# GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

415 10th Street ~ DeWitt, Iowa 52742 -Church: 563-659-9153 ~ www.gracedewitt.org

+ The Order of Service +

## Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 8, 2026 - 8:00 a.m. & 10:30 a.m.

**WELCOME GUESTS!** We are delighted to have you join us for worship this morning. Please come and worship with us again.

We are following the Divine Service, Setting 3, beginning on page 184 in the Lutheran Service Book.

The Preservice Music A Time for Meditation

The Prelude and Lighting of the Candles

The Ringing of the Bell

The Words of Welcome by Pastor Merle Warnsholz

**Opening Hymn #802 *"Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise"***

1 Immortal, invisible,
God only wise,
In light inaccessible
hid from our eyes,
Most blessèd, most glorious,
the Ancient of Days,
Almighty, victorious,
Thy great name we praise.

2 Unresting, unhasting,
and silent as light,
Nor wanting, nor wasting,
Thou rulest in might;
Thy justice like mountains
high soaring above
Thy clouds which are fountains
of goodness and love.

3 To all life Thou givest—
to both great and small—
In all life Thou livest,
the true Life of all;
We blossom and flourish
as leaves on the tree
And wither and perish—
but naught changes Thee.

4 Great Father of glory,
pure Father of light,
Thine angels adore Thee,
all veiling their sight;
All laud we would render:
O help us to see
'Tis only the splendor
of light that hides Thee.

Text: W. Chalmers Smith, 1824–1908, alt. - Text: Public domain

## Holy Baptism (10:30 am)

## Confession and Absolution

**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, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and 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.**

## Service of the Word

### Introit

*Ps. 84:1, 9-12; antiphon: Ps. 84:3*

**P** Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young,

**C At your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.**

**P** How lovely is your dwelling place,

**C O Lord of hosts!**

**P** Behold our shield, O God;

**C Look on the face of your anointed!**

**P** For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere,

**C I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.**

**P** For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and honor,

**C No good thing does he withhold from those who walk up rightly.**

**P** O Lord of hosts,

**C Blessed is the one who trusts in you!**

**C Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

**P** Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young,

**C At your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King and my God.**

## Kyrie - ♪♪♪

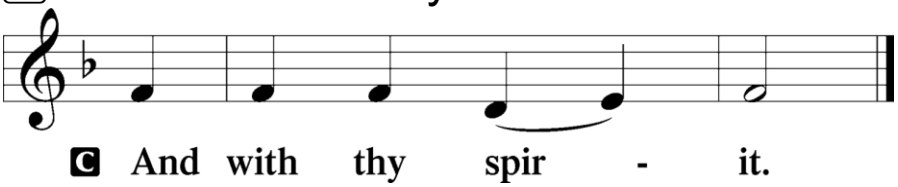
**C Lord, have mercy upon us.**
**Christ, have mercy upon us.**
**Lord, have mercy upon us.**

## Gloria in Excelsis - ♪♪♪

**C 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.**

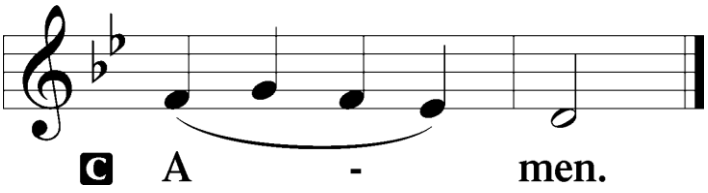
## Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.




P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.




*Sit*

## The Old Testament Reading *Amos 5:18-24*

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,
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.
Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
"I hate, I despise your feasts,
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 peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

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

**C Thanks be to God.**

## Gradual

**P** These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.

**C They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**

**P** Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,

**C In whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

## Epistle *1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*

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. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. 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. 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. 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. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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

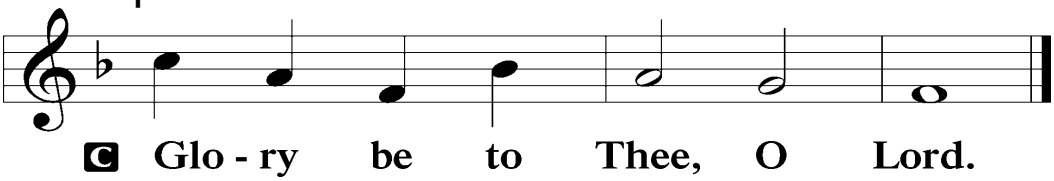
**C Thanks be to God.**

*Stand*

**Alleluia - ♪♪♪**
**C Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

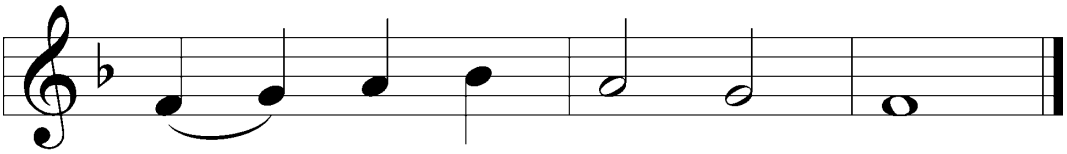
**Holy Gospel** *Matthew 25:1-13*

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




[Jesus Said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For 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, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 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.' 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. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

℗ This is the Gospel of the Lord.



℃ Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

**Apostles' Creed**

℃ **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life ✢ everlasting. Amen.**

**The Children's Message**

*Sit*

**Hymn of the Day #516 *"Wake, Awake, for Night is Flying"***

1 "Wake, awake, for night is flying,"
The watchmen on the heights are crying;
"Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"
Midnight hears the welcome voices
And at the thrilling cry rejoices:
"Oh, where are ye, ye virgins wise?
The Bridegroom comes, awake!
Your lamps with gladness take!
Alleluia!
With bridal care
Yourselves prepare
To meet the Bridegroom, who is near."

2 Zion hears the watchmen singing,
And all her heart with joy is springing;
She wakes, she rises from her gloom.
For her Lord comes down all-glorious,
The strong in grace, in truth victorious;
Her star is ris'n, her light is come.
Now come, Thou Blessèd One,
Lord Jesus, God's own Son,
Hail! Hosanna!
We enter all
The wedding hall
To eat the Supper at Thy call.

3 Now let all the heav'ns adore Thee,
Let saints and angels sing before Thee
With harp and cymbals' clearest tone.
Of one pearl each shining portal,
Where, joining with the choir immortal,
We gather round Thy radiant throne.
No eye has seen the light,
No ear has heard the might
Of Thy glory;
Therefore will we
Eternally
Sing hymns of praise and joy to Thee!

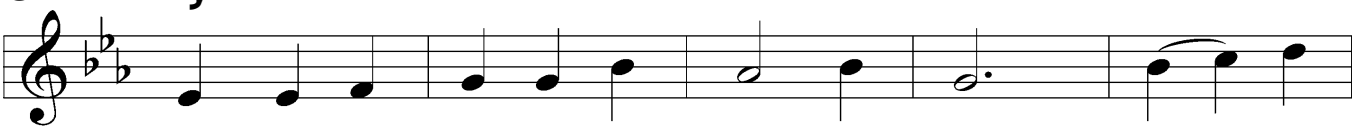
Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt.; Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608 - Text: Public domain

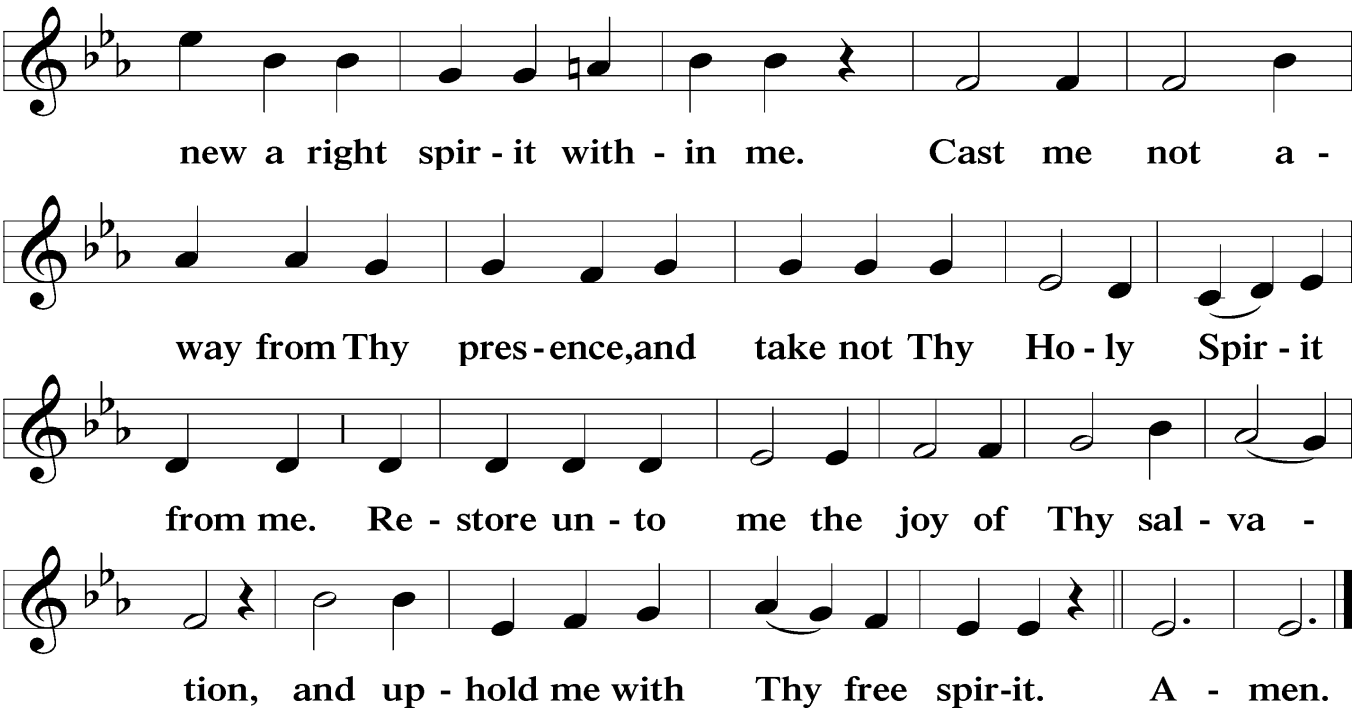
## Sermon — "Are You Ready?"

*Matthew 25:13*

*Stand*

## Offertory






*Sit*

## Offering

## Prayer of the Church

Each petition concludes

**P** Lord, in your mercy,

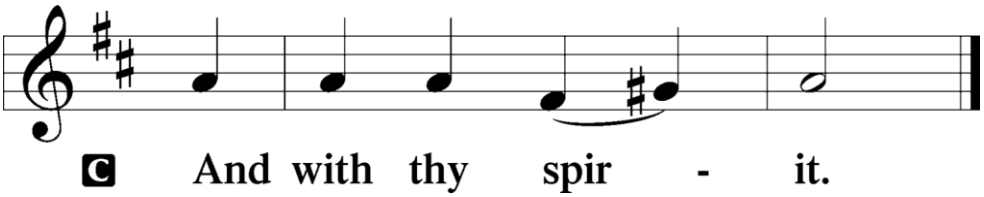
**C** **Hear our prayer.**

## Lord's Prayer

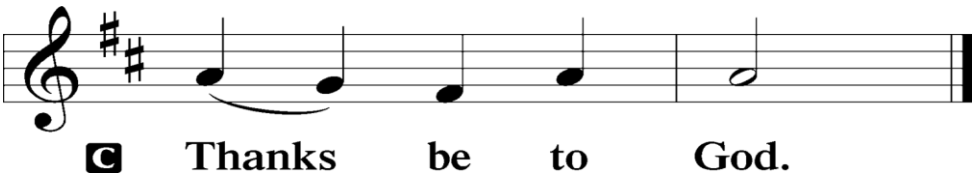
**C** **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

## Salutation and Benedicamus

**P** The Lord be with you.

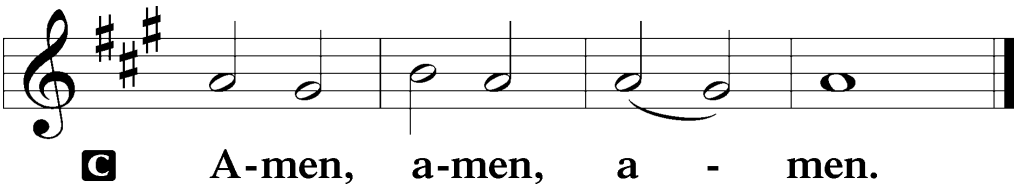


℗ Bless we the Lord.




## Benediction

℗ The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and ✢ give you peace.




**Hymn** ***#348 "The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"***

1 The King shall come when morning dawns
And light triumphant breaks,
When beauty gilds the eastern hills
And life to joy awakes.

2 Not as of old a little child,
To bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun
That lights the morning sky.

3 Oh, brighter than the rising morn
When Christ, victorious, rose
And left the lonesome place of death
Despite the rage of foes.

4 Oh, brighter than that glorious morn
Shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes
And we shall see His face.

5 The King shall come when morning dawns
And light and beauty brings.
Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:
Come quickly, King of kings!

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**Acknowledgments**

Divine Service, Setting Three from Lutheran Service Book

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