

Trinity Lutheran Church – ELCA

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

Office Email: office@tlcsparta.org Website: www.tlcsparta.org

25th Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 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**



Order of Worship

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Temple Talk – Loose Change Offering – *Faith in Action*

Barb Moorhead

Ringling 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.**

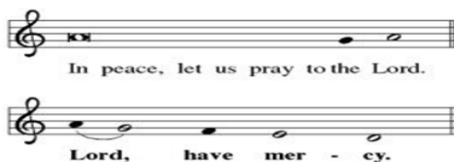
***Opening Hymn: What God Ordains Is Good Indeed**

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:

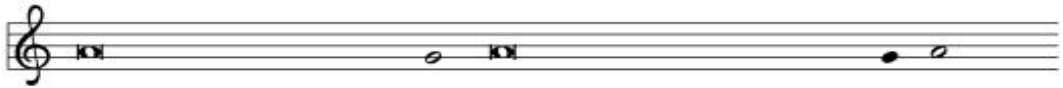




For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



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.

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.

Children's Sermon

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

A reading from Zephaniah.

⁷Be 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.

¹²At 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.”

¹³Their 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.

¹⁴The 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.

¹⁵That 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,
^{16a} day of trumpet blast and battle cry
 against the fortified cities
 and against the lofty battlements.
¹⁷I 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.
¹⁸Neither 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.

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

Psalm: Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12

¹Lord, you have been our refuge
 from one generation to another.
²**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth
 were born,
 from age to age you are God.**
³You turn us back to the dust and say,
 "Turn back, O children of earth."
⁴**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past
 and like a watch in the night;**
⁵you sweep them away like a dream,
 they fade away suddenly like the grass:
⁶**in the morning it is green and flourishes;
 in the evening it is dried up and withered.**

⁷For we are consumed by your anger;
we are afraid because of your wrath.

⁸**Our iniquities you have set before you,
and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

¹²So teach us to number our days
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

A reading from 1 Thessalonians.

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night, ³When 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! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But 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. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

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

***Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30**

***Gospel Acclamation**



This is the Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 25th chapter
[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey,
summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five
talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he
went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and
traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who
had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the
one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.
¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with
them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing
five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have
made five more talents.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and
trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in
charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And the one with the
two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two
talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done,
good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put
you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴Then the one
who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that
you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you
did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the
ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But 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? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers,
and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take
the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For 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. ³⁰As for this worthless
slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and
gnashing of teeth.’ ”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ**

Sermon

***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.

Gracious God, you give talents and gifts to all your people, and you equip the church to serve. Turn us from fear and self-serving ways, that we use our talents to glorify you and encourage our neighbor. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You have been our dwelling place from one generation to another. Sustain the life of the planet; protect farmlands and harvests. Direct all people in wise stewardship of all the earth's resources. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You call us to honesty and integrity. Instill these values in the hearts of all nations and their leaders. Free any who are oppressed, expose all corruption, and bring redemption to victims of injustice. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

You teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. Where there is sickness or sorrow, bring healing, and where there is loneliness, reveal your love in community. We remember before you. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the faith formation ministries of our church. Give to all children, youth, and adults who study your word the breastplate of faith and love. Shape us by your love and show us how to encourage one another. Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

Gracious God, you are faithful in all generations. For the promise of life and rest and for the witness of those who have died in faith we praise your goodness. 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 – *“Masters, grant to your slaves justice and fairness, knowing that you too have a Master in heaven.”* (Colossians 4:1)

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

ELW #692

***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 Sacrament of Holy Communion

*Great Thanksgiving - Page 152

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

*Preface

*Holy, Holy, Holy Lord - Page 153

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

*Words of Institution

*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.

Distribution of Communion:

Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on
us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the
sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

Distribution Hymn: Break Now the Bread of Life

ELW 515

***Prayer after Communion**

Let us pray.

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

***Blessing of Home Communion Kits**

***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: Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing** **ELW 545**

***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Remember the poor.

Thanks be to God.

Attendance for Sunday, November 12: 159

For November 5th:

General fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$9797.00

Designated fund giving, including Simply Giving, is \$1027.50

<u>November 19, 2023</u>	<u>November 26, 2023</u>
Greeter: Judy Schure	Greeter: Audrey Zebell
Reader: Wyatt Tripp	Reader: Youth Led
Communion: Jennifer Lydon – Carol & Dennis Glaman	No Communion
Music: Joyce Emery	Music: Adell Morton
Coffee Fellowship: Gavilan Family	Coffee Fellowship: Opportunity to serve
Flower Pick Up – Friday, Nov. 24: Steve & Judy Bernett	Flower Pick Up – Friday, Dec. 1: Phil & Diane Dammen
Pew Restocking – Month of Nov.: Phil & Diane Dammen	Pew Restocking – Month of Nov.: Phil & Diane Dammen
Money Counting – November 20: Carol Thorsen-Adell Morton- Brenda Degenhardt	Money Counting – November 27: Jo Ellen Siver-Alice Olson-Pete Perkins
Altar Team – Month of November: Linda Erickson & Judy Schure	Alter Team – Month of November: Linda Erickson & Judy Schure
Food Pantry: November 22: Dennis & Carol Glaman	Food Pantry: Nov. 28: Larry & Nila Larson Nov. 29: Alice Olson & Audrey Zebell
Nursing Home Bulletin Delivery November 24: Morrow Home: Gary & Betty Peterson Rolling Hills: Cynthia Lockington	Nursing Home Bulletin Delivery December 1: Morrow Home: Carol Thorsen Rolling Hills: Sharon Nelson