



## PENTECOST 23

Sunday, November 8, 2020

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### *What Encouraging Words!*

#### **As We Gather**

We hear today the extremely encouraging words from the apostle Paul concerning our everlasting life. Paul tells us, "We will always be with the Lord." What comforting words! What encouraging words! You have the assurance that when Jesus returns, you will spend everlasting life in His gracious presence.

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#### **Prelude & Welcome**

#### **Ringing of the Tower Bell**

#### **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!

## Opening Versicles

**L** This is the day which the Lord has made;

**C** let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**L** Better is one day in Your courts than a thousand elsewhere;

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

**L** Make me to know Your ways, O Lord.

**C** Teach me Your paths.

**L** Sanctify us in Your truth.

**C** Your Word is truth.

**L** From the rising of the sun to its setting,

**C** the name of the Lord is to be praised.

**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.

## Old Testament Canticle

*LSB 261*

**C** The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has become my salvation.

With joy will you draw water from the wells of salvation.  
And you will say in that day:  
“Give thanks to the Lord, call upon His name,  
make known His deeds among the peoples,  
proclaim that His name is exalted.”

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has  
become my salvation.

Sing praises to the Lord, for He has done gloriously;  
let this be made known in all the earth.  
Shout, and sing for joy, O inhabitants of Zion, for great in  
your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has  
become my salvation.

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.

The Lord God is my strength and my song, and He has  
become my salvation.

### Readings From Holy Scripture

#### Reading

*Amos 5:18-24*

**L** A reading from Amos, the fifth chapter.

<sup>18</sup>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,  
<sup>19</sup>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.  
<sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light,  
and gloom with no brightness in it?  
<sup>21</sup>“I hate, I despise your feasts,  
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.  
<sup>22</sup>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.  
<sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs;  
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.  
<sup>24</sup>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.**

<sup>1</sup>Make haste, O God, to deliver me!

O LORD, make haste to help me!

<sup>2</sup>**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!

<sup>3</sup>Let them turn back because of their shame  
who say, “Aha, Aha!”

<sup>4</sup>**May all who seek you  
rejoice and be glad in you!**

May those who love your salvation  
say evermore, “God is great!”

<sup>5</sup>**But I am poor and needy;  
hasten to me, O God!**

You are my help and my deliverer;  
**O LORD, do not delay!**

## Reading

*1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*

<sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup>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. <sup>16</sup>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. <sup>17</sup>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. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

## Reading

*Matthew 25:1-13*

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>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.’ <sup>10</sup>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. <sup>11</sup>Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to

us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’  
<sup>13</sup>Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

## Responsory

- L** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.  
**C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.  
**L** Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.  
**C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.  
**L** Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.  
**C** Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

## Ten Commandments

- C** You shall have no other gods.  
You shall not misuse the name of the Lord your God.  
Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy.  
Honor your father and your mother.  
You shall not murder.  
You shall not commit adultery.  
You shall not steal.  
You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor.  
You shall not covet your neighbor’s house.  
You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his manservant or maidservant, his ox or donkey, or anything that belongs to your neighbor.

## Apostles’ Creed

- C** 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 the life † everlasting. Amen.

## 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.

## Children's Sermon "Title"

### 336 Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending

- 1 Lo! He comes with clouds descending,  
Once for ev'ry sinner slain;  
Thousand thousand saints attending  
Swell the triumph of His train:  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Christ the Lord returns to reign.
- 2 Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him  
Robed in glorious majesty;  
Those who set at naught and sold Him,  
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,  
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, deeply wailing,  
Shall their true Messiah see.
- 3 Those dear tokens of His passion  
Still His dazzling body bears,  
Cause of endless exultation  
To His ransomed worshipers.  
With what rapture, with what rapture, with what rapture  
Gaze we on those glorious scars!
- 4 Yea, amen, let all adore Thee,  
High on Thine eternal throne;  
Savior, take the pow'r and glory,  
Claim the kingdom as Thine own.  
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!  
Thou shalt reign, and Thou alone!

## 968 My Lord, What a Morning

*Refrain*

My Lord, what a morn-ing; My Lord, what a  
morn-ing; Oh, my Lord, what a morn - ing, When the  
stars be-gin to fall, When the stars be-gin to fall.

1 You'll hear the trum - pet sound, To wake the  
2 You'll hear the sin - ner cry, To wake the  
3 You'll hear the Chris - tian shout, To wake the

na - tions un - der - ground, Look-ing to my God's right  
na - tions un - der - ground, Look-ing to my God's right  
na - tions un - der - ground, Look-ing to my God's right

*Refrain*

hand, When the stars be - gin to fall.  
hand, When the stars be - gin to fall.  
hand, When the stars be - gin to fall.

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## Organ Offertory and Stewardship *MINUTE*

### Offering Prayer

#### Prayer

- L** In peace let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the gift of divine peace and of pardon, with all our heart and with all our mind, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For the holy Christian Church, here and scattered throughout the world, and for the proclamation of the Gospel and the calling of all to faith, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For this nation, for our cities and communities, and for the common welfare of us all, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For seasonable weather and for the fruitfulness of the earth, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- L** For those who labor, for those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and for all who travel, let us pray to the Lord:
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For all those in need, for the hungry and homeless, for the widowed and orphaned, and for all those in prison, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For the sick and dying and for all those who care for them, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**L** For . . . [*additional bids for prayer may be inserted here*] . . . let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**L** Finally, for these and for all our needs of body and soul, let us pray to the Lord:

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

### **Collect of the Day**

**L** 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.

**C** **Amen.**

### **Collect for the Word**

**L** Blessed Lord, You have caused all Holy Scriptures to be written for our learning. Grant that we may so hear them, read, mark, learn, and take them to heart that, by the patience and comfort of Your holy Word, we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

### **Morning Prayer**

**C** **I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.**

### **New Testament Canticle**

*LSB 266*

**C** **Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**

**Christ our Passover Lamb has been sacrificed.  
Raised from the dead, He will never die again.  
Death has no more dominion over Him.**

**Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**



**Dying, Christ dies to sin, once for all.  
Living, He lives to God.  
Count yourselves as dead to sin and alive to God in Christ  
Jesus, our Lord.**

**Christ has been raised from the dead! Alleluia. Alleluia.**

### **Blessing**

**L** Let us bless the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

**L** The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless and preserve us.

**C** Amen.

### **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!**

**✠ Soli Deo Gloria ✠**

To God Alone Be Glory

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