# CREATED, SAVED AND GIFTED BY GOD, WE SEEK, SERVE AND SHARE JESUS CHRIST.



# TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST NOVEMBER 17, 2024 10:30 A.M.

GOOD SHEPHERD LUTHERAN CHURCH 901 EAST STROOP ROAD KETTERING, OH 45429-4688 (937) 298-0136

# TWENTY-SIXTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

### Introduction

November begins with All Saints Day and ends in or near Advent, when we anticipate Christ's coming again. So the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the one who has promised. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet together to provoke one another to love.

### Holy Presence

In Jesus' day the temple in Jerusalem loomed large, both as a central physical structure in the city and as a powerful symbol of God's presence among the people. It was a major part of Jewish religious life of the time, and the location where it stood remains important for many people today. The disciples would certainly have found it unsettling to listen to Jesus forecast the temple's destruction. Would it really fall? How could such an important place ever be lost?

We often look to buildings, institutions, and societal structures for stability. But even our surest foundations can fail, and often do. Jesus reminds us that though stability comes and goes, we are not alone amid the changes. When the world comes apart at the seams, when we don't know what will happen next, God accompanies us through it all. Though wars continue, though death is near, Jesus responds, "Do not be alarmed." We are not alone! Through all the endings and beginnings of our shared human life, God goes with us.

When God gathers us around the font for baptism, we are reminded of how Divine Presence has been with people throughout the ages. The words often shared as water is poured into the font recall scenes from the great flood, the deliverance of the Israelites at the Red Sea, and John baptizing Jesus. God has shown up, again and again! These promises of God's presence are still for us, every day that we live. Whenever we find ourselves interacting with water, we have the chance to be reminded that God has claimed us as beloved, and still carries us through life's hard moments. How might you remember your baptism today? Where is God's presence most important for you?

<sup>\*\*</sup> Indicates to stand as you are able.

## GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

#### WELCOME

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pr. Bob Swanson

#### \*\* CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen.** 

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

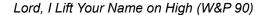
Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God, we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our

hearts through the Holy Spirit. Amen.

#### \*\* GATHERING SONG









I'm so glad you came to save us. You came from heav - en to earth







#### \*\* 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.** 





\*\* CANTICLE OF PRAISE





#### \*\* PRAYER OF THE DAY

Almighty God, your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that your kingdom comes and your will is done through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

### WORD

Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, Jesus interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

#### FIRST READING

The book of Daniel is an example of apocalyptic literature, which is full of strange visions and symbolism. Arising during times of great persecution, apocalyptic literature is concerned with God's revelation about the end time and the coming kingdom of God, when God will vindicate the righteous who have been persecuted.

A reading from the book of Daniel.

"At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever."

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.

#### PSALM

My heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; my body shall rest in hope. (Ps. 16:9)

Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in you; I have said to the LORD, "You are my Lord, my good above all other." All my delight is in the godly that are in the land, upon those who are noble among the people. But those who run after other gods shall have their troubles multiplied. I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods, never take their names upon my lips. O LORD, you are my portion and my cup; it is you who uphold my lot. My boundaries enclose a pleasant land; indeed, I have a rich inheritance. I will bless the LORD who gives me counsel; my heart teaches me night after night. I have set the LORD always before me; because God is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices; my body also shall rest in hope. For you will not abandon me to the grave, nor let your holy one see the pit. You will show me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy, and in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

#### Daniel 12:1-3

Psalm 16

#### SECOND READING

#### Hebrews 10:11-14 [15-18] 19-25

Images of worship and sacrifice are used throughout Hebrews to highlight what Christ has uniquely accomplished through his death. Because we have received forgiveness through Christ's death, we live with sincere hearts by trusting in God's promises and encouraging love and good works from each other.

A reading from the book of Hebrews.

Every priest stands day after day at his service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, "he sat down at the right hand of God," and since then has been waiting "until his enemies would be made a footstool for his feet." For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are sanctified. [And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying, "This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, says the Lord: I will put my laws in their hearts, and I will write them on their minds," he also adds, "I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more." Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.] Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain (that is, through his flesh), and since we have a great priest over the house of God, let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who has promised is faithful. And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

Word of God, word of life. Thanks be to God.



#### \*\* GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

#### \*\* GOSPEL

*In the last week of his life, Jesus warned his disciples concerning trials that were to come upon them and upon the world. He exhorts the listener: Do not be alarmed.* 

The holy gospel according to Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

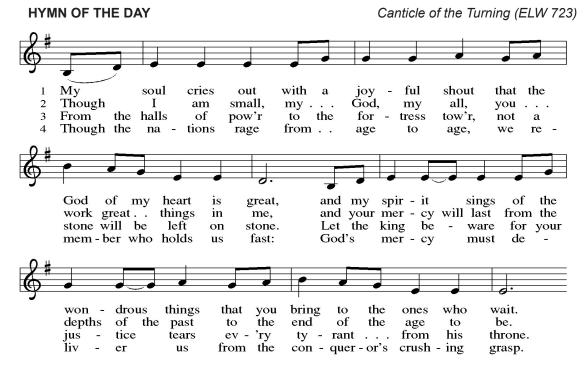
As [Jesus] came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, "Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!" Then Jesus asked him, "Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down." When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, "Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?" Then Jesus began to say to them, "Beware that no one leads you astray. Many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and they will lead many astray. When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs."

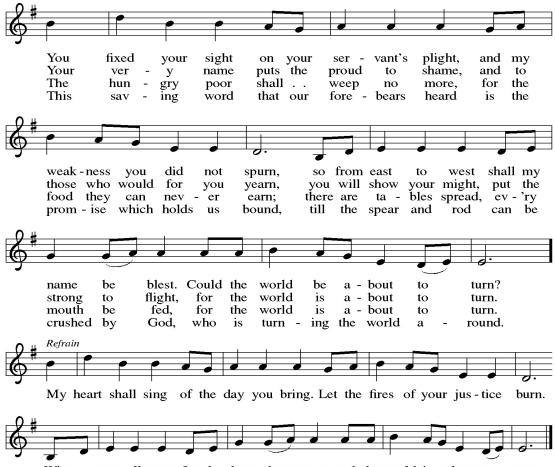
The gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

#### YOUTH MESSAGE

#### MESSAGE

Pr. Bob Swanson





Wipe a - way all tears, for the dawn draws near, and the world is a-bout to turn.

\*\* 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 power of the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, 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, 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

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Each intercession concludes: Merciful God, receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.** 

#### OFFERTORY

### MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Lift up your heads; we lift them up to God. Lift up your voices; we lift them up to God. Lift up your hearts; we lift them up to God.

#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

And so we gather at the table. We come from many different places in life. And as we come together around the table we discover that our differences are not something we just tolerate, but that our differences are indeed a blessing. So come, children of God, just as you are. Wherever you are on this journey of life and faith, you are welcome here - here in this place, here in this community, here at this table. Come, children of God, come and remember. Remember the stories that Jesus' friends tell: Stories of bread broken and shared to feed a multitude; stories of gathering both enemy and friend together around a common table; stories of unlikely guests revealing the face of the sacred.

On a night of both celebration and betrayal Jesus took bread, blessed it and broke it; gave it to his disciples and said, "Take and eat, this is my body given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." Then Jesus took the cup, blessed it, and gave it to his disciples 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."

And so we pray: Lord, bless this bread and bless this fruit of the vine. Bless all of us in our eating and drinking that our eyes might be open, and that we might recognize the risen Christ in our midst, indeed in one another.

#### 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.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold, God is making all things new. Take your place in the new creation

For those of you communing at home or in the pews.

\*\* COMMUNION HYMN

Amazing Love (W&P 8)



#### \*\* TABLE BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ bless you and always keep you in God's grace. **Amen.** 

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.** 

#### SENDING OF COMMUNION

Communion ministers may be sent to take the sacrament to those who are absent. The presiding minister may lead this prayer of sending.

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are sick, homebound, and imprisoned. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.** 

### SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

#### \*\* BLESSING

The Ancient One, enthroned, the Crucified One, now risen, the Indwelling One, poured out, bless you now and forever. **Amen.** 

#### SENDING SONG

Everlasting God

(Verse) Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord, We will wait upon the Lord, We will wait upon the Lord. Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord, We will wait upon the Lord, We will wait upon the Lord Our God, You pp forever, Our Hope, our strong Deliverer.

(Chorus) You are the everlasting God, The everlasting God. You do not faint, You won't grow weary. You're the defender of the weak. You comfort those in need. You lift us up on wings like eagles.

(Verse) Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord, We will wait upon the Lord, We will wait upon the Lord. Strength will rise as we wait upon the Lord, We will wait upon the Lord, We will wait upon the Lord Our God, You reign forever, Our Hope, our strong Deliverer.

> (Final Chorus) You are the everlasting God, The everlasting God. You do not faint, You won't grow weary. You're the defender of the weak. You comfort those in need.

You lift us up on wings like eagles.

Our God, You reign forever, Our Hope, our strong Deliverer.

You are the everlasting God, The everlasting God. You do not faint, You won't grow weary. You're the defender of the weak. You comfort those in need. You lift us up on wings like eagles.

#### \*\* **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ. Created, Saved & Gifted by God, we Seek, Serve & Share Jesus Christ. Hallelujah, Thanks Be To God.

#### POSTLUDE

"W + 2" = Worship Plus Two

Make a commitment to not only worship each week but also try to find a way to serve in the congregation and seek out a way to serve our community.

#### YOU ARE NOW ENTERING THE MISSION FIELD

### **Upcoming Commemorations**

#### Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died 1231 Sunday, November 17, 2024

Born in Hungary, Elizabeth was betrothed to the son of the Landgrave of Thuringia, and at age four was taken to be raised with him at the Wartburg Castle. Ten years later they were married. She was very generous to the poor, and after her husband's death she lived in cruel hardship until her own death at age twenty-four.

#### Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100 Saturday, November 23, 2024

Clement was the third bishop of Rome. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the congregation in Corinth, still struggling with the same problems that led to Paul's letters to them. As did Paul, he focused on the need for love among Christians.

#### Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, died 1927 Saturday, November 23, 2024

Pro grew up in a time when the Mexican revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the wealthy. He became a Jesuit priest, and worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Falsely accused of throwing a bomb at a government official, he was executed, but not before crying out "Long live Christ the King!"

### NOTES:

From Sundays and Seasons.com. Copyright 2014 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #22920. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.