Christian journey soon be over, Christian journey soon be over,

the time is drawing nigh.

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, keep your lamps trimmed and burning,

Keep your lamps trimmed and burning, the time is drawing nigh.

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DISMISSAL

Beloved of God,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation will exit row by row by the ushers. Please wait until an usher dismisses you.

POSTLUDE

America the Beautiful

Bates

(In commemoration of Veterans Day tomorrow, we thank the veterans in our congregation).

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