

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 12, 2023
8:30am Worship



Central Lutheran Church
1857 Potter Street
Eugene Oregon
541-345-0395
www.welcometocentral.org

Welcome to Central!

Central Lutheran Church, a congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America and the Oregon Synod, is a Reconciling in Christ community: We affirm that Christ has made us one body with many members, all sharing in God's wondrous grace and unconditional love. We celebrate both the human variation and inclusive unity of God's family. Following Jesus' example, we embrace all of God's people regardless of ethnicity, physical and mental abilities, marital status, sexual orientation, gender identity, or economic circumstance. With welcoming hearts, we invite you to join us in worship, fellowship, and ministry.

Our mission is to be the hands and feet of Jesus by *loving* God and one another, *nurturing* faithful living, *servicing* those in need, and *sharing* the Gospel.

A special word of welcome to our guests today: Thank you for worshiping with us. If you are a first-time or occasional visitor and would like to be added to our mailing list, or if you'd like to hear from us, we invite you to fill out the visitor information card found in the pew rack and place it in the offering plate. Also, if you wish to find out more about Central, we invite you to visit our website *welcometocentral.org*.

Parents of young children: We welcome the sound of little ones in worship and so we encourage children and parents to worship together. However, if it is helpful to you, you are welcome to utilize the children's space located adjacent to the Narthex (entrance) to the Sanctuary. Additionally, there are children's bags and kid's bulletins available in the Narthex.

Large print bulletins as well as hearing assistance receivers are also available from the ushers. Please note: if your personal hearing device has a T-Coil there are Hearing Loops in the Sanctuary and Parish Hall.

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Carillon

PRELUDE

Erbarm dich (Have Mercy)

Johann Sebastian Bach

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *(please stand as you are able)*

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence is kept for reflection and self-examination.

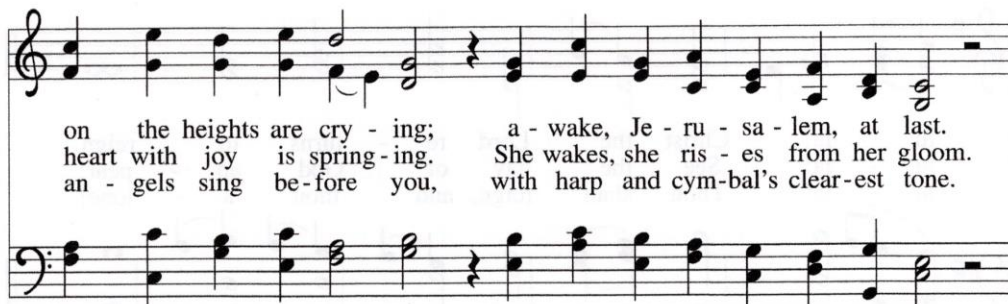
Most Merciful God, we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your 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. To those who believe in Jesus Christ God gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN #436 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



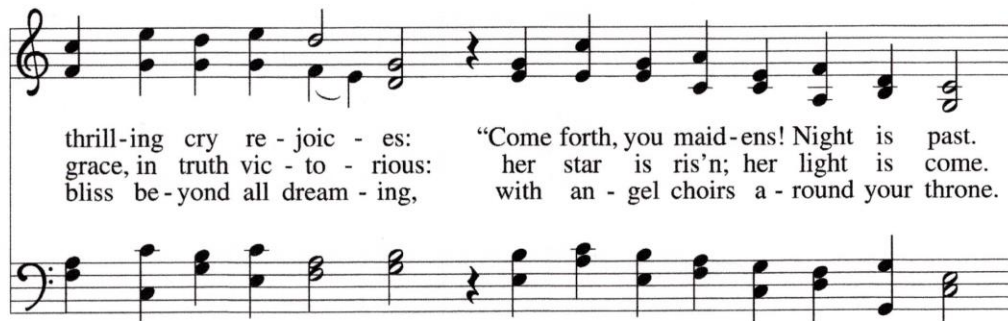
1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her
3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.
heart with joy is spring - ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.
an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym - bal's clear - est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the
Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in
Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



thrill - ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid - ens! Night is past.
grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.
bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.

The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"
 Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.
 No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun - d'ring might

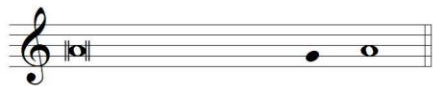
Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;
 Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,
 of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!

go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.
 and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.
 There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

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 uni - ty of all,



let us pray to the Lord.



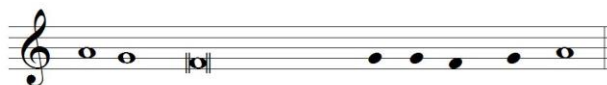
Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holyhouse, 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.

GLORIA



1. All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace on earth from
2. O Lamb of God, Lord Je - sus Christ, who God the Fa - ther
3. You on - ly are the Ho - ly One, who came for our sal -

hea - ven, and God's good will un - fail - ing - ly be
gave us, who for the world was sac - ri - ficed up -
va - tion, and on - ly you are God's true Son, who

to all peo - ple giv - en. We bless, we wor - ship you, we raise for
on the cross to save us; and, as you sit at God's right hand and
was be - fore cre - a - tion. You, on - ly, Christ, as Lord we own and,

your great glo - ry thanks and praise, O God, Al - might - y Fa - ther.
we for judg - ment there must stand, have mer - cy, Lord, up - on us.
with the Spi - rit, you a - lone share in the Fa - ther's glo - ry.

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.**

(please be seated)

ANTHEM

Arioso Molkebust

Handbell Ensemble

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



PSALM 70

¹Be pleased, O God, to de-^liver me; O Lord, make^l haste to help me.
²**Let those who seek my life be put to shame^l and confounded; let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and^l be disgraced.**
³Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat^l over me turn back because^l of their shame.
⁴**Let all who seek you rejoice and be^l glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great^l is the Lord!”**
⁵But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quick-^lly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O Lord,^l do not tarry.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the^l Holy Spirit.
As it was in the begin-ning, is now, and will be fore-^lver. Amen.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION *(please stand as you are able)*



Cantors Keep awake¹ and be ready,* for you do not know on what day your¹ Lord is coming. **Repeat Antiphon**

GOSPEL **Matthew 25:1-13**

The Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[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.² Five of

them were foolish, and five were wise.³ When the foolish took their lamps,

they took no oil with them;⁴ but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps.

⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept.⁶ But

at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to

meet him.’⁷ Then 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.’⁹ 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.’¹⁰ 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.¹¹ Later the

other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’¹² But he

replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’¹³ Keep awake therefore, for

you know neither the day nor the hour.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.** *(please be seated)*

SERMON

Pastor Ben Nickodemus

HYMN OF THE DAY #438 My Lord, What a Morning *(please stand)*

Refrain

My Lord, what a morn-ing; my Lord, what a morn-ing; oh,

my Lord, what a morn-ing, when the stars be-gin to fall.

1 You will hear the trum-pet sound,
2 You will hear the sin-ner cry, to wake the na-tions un-der - ground,
3 You will hear the Chris-tian shout,

Refrain

look-ing to my God's right hand, when the stars be-gin to fall.

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our Christian faith using the words of the 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. (*please be seated*)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

OUR LIFE TOGETHER

OFFERING

You are invited to place your offering in the plate as you come forward for communion.

OFFERTORY

Trumpet dialogue (Suite #1)

Clerambault

OFFERING RESPONSE



Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God all crea-tures here be - low;



Praise God a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; Praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

OFFERING PRAYER *(please stand as you are able)*

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.**

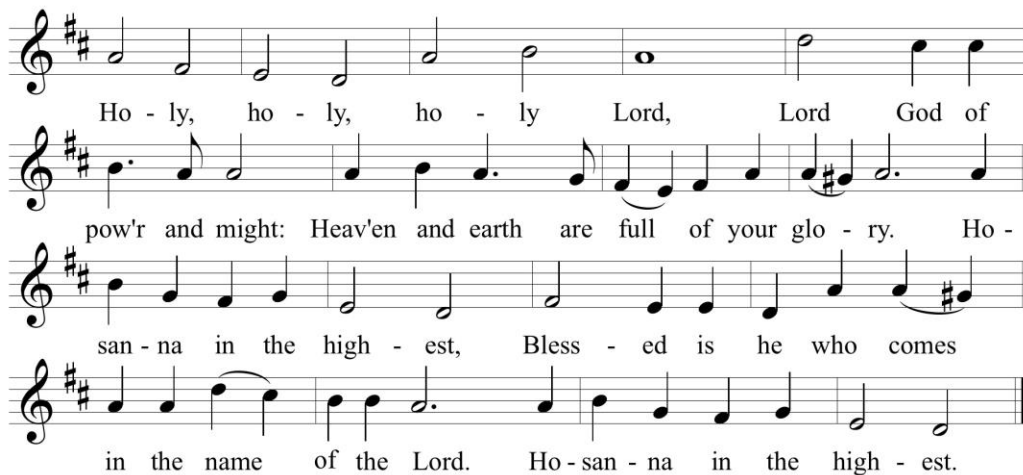
GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. **And also 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.

PROPER PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times, and in all places, offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, Holy God, through Christ our Lord; who rose beyond the bounds of death and, as he had promised, poured out your Spirit of life and power upon the chosen disciples and upon us. At this the whole earth exults in boundless joy. And so, with the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of
pow'r and might: Heav'en 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.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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. (please be seated)

LAMB OF GOD

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.

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS & DISTRIBUTION

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION *(please stand as you are able)*

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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray. Blessed be your name, O God, for we have feasted on your Word, Christ Jesus, the joy and delight of our hearts. Strengthened by this food, send us to gather the world to your banquet, where none are left out and all are satisfied. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The blessing of the living God, Father, † Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN #840 Now Thank We All Our God (*see next page*)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

We invite you to remain seated through the voluntary; however, if you choose to depart, we kindly ask you to do so in silence.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY *Praeludium in F[#] BuxWV 155* Diderik Buxtehude


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Cantors: Naomi Castro & Dylan Buntten

SENDING HYMN #840 Now Thank We All Our God



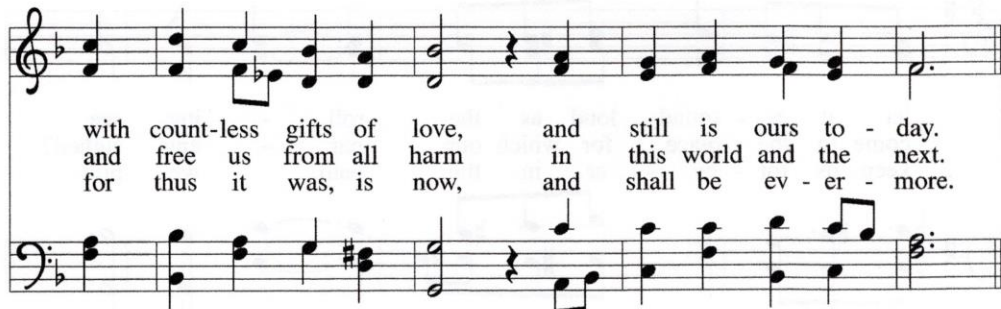
1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things has done, in whom this world rejoices;
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
the Son, and Spirit blest, who reign in highest heaven,



who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
and keep us all in grace, and guide us when perplexed,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heav'n adore;



with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

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