**St. John’s & St. Peter’s**

## Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost

## ~ November 12, 2023 ~

**Gathering**

**Welcome & Announcements**

**\* Confession & Forgiveness** WOV pg. 10

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

***C: Amen.***

P: 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.

***C: Amen.***

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

P: Gracious God,

***C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins, through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

***C: Amen.***

***\** Entrance Hymn *“My Lord, What a MorningTake My Life, that I May Be”*** *WOV 627*

***Refrain: My Lord, what a morning; my Lord, what a morning; oh,***

***my Lord, what a morning, when the stars begin to fall.***

Vs. 1 You'll hear the trumpet sound, to wake the nations underground,  
 looking to my God's right hand, When the stars begin to fall. ***Refrain***

Vs. 2 You’ll hear the sinner cry, to wake the nations underground,  
 looking to my God’s right hand, when the stars begin to fall. ***Refrain***

Vs. 3 You’ll hear the Christian shout, to wake the nations underground,  
 looking to my God’s right hand, when the stars begin to fall. ***Refrain***

**\* Greeting** *WOV pg. 28*

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

***C: And also with you.***

**\* Kyrie***WOV pg. 28*

L: Kyrie eleison:

***C:Lord, have mercy.***

L: Christe eleison:

***C:Christ, have mercy.***

L: Kyrie eleison:

***C:Lord, have mercy.***

**\* Hymn of Praise** *WOV pg.29*

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father, we worship you we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone

are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God’s people on earth,

And peace to God’s people on earth.

**\* Prayer of the Day**

P: The Lord be with you,

***C: and also with you.***

P: O God of justice and love,

***C:***  ***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.***

**Word**

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

*In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the Lord would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The Lord demands justice and righteousness in the community.*

18Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD! Why do you want the day of the LORD? It is darkness, not light; 19as 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. 20Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? 21I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. 22Even 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. 23Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. 24But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

**Psalm 70**

1Be pleased, O God, to deliver me; O LORD, make haste to help me.

**2Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced. You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.**

3Let those who say to me "Aha!" and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.

**4Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, "Great is the LORD!"**

5But 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.

**You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.**

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

*Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.*

13We 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. 14For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. 15For 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. 16For 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. 17Then 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. 18Therefore encourage one another with these words.

**\* Gospel Acclamation** *WOV pg. 31*

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? Alleluia. You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

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

*Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.*

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 1"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. 2Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. 3When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; 4but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. 5As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. 6But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' 7Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. 8The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' 9But 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.' 10And 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. 11Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' 12But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' 13Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

**Sermon**

**Hymn of the Day “Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers”** ELW #244

Vs. 1 Rejoice, rejoice, believers, and let your lights appear;  
 the evening is advancing, and darker night is near.  
 The bridegroom is arising and soon is drawing nigh.  
 Up, pray and watch and wrestle; at midnight comes the cry.

Vs. 2 The watchers on the mountain proclaim the bridegroom near;  
 go forth as he approaches with alleluias clear.  
 the marriage feast is waiting; the gates wide open stand.  
 Arise, O heirs of glory; The bridegroom is at hand.

Vs. 3 The saints, who here in patience heir cross and sufferings bore,  
 shall live and reign forever when sorrow is no more.  
 Around the throne of glory The Lamb they shall behold;  
 in triumph cast before him their diadems of gold.

Vs. 4 Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;  
 arise, O Sun so longed for, o'er this benighted sphere.  
 With hearts and hands uplifted, we plead, O Lord, to see  
 the day of earth's redemption that sets your people free!

\* **Apostles’ Creed** *WOV pg. 33* 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 bur ied; 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.

**\* The Prayers**

***Lord, listen to your children praying,*** *WOV #775*

***Lord, send your Spirit in this place;***

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.***

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 (*especially*).

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 (*especially*). 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.**

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Lord, send your Spirit in this place;***

***Lord, listen to your children praying,***

***Send us love, send us pow’r, send us grace.***

**Meal**

**Peace**

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

***C: And also with you.***

**\* Offering *“Let the vineyards”*** *WOV pg. 35*

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of

blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown,

that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and dreams of all; unite them with the prayers

We offer now. Grace our table with your presence, Lord,

and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

**\* Offering Prayer**

P: Merciful God,

***C: we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given to us – our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

**\* Great Thanksgiving** *WOV pg. 36*P:The Lord be with you.

***C: And also with you.***

P: Lift up your hearts.

***C:We lift them to the Lord.***

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***C:It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

**\* Words of Institution** *WOV pg. 36*

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

***C: Amen.***

**\* Lord’s Prayer** *WOV pg. 39*

***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.***

**Communion Distribution**

**\*Communion Blessing**

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his

grace.

***C: Amen.***

**\* Canticle** *WOV Pg. 40*

Thankful hearts and voices raise; tell every-

one what God has done. Let all who seek the

Lord rejoice and bear Christ’s holy name.

Send us with your promises, O God,

and lead us forth in joy with shouts

Of thanksgiving. Alleluia.

**\* Prayer** WOV Pg. 41

P:Let us pray. Almighty God, you provide the true bread from heaven, your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Grant that we who have received the Sacrament of his body and blood may abide in him and he in us, that we may be filled with the power of his endless life, now and forever.

***C: Amen.***

**Sending**

**\* Blessing** WOV Pg. 41

P: Almighty God, Father + Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

**\* Sending Hymn *“Soon and Very Soon”*** *WOV #744*

Vs. 1 Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King

Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King

Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King

Hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah, we’re goin’ to see the King!

Vs. 2 No more cryin’ there, we are goin’ to see the King

No more cryin’ there, we are goin’ to see the King

No more cryin’ there, we are goin’ to see the King

Hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah, we’re goin’ to see the King!

Vs. 3 No more dyin’ there, we are goin’ to see the King

No more dyin’ there, we are goin’ to see the King

No more dyin’ there, we are goin’ to see the King

Hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah.

Vs.4 Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King

Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King

Soon and very soon we are goin’ to see the King

Hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah, hal-le-lu-jah.

**\* Dismissal**

L: Go in peace with Christ beside you.

***C: We will! Thanks be to God!***

*\* Please stand if you are able.*

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