THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
November 8, 2026
"Joyfully Ready for Jesus' Return"

THE WELCOME

THE OPENING HYMN #516 *"Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying"*



(please stand)

THE INVOCATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C: Amen.
P: Have mercy on me, O God, according to Your unfailing love;
C: according to Your great compassion blot out my transgressions.
P: Wash away all my iniquity and cleanse me from my sin.
C: For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. *(Psalm 51:1-3)*

(Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.)

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,
C: we confess to You and to one another, that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You above all things nor our neighbor as ourselves. Forgive us our sins and grant us the aid of Your Holy Spirit to amend our sinful lives.
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.

(please be seated)

THE INTROIT OF THE DAY Psalm 84:1, 9-12; *antiphon*: Psalm 84:3



Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may | lay her young,*
at Your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King | and my God.
How lovely is Your | dwelling place,*
O | Lord of hosts!
Behold our shield, | O God;*
look on the face of Your a- | nointed!
For a day in Your courts is better than a thousand | elsewhere.*
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of | wickedness.
For the Lord God is a sun and shield; the Lord bestows favor and | honor.*
No good thing does He withhold from those who walk up- | rightly.
O | Lord of hosts,*
blessèd is the one who | trusts in You!
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may | lay her young,*
at Your altars, O Lord of hosts, my King | and my God.

THE KYRIE

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C **Lord, have mer - cy; Christ, have mer - cy; Lord, have mer - cy.**

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P: 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; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

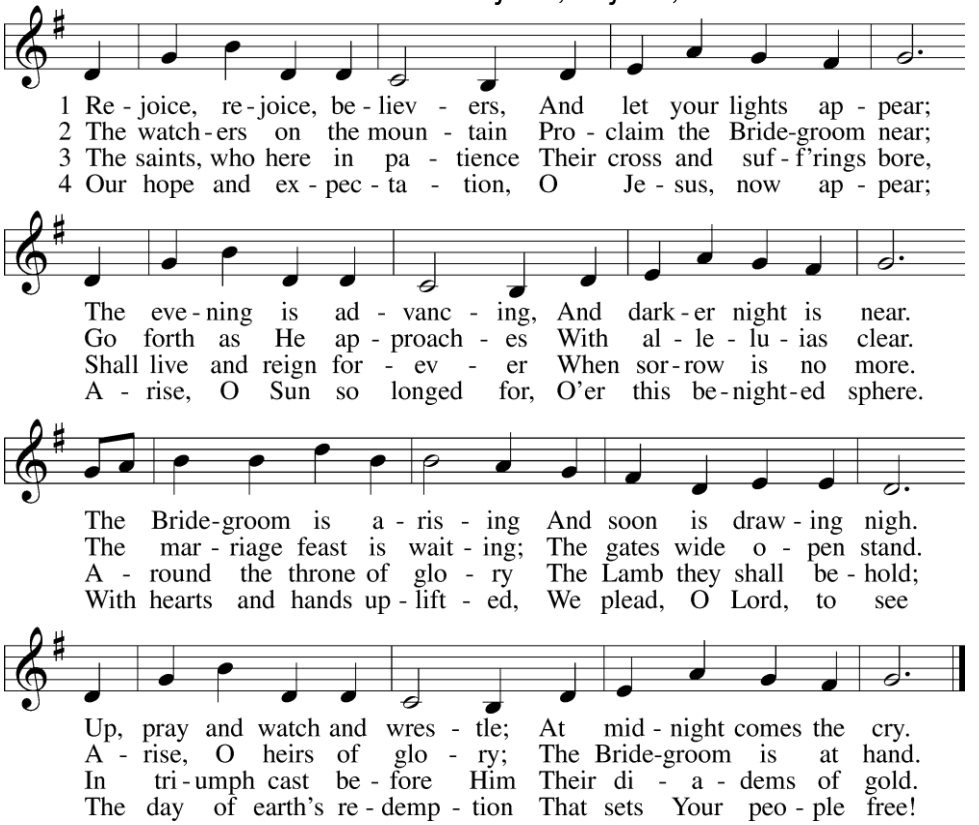
P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

THE HYMN OF PRAISE #515 *"Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"*



THE PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

C: Amen.

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING Amos 5:18-24 (ESV)

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.

THE EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (ESV)

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.

(please stand)

THE ALLELUIA VERSE *(page 205 in the hymnal)*

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13 (ESV)

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

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

[Jesus said] "Then 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 do not know neither the day nor the hour.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C: Praise to You, O Christ.

THE 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 the life everlasting. Amen.

(please be seated)

THE MEMORY VERSE *The 9th Commandment & What does this mean?*

from Luther’s Small Catechism

You shall not covet your neighbor’s house. *What does this mean?* We should fear and love God so that we do not scheme to get our neighbor’s inheritance or house, or get it in a way which only appears right, but help and be of service to him in keeping it.

THE CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

THE HYMN OF THE DAY #514 *"The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us"*



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THE SERMON *"Joyfully Ready for Jesus' Return"* Text: Matthew 25:1-13

THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS *"Lord of All Good"* (#786 verse 1)



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(please stand)

THE PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

*(Each petition concludes with the following response: "Lord, in Your mercy," **"hear our prayer."**)*

THE 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.**

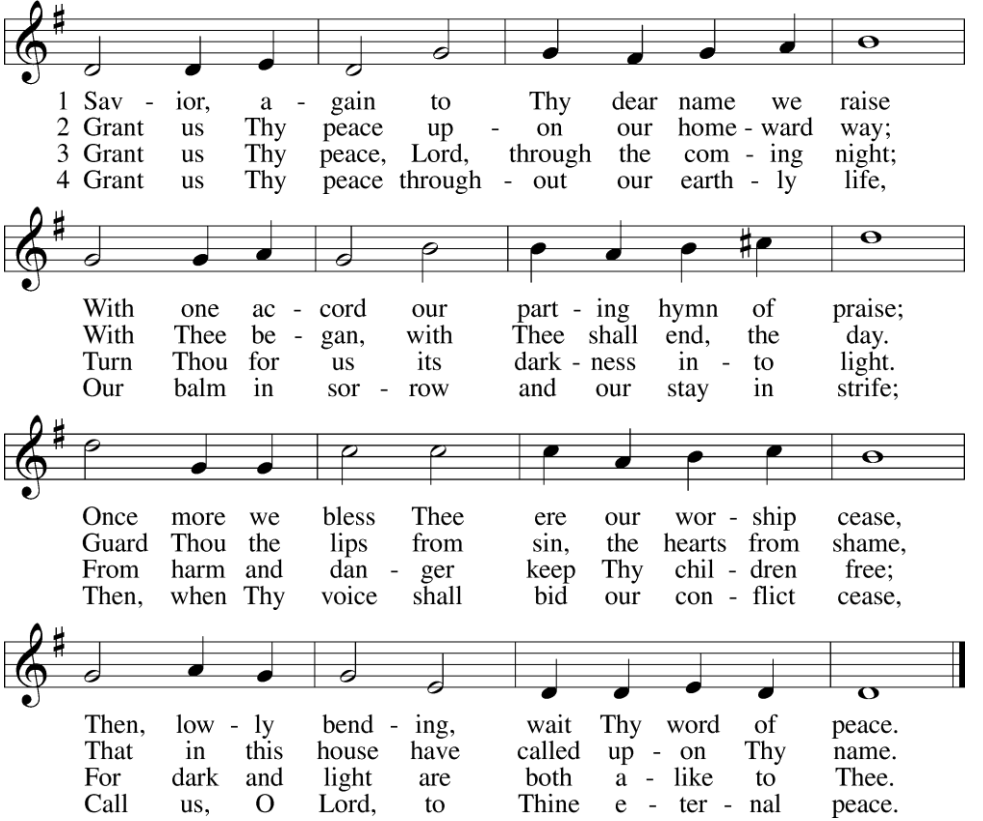
THE BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up His countenance on you and ✠ give you peace.

C: Amen.

(please be seated)

THE CLOSING HYMN #917 *"Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise"*



THE ANNOUNCEMENTS