

# 23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost

## Sunday, November 8, 2020

### Prelude

Edward Elgar, Introduction and 1st movement from "*Vesper Voluntaries*"

### Opening Hymn (Sung by Musicians)

ELW 632 "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"

- 1 O God, our help in ages past,  
our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast,  
and our eternal home:
  
- 4 A thousand ages in your sight  
are like an evening gone,  
short as the watch that ends the night  
before the rising sun.

### Greeting

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

C: Amen

### Prayer of the Day

Holy God, you revealed yourself to us through the life of your Son. Send your Spirit upon us that we may live as Christ's body for the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

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

- <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.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

### Psalm 70 (by musicians)

<sup>1</sup>Be pleased, O God, to de- | liver 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. R**

<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 quick- | ly, O God.  
You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, | do not tarry. R

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

<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.

L: Word of God. Word of Life.

C: Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Acclamation (setting 4—Alleluia—Musicians Sing)

### Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13

#### C: Glory to you, O Lord

[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.”

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

## Sermon

### Hymn of the Day

#### ELW 244 *“Rejoice, Rejoice Believers”*

- 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.
  
- 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!

## **Apostle's Creed**

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.  
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.  
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hell.  
On the third day he rose again.  
He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again 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**

Holy God, by your grace we are saved. Baptized into Christ, we are reborn children of God and heirs of your kingdom. Sanctify us through your Spirit that we may become like Jesus growing into his likeness and bringing your grace and love to witness in the lives of others, we ask in Jesus' name and through his Spirit. In your mercy,

**Hear our prayer**

Holy God, open all ears to hear your Word of salvation, for you alone give light and understanding. Increase our understanding and awe of your creation; guide the work of scientists and researchers to find a cure to the COVID-19 virus, that we may all live in safety, we ask in Jesus' name and through his Spirit. In your mercy,

**Hear our prayer**

Holy God, we pray for the healing of all in need: those who are tired, feeling despair, sick, or oppressed especially those we now name before you Nancy, Carol, Dennis, Rob,

Pastor Steve Swanson, Renee, Arnie, Don, Susan, Vicki, Rhea, and all those diagnosed with COVID-19. Give your consolation and free us from all that keeps us bound, we ask in Jesus' name and through his Spirit. In your mercy,

### **Hear our prayer**

Holy God, in you we live and move and have our being. We give you thanks for your Church: bishops and ministers, congregations and lay leaders, chaplains, missionaries and all who serve in witness to Christ's Gospel. We praise you for the gift of Concordia in all its ministries that you have called us to serve in Jesus' name and through his Spirit. In your mercy,

### **Hear our prayer**

Receive these prayers, O God, and those too deep for words; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Eucharist Liturgy**

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 him thanks and praise.**

P: Blessed are you, O Lord our God.

Your abundant grace fills our lives with blessings.

All of Heaven and earth sing of your glory.

In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son,

Who reached out to heal the sick and suffering,

Who preached good news to the poor,

And who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

On the night in which he gave himself up for us  
he took bread, gave thanks to you, broke the bread,  
gave it to his disciples, and said:

"Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.

Do this in remembrance of me."

We give you thanks and praise for  
your mighty acts in Jesus Christ,  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

**C: Christ has died.  
Christ has risen.  
Christ will come again.**

**P: Send your Holy Spirit on us, gathered here,  
and on this gift of bread and all who share in the body of your Son.**

May your saving acts be proclaimed  
and your name forever be praised, Almighty Father.  
We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ,  
with your Holy Spirit in your holy church throughout the world.

**C: Amen. Your Kingdom come.**

**A: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:**

**C: Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.**

## **Communion Distribution**

*You are invited to come to the altar for Holy Communion. Places are marked where you may stand. Communion will be by the distribution of bread alone. After you have communed, please return to your place in the pews. We ask that everyone observe the protocols of social distancing and wear your mask when approaching and leaving the altar.*

**Anthem** (sung by Musicians)  
"Exaudi Me" by Orlando di Lasso

## **Post Communion Blessing**

**P: The body of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.**

**C: Amen.**

## **Post Communion Prayer**

A: Let us pray.

Holy and gracious God, you have blessed us at this holy meal and united us in the fellowship of our savior, Jesus Christ. Your generous blessings renew us to go forth to serve as your faithful people until your kingdom comes and your rule is established throughout the whole world.

**C: Amen. Come Lord Jesus, Come.**

**Closing Hymn**    Sung by Musicians  
ELW 638 "*Blessed Assurance*"

- 1 Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine!  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!  
Heir of salvation, purchase of God,  
born of his Spirit, washed in his blood.

*Refrain*

This is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior, all the day long:  
this is my story, this is my song,  
praising my Savior all the day long.

- 3 Perfect submission, all is at rest;  
I in my Savior am happy and blest,  
watching and waiting, looking above,  
filled with his goodness, lost in his love. *Refrain*

## **Benediction and Dismissal**

P: Go forth in the power of the Holy Spirit!  
Proclaim the gospel throughout the earth!  
Serve the Lord with gladness,  
with deeds of justice and mercy!

**C: Amen.**

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## **Postlude**

## Henry Heron, “Voluntary in G”

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## Announcements

- Concordia Ministries invites you to participate in our “Thanks + Giving 2020” campaign during the month of November. Tell us what you are grateful for and support those facing food insecurity this season. Access our ‘Thankful Thoughts’ form via the QR code or our webpage [www.concordiafaith.org/thanksgiving](http://www.concordiafaith.org/thanksgiving) . Your ‘thankful thought’ response(s) will be recorded on a leaf and added to our Concordia Community “Full of Thanks” tree.

Additionally, this Thanksgiving season, we invite everyone who is able to give a gift to Concordia’s campaign to support those in our communities that are experiencing food insecurity. 100% of proceeds donated are going to support the Lakeview Pantry - providing food, mental health and social services to our Chicago communities. Learn more about the Lakeview Pantry at [www.lakeviewpantry.org](http://www.lakeviewpantry.org) . You can give in several ways: (1) Send your check to Concordia Church - be sure to add “Thanks + Giving 2020” in the memo line, (2) Text "Concordia" to 73256 to complete your gift using your mobile device or (3) access our giving platform on your laptop via our webpage [www.concordiafaith.org/thanksgiving](http://www.concordiafaith.org/thanksgiving) . *Be sure to choose the 'Thanks + Giving' Fund.*

Questions? Connect with Jen Phillips, Director of Mission Development at Concordia Church at [jphillips@concordiafaith.org](mailto:jphillips@concordiafaith.org) or via phone 773-463-1600 x 402.

- We want our children to be able to participate in Sunday worship and learn about God’s love for them, even while we cannot hold classes or activities here at church. Concordia Church is mailing (monthly) resources to families that include a weekly bulletin with fun activities/lessons that corresponds to that week’s readings and a coloring page for each child in the home. If you would like to receive these monthly mailings of children’s faith resources, or if you have any questions, please connect with Jen Phillips at [jphillips@concordiafaith.org](mailto:jphillips@concordiafaith.org) or call her at 773-463-1600 x 402. We also enjoy hearing from you – we invite you to connect and share how things are going for you and let us know how we can support your child’s growth in faith at home.
- We appreciate your continued gifts to Concordia Church! Remember, you may give in three ways:
  1. Text-to-give: Text “Concordia” to 73256 and follow the link you receive
  2. Give online at [onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give](http://onrealm.org/concordiafaith/give)
  3. Send a check via mail to the church