



# Salem Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023

9:30 am

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

### BENEVOLENCE OF THE MONTH: NEIGHBORSINC.

### CALL TO WORSHIP

### GREETING

**L** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**A** And also with you.

### CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

**L** Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

**A** Amen.

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**L** Holy One,

**A** we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

**L** Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

**A** Amen.

### GATHERING HYMN

*"What a Friend We Have in Jesus"*

ELW 742

### KYRIE

pg. 184, v. 2

### HYMN OF PRAISE

pg. 185, v. 1 & 2

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

L The Lord be with you.

**A And also with you.**

L Let us pray, Righteous God,

**our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## **FIRST READING: ZEPHANIAH 1:7, 12-18**

<sup>7</sup>Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. <sup>12</sup>At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, “The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.” <sup>13</sup>Their wealth 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. <sup>14</sup>The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. <sup>15</sup>That day will be a day of wrath, 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, <sup>16</sup>a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. <sup>17</sup>I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. <sup>18</sup>Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD’s wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

L The Word of the Lord.

**A Thanks be to God.**

## **SECOND READING: 1 THESSALONIANS 5:1-11**

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

L The Word of the Lord.

**A Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

pg. 188

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

**A Glory to you, O Lord.**

**GOSPEL: MATTHEW 25:14-30**

(Full text pew Bible pg. 807)

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>14</sup>“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’...<sup>26</sup>But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? <sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

L The Gospel of the Lord.

**A Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

“What’s Left Undone”

Pastor Aaron Holmgren

**HYMN OF THE DAY**

“Touch the Earth Lightly”

ELW 739

**APOSTLES’ CREED**

L God has made us God’s people through our Baptism into Christ. Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**A 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.**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

L Hear us, O God.

**A Your mercy is great.**

**SHARING OF THE PEACE**

L The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**A And also with you.**



**OFFERING**

*“King Of Love”*

*Chancel Choir*

*(Offering baskets are located in back of the sanctuary)*

**DOXOLOGY**

*“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”*

*ELW 885*

**OFFERING PRAYER**

L Generous God,

**A you have given us life, this community, and these gifts of the earth that become the means of your grace. Move in our hearts, that we might use your gifts to bring hope and blessing wherever we go, through Christ our Lord. 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.**

**BLESSING**

**SENDING HYMN**

*“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”*

*ELW 815*

**DISMISSAL**

L Go in Peace. Christ is with you.

**A Thanks be to God!**

**Welcome Guests & Visitors!**

*We hope you found the worship service meaningful. If you or someone you know would like information about Salem; program offerings, perhaps looking for a church home or some other need: Please contact the church office (651-457-6661) or Diane Hueller (651-451-0307)*