

BE READY FOR THE LORD'S RETURN

Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

HOPE LUTHERAN CHURCH

4200 Shenandoah Dr. Louisville, Kentucky 40241

November 12, 2017

Telephone: (502) 423-1211 Website: www.hopelouisville.net Steven Lange, Pastor

WELCOME to all our guests. It truly is a pleasure to have you with us today. In order to make your visit as enjoyable as possible, please allow us to answer some common questions about our church and our worship services.

- Our restrooms are located off the church entryway on either side of the drinking fountain. Baby changing stations are available in both restrooms.
- We encourage children of all ages to participate in our worship services. So, please don't be afraid to bring them into the service. However, we also realize that children can become restless. We have a nursery room with toys, books, chairs, and other items that you can use to help calm your child. Our ushers will be glad to direct you there at any time.
- Our entire worship service is printed in this booklet. The order of service that we use is a version of the historic liturgy that the Christian Church has used for centuries. Explanations of the various portions of the service are included in footnotes within the service. If at any time during the service you have a question, please feel free to ask someone sitting near you for help. We are more than happy to assist you in any way we can.
- Headsets are available for those who desire assistance hearing the service. Please speak to an usher to obtain a headset if you would like to use one during the service.
- Before you leave today, please sign our guest register. It is located on the lectern in the church entryway.

If you have any other questions, please feel free to speak to our pastor. Our ushers and greeters also stand ready to assist you.

God bless your visit. We hope to see you again soon.

Acknowledgements

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A NOTE TO ALL OUR GUESTS

During this service, we will celebrate the Lord's Supper. Since this sacrament is the Lord's Supper and not ours, we are careful to follow our Lord's instructions. In particular, we take to heart these important truths:

- 1. In the Lord's Supper, Jesus truly gives us his body and blood together with the bread and the wine. Jesus says, "Take and eat; this is my body...Drink from it, all of you. This is my blood" (Matthew 26:26-28).
- 2. In the Lord's Supper, we express a unity of faith with one another. "Because there is one loaf, we, who are many, are one body, for we all partake of the one loaf" (1 Corinthians 10:17).
- 3. Our Lord urges us to practice this unity with great love and care. "Whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord. Anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord eats and drinks judgment on himself" (1 Corinthians 11:27,29).

Because we take these truths seriously, we invite all communicant members of our congregation or of a sister congregation in the Wisconsin Synod (WELS) or the Evangelical Lutheran Synod (ELS) to commune with us today. However, we ask that those who are not members of a sister congregation refrain from taking the Lord's Supper with us at this time. In doing this, we are not judging anyone's faith. Out of love for our Lord and all people, we simply desire to discuss the Bible's teachings with our guests before communing together. We want all who commune to receive the Lord's Supper for their benefit and in a way that follows our Lord's instructions. If you have any questions about this or any other teaching of the Bible—or if you would like information about how to join our congregation—please feel free to speak to our pastor.

THE SERVICE – SETTING TWO

PREPARATION

Personal Prayers for Worship are found on pages 10-11 in the front part of the hymnal.

A Personal Preparation for Holy Communion is found on page 156 in the front part of the hymnal.

Out of courtesy to your fellow worshipers, please silence all electronic devices before the service.

OPENING HYMN

"The Bridegroom Soon Will Call Us" | CW 10



Text: Johann Walter, 1496–1570, abr.; tr. composite, 1989. Tune: ACH GOTT VOM HIMMELREICHE (76 76 D) *Musae Sioniae*, VII, Wolfenbüttel, 1609.

Please stand.

INVOCATION1

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION OF SINS²

M: If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

C: If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and purify us from all unrighteousness.

M: Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

C: Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his holy life and innocent death.

Trusting in him, I pray:

God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection.

ABSOLUTION

M: God, our gracious Father, has forgiven all your sins. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior. Jesus paid the penalty for your guilt by his death on the cross and freed you from death by his resurrection from the grave. You are at peace with God. Live in the comfort and joy of his forgiveness.

C: Amen.

¹ The Service begins with the words and sign of baptism ("Receive the sign of the cross...") to remind worshipers that we approach the Lord as his baptized children.

² We confess our sins against God and one another and seek the Lord's mercy and forgiveness. The Service encourages silent confession during a short pause following the confessional prayer.

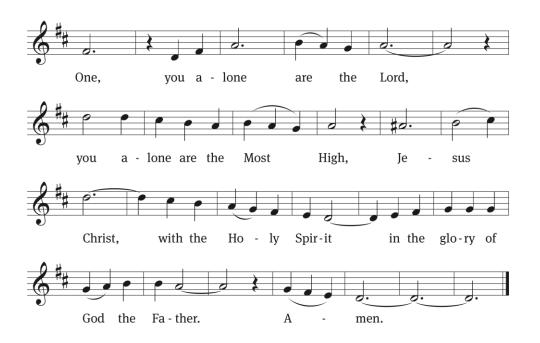
LORD, HAVE MERCY – Kyrie, eleison³

- M: In peace let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- M: For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- M: 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.
- M: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C: Lord, have mercy.
- M: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C: Amen.

³ Having received the gift of the Lord's forgiveness, we now make our requests on the basis of his mercy. This form of Lord, Have Mercy (Kyrie) addresses Christ as Lord in each of the petitions.

GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST – Gloria in excelsis





The Word

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God and Savior, you have set the final day and hour when we shall be delivered from this world of sin and death. Keep us ever watchful for the coming of your Son that we may sit with him and all your holy ones at the marriage feast in heaven; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

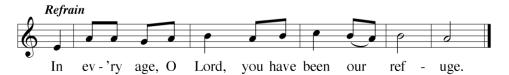
Please be seated.

¹ "Wake up, wake up; put on your strength, Zion! Put on your beautiful garments, Jerusalem, the Holy City! For the uncircumcised and the unclean will no longer enter you. ²Stand up, shake the dust off yourself! Take your seat, Jerusalem. Remove the bonds from your neck, captive Daughter Zion." ³ For this is what the LORD says: "You were sold for nothing, and you will be redeemed without silver." ⁴For this is what the Lord GOD says: "At first my people went down to Egypt to reside there, then Assyria oppressed them without cause. ⁵So now what have I here" this is the LORD's declaration — "that my people are taken away for nothing? Its rulers wail" this is the LORD's declaration — "and my name is continually blasphemed all day long. ⁶Therefore my people will know my name; therefore they will know on that day that I am he who says: Here I am." (CSB)

After the Reading:

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.





Refrain

Lord, you have been our <u>dwelling place*</u> throughout all gener<u>a</u>tions.

Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the earth <u>and</u> the world,* from everlasting to everlasting <u>you</u> are God.

For a thousand years in your sight are like a day that has <u>just</u> gone by,* or like a watch <u>in</u> the night.

Refrain

You have set our iniquities be<u>fore</u> you,* our secret sins in the light of your <u>pres</u>ence.

You turn mortals back to dust.*

You sweep them away in the <u>sleep</u> of death.

The length of our days is seventy years—or eighty, if we <u>have</u> the strength;* yet their span is but trouble and <u>sor</u>row.

Teach us to number our <u>days</u> aright,* that we may gain a heart of <u>wis</u>dom.

Refrain

Satisfy us in the morning with your un<u>fail</u>ing love,* that we may sing for joy and be glad <u>all</u> our days.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son* and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the beg<u>in</u>ning,* is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

¹ About the times and the seasons: Brothers and sisters, you do not need anything to be written to you. ² For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come just like a thief in the night. ³ When they say, "Peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, like labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴ But you, brothers and sisters, are not in the dark, for this day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵ For you are all children of light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or the darkness. ⁶ So then, let us not sleep, like the rest, but let us stay awake and be self-controlled. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled and put on the armor of faith and love, and a helmet of the hope of salvation. ⁹ For God did not appoint us to wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰ who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up as you are already doing. (CSB)

After the Reading:

M: The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION⁴

The congregation sings the Alleluias at the beginning and the end of the acclamation. The minister sings the Bible verse in the middle of the acclamation.



GOSPEL Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus tells the Parable of the Wise and Foolish Virgins.

¹ "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the groom. ² Five of them were foolish and five were wise. ³ When the foolish took their lamps, they didn't take oil with them; ⁴ but the wise ones took oil in their flasks with their lamps. ⁵ When the groom was delayed, they all became drowsy and fell asleep.

⁶ "In the middle of the night there was a shout: 'Here's the groom! Come out to meet him.'

⁴ After the Second Reading, we prepare to hear the words and works of Jesus by standing to sing "Alleluia" — praise the Lord. We continue to stand as we hear the Gospel.

⁷ "Then all the virgins got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish ones said to the wise ones, 'Give us some of your oil, because our lamps are going out.'

⁹ "The wise ones answered, 'No, there won't be enough for us and for you. Go instead to those who sell oil, and buy some for yourselves.'

¹⁰ "When they had gone to buy some, the groom arrived, and those who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. ¹¹ Later the rest of the virgins also came and said, 'Master, master, open up for us!'

12 "He replied, 'Truly I tell you, I don't know you!'

¹³ "Therefore be alert, because you don't know either the day or the hour. (CSB)

After the reading of the Gospel:

M: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

Please be seated.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

The children of the congregation are invited to come to the front of the church for the children's message.

HYMN OF THE DAY



Text: Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–78, alt. Tune: WACHET AUF (898 898 664 448) Philipp Nicolai, 1556–1608, alt.

SERMON

Please stand.

NICENE CREED⁵

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated.

⁵ Having heard the Word of God in readings and sermon, we respond with words of faith: What we have heard, we believe.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH⁶

- M: Eternal Lord, you speak to us in words of love and light and power. Fill us with peace today as we ponder the good news that you forgive our sins in Christ. Guide our lives today as we see clearly the path you have laid out for us. Work in us today through your Spirit that our thoughts, words, and actions glorify you and serve our neighbor.
- C: Fill us with the Word we have heard today and move us to believe it and live it.
- M: Provide courage and compassion to all who preach and teach your Word. Take away their fear of criticism and contention and make them bold to say what you say. Fill them with a love like yours and lead them to announce the forgiveness of sins as your free gift to us and all people.
- C: Move us to love all ministers of the Word wherever they serve.
- M: Forgive us for the times we hear your Word but fail to live it in our lives. Break down the apathy that lurks in us and leads us to ignore eternal realities. Convict us with your law and then fill us so full of your gospel that we overflow with zeal to do your will.
- C: Give us thankful hearts to live and love with joy.
- M: Guard and guide us as we live in a society that despises what you say about marriage. Lead husbands and wives to love each other with commitment, respect, and patience. Move parents to grasp the eternal value of keeping their children close to Jesus even when their children grow up.
- C: Protect us from the evil that surrounds us; give us pure hearts and minds.
- M: Provide your divine compass for those who govern us by making laws and setting policies. Give us respect for those who protect us from crime and aggression. Lead us to value the rights of our fellow citizens and to care for those who cannot care for themselves.
- C: Bless our land with peace and prosperity so that the gospel may be proclaimed to all.
- M: Give us passion to share the story of your love with our family and friends. Overcome unbelief and open the hearts of people everywhere to believe the good news that Jesus has forgiven their sins and opened the gates of heaven.
- C: Fill us with joy over every sinner who repents and comes to trust in your grace.
- M: Extend your healing power to those who are sick and suffering in body or mind. Fill eager minds with wisdom to discover new ways to treat disease and illness. Give patience and compassion to those who care for the sick and dying.
- C: Lift the eyes of the dying to your love in Christ.

⁶ We are seated as we pray for family and friends and people all over the world.

M: Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer

- M: Eternal Lord, you guide the world with your mighty power and love all people because your Son lived and died and rose again. Hear our prayers, spoken and in silence, and answer them in your wisdom and grace.
- C: In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

OFFERING

Please stand.

The Sacrament

- M: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- M: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them up to the Lord.
- M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is good and right so to do.
- M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who preserves his Church to the end of time when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY - Sanctus



PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING7

M: Blessed are you, Lord God, eternal King and gracious Father. In love you made us the crown of your creation. In mercy you planned our salvation. In grace you sent your Son to redeem us from sin.

We remember and give you thanks that your eternal Son, Jesus Christ, became flesh and made his dwelling among us, that he willingly placed himself under law to redeem those under law, that he humbled himself by becoming obedient to death on a cross, that he has destroyed death and has brought life and immortality to light through the gospel.

⁷ We give thanks and praise to God as we recall what Jesus did to save us.

Bless us as we receive your Son's body and blood in this Sacrament. Forgive our sins, increase our faith, strengthen our fellowship, and deepen our longing for the day when Christ will welcome us to his eternal feast. Praise and thanks and honor and glory be to you, O God our Father, and to your Son and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: 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.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

M: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my +body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD - Agnus Dei



PRAYER OF PREPARATION

C: Lord God, you do not desire the death of a sinner, but that he turn from his evil way and live. I come to you, although I have sinned and deserve only your anger and punishment. But I flee to your mercy in Christ Jesus, my Savior, who gave his body and blood to pay for all my sins. Grant that in such faith I may worthily go to your table and receive the very body and blood that your Son has given for my salvation. Hear me for Jesus' sake. Amen.

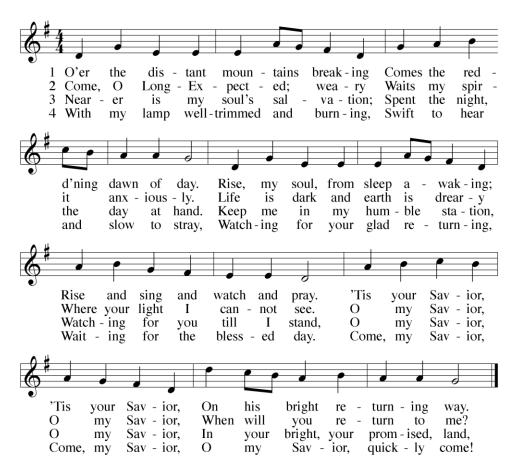
Please be seated.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

Guests, please read and take note of the explanation of our communion practice on page 3 in this worship folder. If you have any questions about this or any other Bible teaching, please feel free to speak to the pastor after the service. We thank you for your help.

Those desiring gluten-free communion bread may take a wafer from the tray in front of the baptismal font on their way up to the altar.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN



Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811-75, abr., alt.

Tune: O JERUSALEM, DU SCHÖNE (87 87 447) Johann G. C. Störl, 1675–1719, alt.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN



Please stand.

M: Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

C: His mercy endures forever.

M: Whenever we eat this bread and drink this cup,

C: we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

M: We give you thanks, O Lord, for the foretaste of the heavenly banquet you have given us in this sacrament. Through this gift you have fed our faith, nourished our hope, and strengthened our love. By your Spirit help us to live as your holy people until that day when you will receive us as your guests at the wedding supper of the Lamb, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.

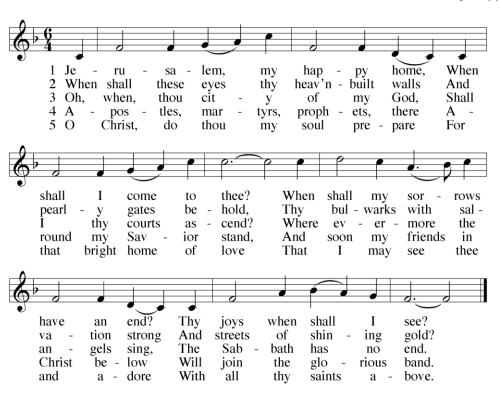
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Jerusalem, My Happy Home" | CW 215, st. 5



Text: F. B. P., 16th century, abr., alt.
Tune: Land of Rest (CM) Annabel M. Buchanan. © 1938, Renewed J. Fischer & Bro.

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