

# **Trinity Lutheran Church – ELCA**

612 N. Water Street, Sparta, Wisconsin, Tel. (608) 269-5081

Office Email: [office@tlcsparta.org](mailto:office@tlcsparta.org) Website: [www.tlcsparta.org](http://www.tlcsparta.org)

**24th Sunday after Pentecost**

**November 12, 2023 – 9:00 a.m.**

**Live streaming on Facebook and YouTube (Trinity LutheranSparta)**

**Our worship service will also be recorded  
and will be available on our website [www.tlcsparta.org](http://www.tlcsparta.org)**



## Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Ring of the Bell

### **\*Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

**we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. 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.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

**\*Opening Hymn: *What God Ordains Is Good Indeed***

**ELW 776**

**\*Greeting**

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

**And also with you.**

**KYRIE:**



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



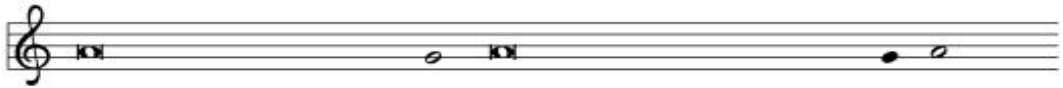
Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



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.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord. Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

## \*Hymn of Praise

Assisting minister

Glo-ry to God in the high-est, and peace to God's peo-ple on earth.

All

Lord God, heav-en-ly King, al-might-y God and Fa-ther, we

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo-ry.

Lord Je-sus Christ, on-ly Son of the Fa-ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,

you take a-way the sin of the world: have mer-cy on us;

you are seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa-ther: re-ceive our prayer.

For you a-lone are the Ho-ly One, you a-lone are the Lord,

you a-lone are the Most High, Je-sus Christ, with the Ho-ly Spir-it,

in the glo-ry of God the Fa-ther. A-men.

## **\*Prayer of the Day**

Let us pray.

**O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Special Music: *Bell Choir*

Children's Sermon

## **First Reading: Amos 5:18-24**

A reading from Amos.

<sup>18</sup>Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

<sup>19</sup>as if someone fled from a lion,

and was met by a bear;

or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,

and was bitten by a snake.

<sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,  
and gloom with no brightness in it?

<sup>21</sup>I hate, I despise your festivals,

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 offerings of well-being of your fatted animals

I will not look upon.

<sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs;

I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

<sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm: Psalm 70**

<sup>1</sup>Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;  
O LORD, make haste to help me.

<sup>2</sup>**Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;  
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.**

<sup>3</sup>Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat over me  
turn back because of their shame.

<sup>4</sup>**Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you;  
let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great is the LORD!”**

<sup>5</sup>But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God.  
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

## **Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18**

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

<sup>13</sup>We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so 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 died. <sup>15</sup>For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel’s call and with the sound of God’s trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

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

## \*Gospel Acclamation



This is the Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter

Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>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, all of them became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

Sermon

**Hymn of the Day: *Will You Let Me Be Your Servant***

**ELW 659**

### **\*Apostles' Creed**

**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**

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

O God for whom we wait, come quickly to your people, bring your salvation, and center us in hope found only in you. Deepen our faith through meaningful worship and send us out with your justice and truth. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

O God for whom we watch, we glimpse your power in rushing water and your beauty in the darkening night. Restore this creation, and provide clean water to all people and animals. Save us from foolish, wasteful living. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**



O God for whom we long, let justice roll down like waters on all nations. Bless citizens with wise leaders; save your children from war. We pray for the veterans of this community, that they are supported and loved. Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

O God, in whom we hope, we pray for all who are in need. Provide for those who experience homelessness or hunger, support the under- or unemployed, and comfort any who are suffering this day. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

O God for whom we listen, inspire the music ministry of our congregation. Fill our worship with songs to proclaim your greatness. Help us to sing and dance with joy and tell boldly of your salvation. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

O God, in whom we remain, we remember our loved ones who have died and now live in you. Bring comfort and the assurance of new life to all who grieve. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

### **\*Sharing of the Peace**

**L:** The peace of Christ be with you all.

**C: And also with you**

Offering – *“Owe nothing to anyone except to love one another; for he who loves his neighbor has fulfilled the law. (Romans 13:8)*

**\*Offertory:** *We Are an Offering*

### **\*Offering Prayer**

Let us pray.

God of all creation, all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

**\*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.**

**\*Blessing**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**Amen.**

**\*Sending Hymn: *Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ***

**ELW 674**

**\*Dismissal**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Attendance for Sunday, November 5: 138**

**For October 22<sup>nd</sup>:**

General fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$7477.50

Designated fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$528.00

**For October 29<sup>th</sup>:**

General fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$3190.51

Designated fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$58.00

<b><u>November 12, 2023</u></b>	<b><u>November 19, 2023</u></b>
<b>Greeters:</b> Bill & Mary Herrman	<b>Greeter:</b> Judy Schure
<b>Reader:</b> Stacey Markuson	<b>Reader:</b> Wyatt Tripp
<b>No communion</b>	<b>Communion:</b> Jennifer Lydon – Carol & Dennis Glaman
<b>Music:</b> Virginia Bolin	<b>Music:</b> Joyce Emery
<b>Coffee Fellowship:</b> Opportunity to serve	<b>Coffee Fellowship:</b> Opportunity to serve
<b>Flower Pick Up - Friday, Nov. 17:</b> Steve & Judy Bernett	<b>Flower Pick Up – Friday, Nov. 24:</b> Steve & Judy Bernett
<b>Pew Restocking – Month of Nov.:</b> Phil & Diane Dammen	<b>Pew Restocking – Month of Nov.:</b> Phil & Diane Dammen
<b>Money Counting – November 13:</b> Alton Ask-Audrey Zebell-Janell Moskonas	<b>Money Counting – November 20:</b> Carol Thorsen-Adell Morton- Brenda Degenhardt-Donna Boland
<b>Altar Team – Month of November:</b> Linda Erickson & Judy Schure	<b>Altar Team – Month of November:</b> Linda Erickson & Judy Schure
<b>Food Pantry:</b> November 15: Karen Hernandez and Julie Erickson	<b>Food Pantry:</b> November 22: Dennis & Carol Glaman
<b>Nursing Home Bulletin Delivery November 17:</b> Morrow Home: Cynthia Lockington Rolling Hills: Gary & Betty Peterson	<b>Nursing Home Bulletin Delivery November 24:</b> Morrow Home: Gary & Betty Peterson Rolling Hills: Cynthia Lockington