Saint Matthew Lutheran Church of Westfield

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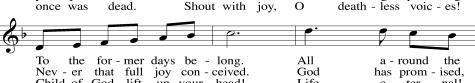
The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost November 15, 2020

Color of the Day: Green - suggesting spiritual growth and maturity. There is nothing colorless about our need to grow and mature as disciples of Jesus Christ. That's why the "green meadow" time of the church year is so lengthy. Time must be given to encourage all worshipers to maintain their faith through the constant use of God's means of grace.



#671 - Sing with All the Saints in Glory









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+ CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION +

(Stand)

- In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- \mathbf{C} Amen.
- P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- \mathbf{C} But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

(Kneel/Stand)

- P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways 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. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the
 → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.

(Stand)

+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +

INTROIT

Psalm 143:2, 5-6, 10-11; antiphon: v. 1

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for | mercy!* In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness! Enter not into judgment with your | servant,* for no one living is righteous be- | fore you. I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that I you have done;* I ponder the work of your hands. I stretch out my | hands to you;* my soul thirsts for you like a parched land. Teach me to do your will, for you | are my God!* Let your good Spirit lead me on | level ground! For your name's sake, O LORD, pre- | serve my life!* In your righteousness bring my soul out of | trouble! Glory be to the Father and I to the Son* and to the Holy | Spirit; as it was in the be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen. Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for | mercy!*

In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!

and for the unity of all

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.

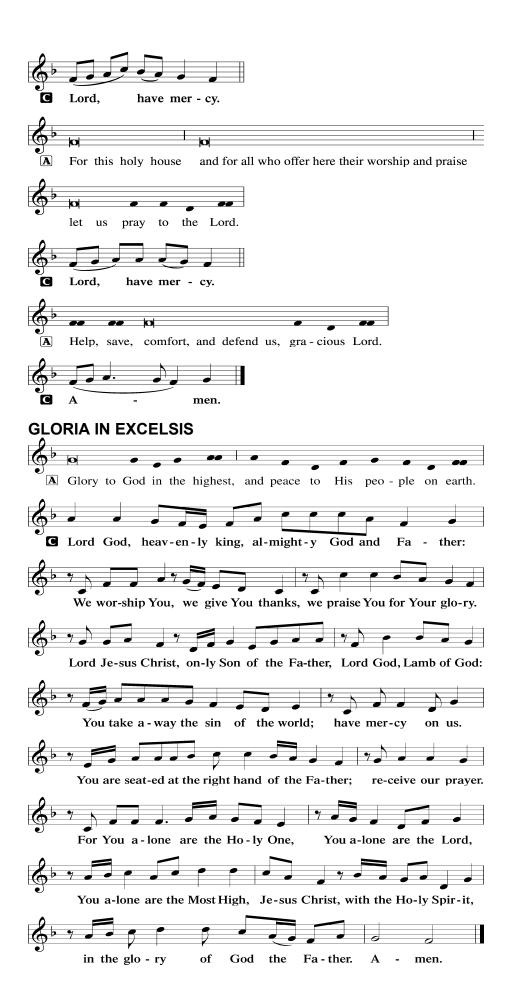
Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,

let us pray to the Lord.



SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY



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.



near and hastening fast;

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

the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there.

Zephaniah 1:7-16

OLD TESTAMENT READING 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,

against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL Revelation 7:14b; Psalm 84:5

These are the ones coming out of the great tribu- | lation.*

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

Blessèd are those whose strength is | in you,*

in whose heart are the highways to | Zion.

EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

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.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

(Stand)

ALLELUIA AND VERSE



HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:14–30

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

G Glory to You, O Lord.

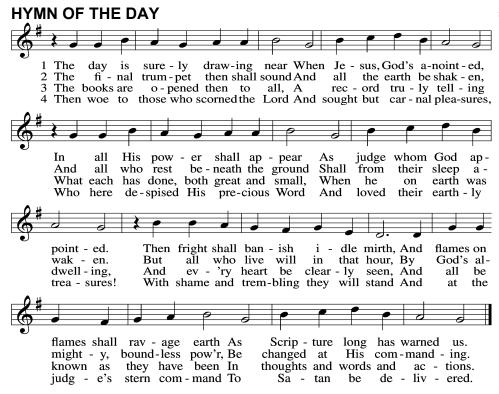
¹⁴[Jesus said:] "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded 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, 25 so 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.

Praise to You, O Christ.

(Sit)

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE



5 My Savior paid the debt I owe And for my sin was smitten; Within the Book of Life I know My name has now been

written.
I will not doubt, for I am free,
And Satan cannot threaten me;
There is no condemnation!

6 May Christ our intercessor be And through His blood and merit

Read from His book that we are free

With all who life inherit. Then we shall see Him face to face,

With all His saints in that blest place

Which He has purchased for us.

#508 - The Day Is Surely Drawing Near

O Jesus Christ, do not delay, But hasten our salvation; We often tremble on our way In fear and tribulation. O hear and grant our fervent plea: Come, mighty judge, and set us free

From death and ev'ry evil.

Text and tune: Public domain

Introduction

SERMON	Settling Accounts
	Matthew 24:14-30

This morning
The Giving of the Talents
Our text is the parable of
Before the man goes on his journey
The man's desire is
The two faithful servants
The Day of Judgement
Our text quickly moves to
Finally, the lazy servant is summoned
And so, the master shows
The master punishes
What Does This Mean?

We are approaching the end
Our text for this morning serves to
Not only does God give
How do we know what gifts
At some point, a point I believe to be
Only after we have been judged
Thus, to use the language of Martin Luther
Next week is the
Other Notes or Questions for Pastor:

Miss a sermon, need some inspiration, need a review of church doctrine (teachings), check out Pastor's blog at: http://rabswritings.blogspot.com/ or Pastor Mendez's blog at: https://pastormendez.blogspot.com/ (Stand)

NICENE CREED

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.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

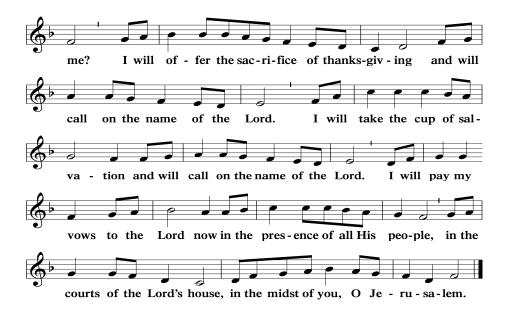
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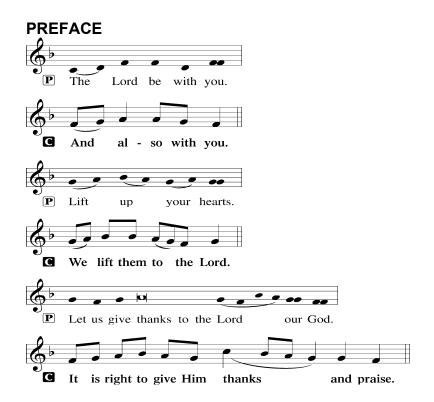
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+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

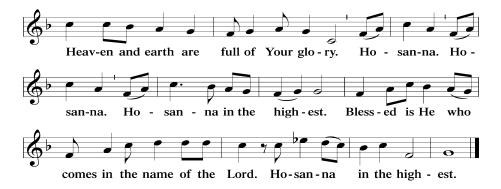


PROPER PREFACE (FULL)

P 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, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, having created all things, took on human flesh and was born of the virgin Mary. For our sake He died on the cross and rose from the dead to put an end to death, thus fulfilling Your will and gaining for You a holy people. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS





PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

LSB 161

P Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

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.

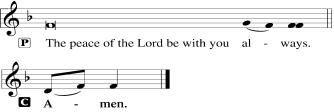
THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

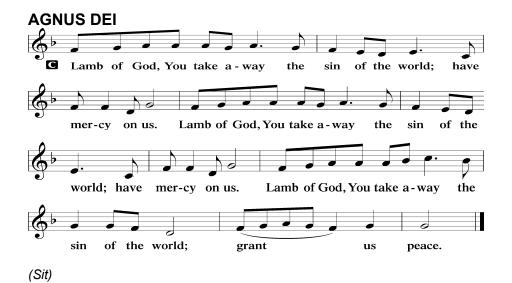
P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My

→ 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."

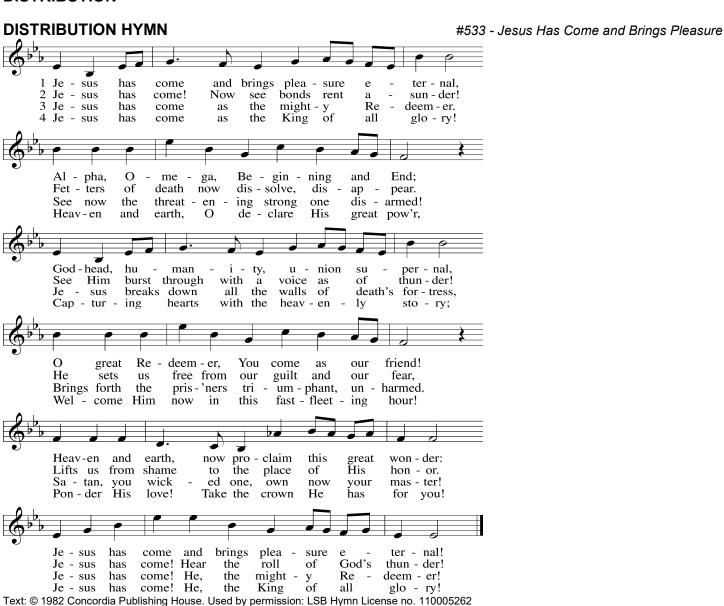
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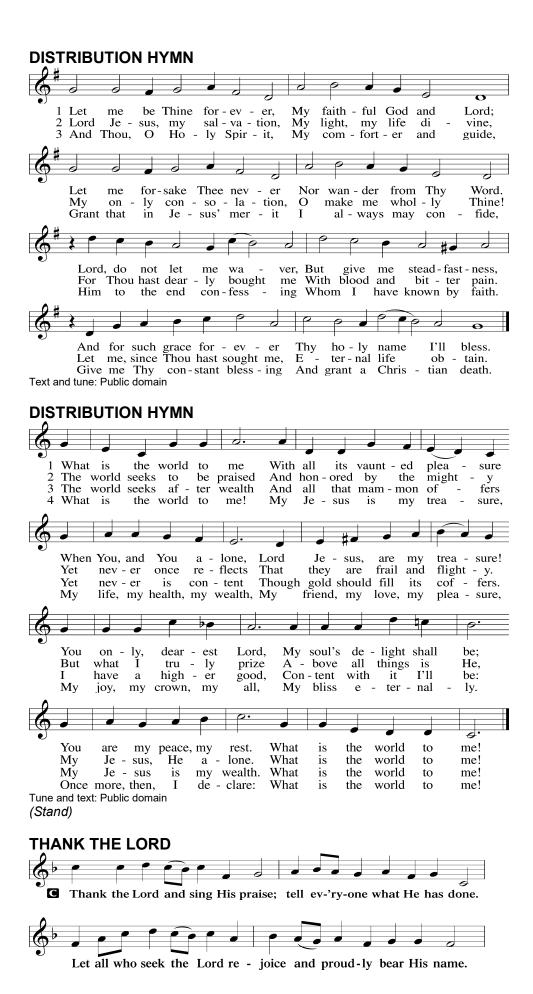




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#730 - What Is the World to Me



POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

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.



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.



CLOSING HYMN

#673 - Jerusalem, My Happy Home



5 Apostles, martyrs, prophets, there
Around my Savior stand;
And soon my friends in Christ below
Will join the glorious band.
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6 O Christ, do Thou my soul prepare For that bright home of love That I may see Thee and adore With all Thy saints above.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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