St. Paul
Lutheran Church

TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST NOVEMBER 8, 2026 10:45 BLENDED

As We Gather

On the last three Sundays of the church year our thoughts turn towards the return of Christ, the judgment day and everlasting life. We are reminded of our constant prayer - "Amen!, Come Lord Jesus, Come Soon! Amen!"

Welcome

Prelude

Opening Song "Lion and the Lamb" SSP 100

He's coming on the clouds
Kings and kingdoms will bow down
And every chain will break
As broken hearts declare His praise
For who can stop the Lord Almighty

Our God is the Lion
The Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power
And fighting our battles
And every knee will
bow before Him

Our God is the Lamb
The Lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world
His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow
before the Lion and the Lamb
Every knee will
bow before Him

So open up the gates
Make way before the King of kings
The God who comes to save
Is here to set the captives free
For who can stop
the Lord Almighty

Our God is the Lion
The Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power
And fighting our battles
And every knee will
bow before Him

Our God is the Lamb
The Lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world
His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow
before the Lion and the Lamb
Every knee will
bow before Him

Who can stop the Lord Almighty
Who can stop the Lord Almighty
Who can stop the Lord Almighty
Who can stop the Lord!

Our God is the Lion
The Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power
And fighting our battles
And every knee will
bow before Him

Our God is the Lamb
The Lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world
His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow
before the Lion and the Lamb
Every knee will
bow before Him

Text: Brenton Brown | Brian Johnson | Leeland Mooring
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Invocation

P In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Opening Sentences *Psalm 70*

[1]Make haste, O God, to deliver me!
O LORD, make haste to help me!
[2]Let them be put to shame and confusion
who seek my life!
Let them be turned back and brought to dishonor
who desire my hurt!
[3]Let them turn back because of their shame
who say, "Aha, Aha!"

[4]May all who seek you
rejoice and be glad in you!
May those who love your salvation
say evermore, "God is great!"

[5]But I am poor and needy;
hasten to me, O God!
You are my help and my deliverer;
O LORD, do not delay!

Confession and Absolution

P Make haste, O God, to deliver me!

C **O LORD, make haste to help me!**

Silent reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

A Let us then confess our sins to God, who is our help and our deliverer.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We confess the ways that our worship has fallen into empty words, disconnected from the life to which You have called us. We confess that we have been inattentive in our waiting for Christ's return.**
Forgive us, renew us, and call us back to You, that we may wait with hope and joy, to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. He does not delay! His righteousness flows like an ever-flowing stream. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, 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 +

Song of Forgiveness "My Chains are Gone" SSP 39

My chains are gone I've been set free
My God my Savior has ransomed me
And like a flood His mercy rains
Unending love amazing grace

Text: Chris Tomlin | John Newton | Louie Giglio
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Prayer of the Day

A Let us pray.
Merciful Father, whom Your Son has taught to call You and to pray, hear the prayers of Your people and grant us all good things in accordance with Your will, not for our sake but for the sake of the name of Christ, in whom we are made bold to pray; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

Old Testament Reading *Amos 5:18–24*

18 Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD!
Why would you have the day of the LORD?
It is darkness, and not light,
19 as if a man fled from a lion,
and a bear met him,
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.
20 Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
21 "I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

[22]Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.
[23]Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
[24]But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Epistle *1 Thessalonians 4:13–18*

[13]But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. [14]For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. [15]For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. [16]For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. [17]Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. [18]Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L This is the Word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel *Matthew 25:1–13*

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

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

[1][Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. [2]Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. [3]For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, [4]but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. [5]As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. [6]But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' [7]Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. [8]And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' [9]But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' [10]And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. [11]Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' [12]But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' [13]Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

A This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Nicene Creed

C **I believe in one God,**
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life ☩ of the world to come. Amen.

Chimes "My Country Tis of Thee"

Children's Message

Hymn of the Day "Jesus Sat with His Disciples" LSB 932

Jesus sat with His disciples
On a mountainside one day;
As the crowds of people gathered,
He began to teach and say:
"Blessèd are the poor in spirit,
Heaven's kingdom they will share.
Blessèd are the sad and mourning,
Joy and comfort will be theirs.

"Blessèd are the meek and humble,
All the earth to them is willed.
Those who hunger to be holy,
They are bless'd and will be filled.
Yes, the merciful are blessèd,
Mercy will to them be shown.
And the pure in heart are blessèd,
They have eyes for God alone.

"Blessèd are God's sons and daughters,
Making peace where there is strife.
Blessèd are the persecuted,
Who for righteousness lose life;
Their reward is great in heaven,
In the kingdom up above—
So be glad to share My suff'ring
And rejoice to know My love."

Text: Stephen P. Starke, 1955
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Message "Blessing in Disguise" Matthew 5:1-11

Prayer of the Church

A Let us pray for the people of God in Christ Jesus, for His church, and for all people according to their needs. God of continued mercy, Your power is made perfect in weakness and Your grace is sufficient for us. As You called people of the past to proclaim the way of salvation, so also use us as Your instruments to proclaim the Gospel and to live as lights even among scorn and despising from a sinful world. Sustain Your church to remain strong in faith until the day You make all things new. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A For this congregation, during this Pastoral call process and granting Your wisdom to our Call Committee and Staff during this vacancy. Knowing God is God and that we have been raised with Christ, our lives be transformed from the old self with its selfish practices to life abundant with the new self, filled with generosity toward God and others. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Lord, we pray for Your presence and provision within our families and in the lives of our children. Be with each member of St. Paul, especially those we lift to You this day, Tim & Tracy Maher, Paula McCarty, Diane Michal, Rick & Mary Miller. Bless the children of our CLC Mylah, Leah, Easton, Luna, along with their parents and our staff. Guide families to be places where Your love is demonstrated to strangers as well as to friends. Grant that we share with them our faith in Christ and live together as God's sanctified and thankful people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Compassionate Father, we face daily the trials of this world, the devil, and our own sinful flesh. Remind us Your grace is sufficient and Your power is made perfect in weakness. For those who are weak in body, mind, and spirit, grant Your continued presence. Heal according to Your will, and use us as Your church to encourage, support, and reflect Your grace to all who are in need, *Jamie Phillips*, *Marcene Tennyson*, *Jimmy Smith, Tim Fields, Sumshot Khular, Sandra Keith, Lennie Sprayberry, Rick Miller, John Haubold, Jan Peterson, Carla Weikert, Robert Wood, Kerstin, Krueger, Joseph Davis*. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Sustaining Father, You gather us together as Your people to hear Your Word and to receive Your means of grace. As Your church, strengthen our fellowship as we receive the true body and blood of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Fed, nourished, and strengthened in faith, enable us to faithfully uphold Your calling to us as we are sent by You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

A Into Your hands we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. Let us pray…

Lord's Prayer

C 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.

Passing of the Peace

(Having received the Gospel's grace, let us joyfully share "Peace of Christ" with one another.)

Offerings are Received

School Kit Blessing

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

Prepare our Hearts for Communion

1. Do I believe that I am sinful, without hope of eternal life
   except for God's mercy in Christ Jesus?
2. Do I harbor resentment for another or refuse to forgive another's sin?
3. Do I believe that Jesus is God's Son and my personal Savior?
4. Do I believe that He is personally present with His Body and Blood?
5. Do I desire by the Holy Spirit's power to live a Godly life?

If this is what you believe, we invite you to come forward to share Communion with us. If this is not what you understand or believe you are welcome to come forward for a blessing; simply cross your arms for the Pastor to bless you.

Communion Instructions

(For those who are intolerant to alcohol, grape juice is available in the center of each communion tray marked by purple cups. Gluten free wafers are available upon request.)

C **Thank you, Lord, for blessing us that we might be a blessing to others.**

The Words of Our Lord

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✢ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✢ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

"We Proclaim Your Death" SSP 9

L The Mystery of Faith
C We proclaim your death, O Lord,
And profess your Resurrection
until you come again

Text: Marty Haugen
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Song of Forgiveness "Lamb of God" SSP 10

L Lamb of God,
C You take away the sin of the world,
Have mercy on us.

L Lamb of God,
C You take away the sin of the world,
Have mercy on us.

L Lamb of God,
C You take away the sin of the world,
Grant us peace.

Text: Tony Alonso
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Distribution Song "Christ the Lord" SSP 27

Darkness hangs the world is aching
Yearning for the coming light
In His rising hope awaking
Love has come to steal the night
In our hearts true east we're facing
Toward the coming of our Lord
Morning rising gloom now fleeing
Christ returned His word is true

As we wait with hope for rescue
Love descends and all is well
Prophets tell your God is with us
Heaven's gift Emmanuel
He is here but hid as lowly
In the poor and mystery
Where the bread and wine are offered
He is here our God and King

Parting clouds reveal His wonder
Mighty King in victory
Trembling earth and rolling thunder
Blazing sun and quaking sea
Now He comes our King in glory
Saints rejoice and darkness flees
Rising rays of light His chariot
Christ the Lord has made us free

On us now the Son is shining
Lifting us to His embrace
Shame is cursed no more confounding
Lift your head and know His face
Love incarnate breath indwelling
Now in truth is truth made known
We are His and He forever
Is our God and He alone
We are His and He forever
Is our God and He alone

Text: Robert Feduccia | Sarah Hart
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Distribution Hymn "I Know the My Redeemer Lives" LSB 461

I know that my Redeemer lives;
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!
He lives, He lives, who once was dead;
He lives, my ever-living head.

He lives triumphant from the grave;
He lives eternally to save;
He lives all-glorious in the sky;
He lives exalted there on high.

He lives to bless me with His love;
He lives to plead for me above;
He lives my hungry soul to feed;
He lives to help in time of need.

He lives to grant me rich supply;
He lives to guide me with His eye;
He lives to comfort me when faint;
He lives to hear my soul's complaint.

He lives to silence all my fears;
He lives to wipe away my tears;
He lives to calm my troubled heart;
He lives all blessings to impart.

He lives, my kind, wise, heav'nly friend;
He lives and loves me to the end;
He lives, and while He lives, I'll sing;
He lives, my Prophet, Priest, and King.

He lives and grants me daily breath;
He lives, and I shall conquer death;
He lives my mansion to prepare;
He lives to bring me safely there.

He lives, all glory to His name!
He lives, my Jesus, still the same;
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1738–99, abr.
Text: Public domain

Distribution Hymn "Jesus Live! the Victory's Won" LSB 490

Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won!
Death no longer can appall me;
Jesus lives! Death's reign is done!
From the grave will Christ recall me.
Brighter scenes will then commence;
This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! To Him the throne
High above all things is given.
I shall go where He is gone,
Live and reign with Him in heaven.
God is faithful; doubtings, hence!
This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! For me He died,
Hence will I, to Jesus living,
Pure in heart and act abide,
Praise to Him and glory giving.
All I need God will dispense;
This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! I know full well
Nothing me from Him shall sever.
Neither death nor pow'rs of hell
Part me now from Christ forever.
God will be my sure defense;
This shall be my confidence.

Jesus lives! And now is death
But the gate of life immortal;
This shall calm my trembling breath
When I pass its gloomy portal.
Faith shall cry, as fails each sense:
Jesus is my confidence!

Text: Christian Fürchtegott Gellert, 1715–69; tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–97, alt.
Text: Public domain

Song of Blessing "Lord Bid Your Servant Go in Peace" LSB 937

Lord, bid Your servant go in peace,
Your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn,
This child so long foretold.

This is the Savior of the world,
The Gentiles' promised light,
God's glory dwelling in our midst,
The joy of Israel.

With saints of old, with saints to come,
To You we lift our voice;
To Father, Son, and Spirit blest
Be honor, love, and praise.

Text (sts. 1–2): James Quinn, 1919–2010; (st. 3): Henry V. Gerike, 1948–2025
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Communion Blessing

A Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen.**

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.**

Distribution Song "Days of Elijah" SSP 102

These are the days of Elijah
Declaring the Word of the Lord
And these are the days
Of Your servant Moses
Righteousness being restored
And though these are days
Of great trials
Of famine and darkness and sword
Still we are the voice
In the desert crying
Prepare ye the way of the Lord

Behold He comes
Riding on the clouds
Shining like the sun
At the trumpet call
lift your voice
It's the year of Jubilee
And out of Zion's hill
Salvation comes

And these are the days of Ezekiel
The dry bones becoming as flesh
And these are the days
Of Your servant David
Rebuilding a temple of praise
And these are the days of the harvest
The fields are as white in the world
And we are the labourers
In Your vineyard
Declaring the Word of the Lord

Behold He comes
Riding on the clouds
Shining like the sun
At the trumpet call
lift your voice
It's the year of Jubilee
And out of Zion's hill
Salvation comes

There is no god like Jehovah
There is no god like Jehovah
There is no god like Jehovah
There is no god like Jehovah

There is no god like Jehovah
There is no god like Jehovah
There is no god like Jehovah
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There is no god like Jehovah
There is no god like Jehovah

Behold He comes
Riding on the clouds
Shining like the sun
At the trumpet call
lift your voice
It's the year of Jubilee
And out of Zion's hill
Salvation comes

Behold He comes
Riding on the clouds
Shining like the sun
At the trumpet call
lift your voice
It's the year of Jubilee
And out of Zion's hill
Salvation comes

Text: Robin Mark
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Dismissal

P Go in peace! Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

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