

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

8:30 & 10:45 AM WORSHIP SERVICE

NOVEMBER 19, 2023

Livestreamed on Facebook: <https://facebook.com/rlcfw>

Mission Statement: Being an example of God's acceptance and grace to all.



INTRODUCTION

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the LORD will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

COMMUNITY NEWS

WORSHIP (*stand as you are able)

Worship gathers us to stand with each other again in Easter's first light. We gather to offer to God the one thing God does not first give us, our praise. Here our story is made part of God's story and God's story is made our own.

Worship turns us toward God. Like the crowds following Jesus, we come to his feet to be found, fed, healed and raised, and we are given to stand in the Kingdom of God, heaven itself, receiving again God's free gifts and presence.

Worship turns us toward the world. Like the disciples before us, here we are made church, made the living body of Christ for the world as we learn again who we are, what we are worth, and what our lives are about.

It is the template and practice field for our everyday selves in the everyday world as children of God, disciples of Jesus, and servant citizens of the kingdom of God. So, we begin our worship by singing together our gathering hymn.

GATHERING HYMN #693

"Come, Ye Thankful People, Come"



1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield;
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick-ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All be safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;
Gath - er then thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
Come, with all thine an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved.

C **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

P Holy One,

C **we confess that we are not awake for you.
We are not faithful in using your gifts.
We forget the least of our siblings.
We do not see your beautiful image in one another.
We are infected by sin
that divides your beloved community.
Open our hearts to your coming,
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,
open our hands to serve your creation.
Amen.**

P Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.
Through † Jesus you are forgiven,
by Jesus you are welcome,
in Jesus you are called to rejoice!
Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world.

C **Amen.**

CANTICLE - (See Handout) Dave Exner will sing one time through then the congregation will join and sing one time through.

"Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart"
Words & Music by: Henry Smith

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 **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
- C **Amen.**

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm."

¹³Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them.

¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. ¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. ¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung.

¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

- A The word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! ⁴But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; ⁵for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. ⁶So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; ⁷for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

A The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SOLO - Dave Exner

"Steal Away"

Steal away, steal away, Steal away to Jesus.
Steal away, steal away, steal away home.
I ain't got long to stay here!

My Lord calls me; He calls me by the thunder;
The trumpet sounds within my soul,
I ain't got long to stay here.

Steal away, steal away, Steal away to Jesus.
Steal away, steal away, steal away home.
I ain't got long to stay here!

Green trees are bending; Poor sinner stands a-trembling,
The trumpet sounds within my soul,
I ain't got long to stay here.

Steal away, steal away, Steal away to Jesus.
Steal away, steal away, steal away home.
I ain't got long to stay here!

My Lord calls me; He calls me by the lightning,
The trumpet sounds within my soul,
I ain't got long to stay here.

Arranged by: William Arms Fisher
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GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

P *Alleluia.* Abide in me as I abide in you; those who abide in me bear much fruit.

C *Alleluia. (John 15:4, 5)*

GOSPEL READING

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

Matthew 25:14-30

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?’

²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

P ...the Gospel of our Lord.
 C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

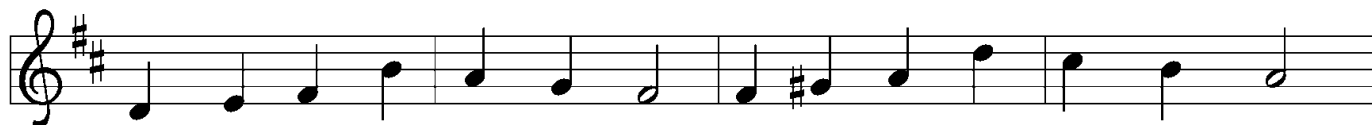
CHILDREN'S SERMON - Spark Bible page#316

PENNY COLLECTION

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY #685

“Take My Life and Let It Be”



1 Take my life, that I may be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 2 Take my hands and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 3 Take my voice and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;
 4 Take my sil - ver and my gold, not a mite would I with - hold;



take my mo - ments and my days; let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my feet and let them be swift and beau - ti - ful for thee.
 take my lips and let them be filled with mes - sag - es from thee.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - 'ry pow'r as thou shalt choose.

5 Take my will and make it thine; it shall be no longer mine.
 Take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy royal throne.

6 Take my love; my Lord, I pour at thy feet its treasure store;
 take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879, alt.
 Music: PATMOS, William H. Havergal, 1793–1870

APOSTLES' CREED

P My brothers and sisters, having heard the Good News proclaimed, let us stand and confess our faith together using the words of the 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 THE PEOPLE

P 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.

A brief silence .

A Gracious God, you give talents and gifts to all your people, and you equip the church to serve. Turn us from fear and self-serving ways, that we use our talents to glorify you and encourage our neighbor. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You have been our dwelling place from one generation to another. Sustain the life of the planet; protect farmlands and harvests. Direct all people in wise stewardship of all the earth's resources. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

A You call us to honesty and integrity. Instill these values in the hearts of all nations and their leaders. Free any who are oppressed, expose all corruption, and bring redemption to victims of injustice. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A You teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. Where there is sickness or sorrow, bring healing, and where there is loneliness, reveal your love in community. We remember before you. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A We pray for the faith formation ministries of our church. Give to all children, youth, and adults who study your word the breastplate of faith and love. Shape us by your love and show us how to encourage one another. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

A Gracious God, you are faithful in all generations. For the promise of life and rest and for the witness of those who have died in faith we praise your goodness. Hear us, O God.

C **Your mercy is great.**

P We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

OFFERING

By our offering we become a part of a mission to be examples of God's acceptance and grace to all in a church that has shared these precious gifts with us in times of joy and sadness. By it we also offer God our most sincere and personal worship: taking some of what matters to us, we put our treasure where we want our hearts to be, and we give it as a giving back of our whole selves to the God who has given us everything and is our everything. So, let us continue our worship now by presenting God with our offerings of duty and delight.

TIME OF OFFERING



Options for giving:

Drop in offering plate during service

Mail in your offering

Use Bill Pay from your bank

Use Venmo. From the app search for us: @Resurrection-Lutheran

OFFERTORY



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that



we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of



all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble



with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927

Text and music © 1978 *Lutheran Book of Worship*, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

OFFERING PRAYER

A God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

C Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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.**

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and might,



heav'n 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, ho - san - na in the high - est.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray,

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

COMMUNION

Communion is the high point of worship for us. In this moment we step out trusting that God has indeed removed sin, bound up our brokenness, defeated death, conquered evil, and brought us so close that we can touch God and God can touch us with such priceless gifts as welcome, love, grace, mercy, deliverance, and endless life (*Communion options are shared*). My siblings, this is our Lord's table. All are welcome here.

LAMB OF GOD



1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;

3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.

you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.

e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

A TIME FOR COMMUNION AND REFLECTION

POST-COMMUNION

- P My sisters and brothers, at this time and in this place you are in the very Kingdom of God, now may His Body and His Blood strengthen and keep you in his grace.
- C **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

- A Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.
- C **Amen.**

BLESSING

- P May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad. The blessing of God, Sovereign, † Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.
- C **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN - See Next Page

DISMISSAL

- P Go in peace.
- C **Being an example of God's acceptance and grace to all.**

POSTLUDE

SENDING HYMN #856

"How Great Thou Art"

V 1, 3, 4



1 O Lord my God, when I in awe - some won - der con - sid - er
2 When through the woods and for - est glades I wan - der, I hear the
3 But when I think that God, his Son not spar - ing, sent him to
4 When Christ shall come, with shout of ac - cla - ma - tion, and take me



all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might - y
birds sing sweet - ly in the trees; when I look down from loft - y moun - tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur - den glad - ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum - ble ad - o -



thun - der, thy pow'r through - out the u - ni - verse dis - played;
gran - deur and hear the brook and feel the gen - tle breeze;
bear - ing he bled and died to take a - way my sin;
ra - tion and there pro - claim, "My God, how great thou art!"

Refrain



Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to thee, how great thou



art! How great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Sav - ior God, to



thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

Text: Carl G. Boberg, 1859–1940; tr. and adapt. Stuart K. Hine, 1899–1989
Music: O STORE GUD, Swedish folk tune; adapt. Stuart K. Hine
Text and music © 1953 S. K. Hine, assigned to Manna Music, Inc., 35255 Brooten Road,
Pacific City OR 97135 (ASCAP). Renewed 1981. All rights reserved.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THANK YOU!! We sent a total of \$943 to St. Matts Food bank so they can provide Thanksgiving meals for those they serve through their food bank.

TODAY IS THE LAST DAY!! The order sheet is in the Welcome Center to place your order and pay for **Poinsettias**. There are options for different sizes and different colors, be sure to get your order and payment in and make checks payable to Resurrection Lutheran Church.

ADVENT KIDS CLUB: Children - Preschoolers through Fifth Graders - are invited to join us for Advent Kids Club! We will meet from 5-7pm on 3 Tuesdays (12/5, 12/12, and 12/19) with dinner provided! Pick up a paper registration at the Welcome Center, or follow this link:

<https://forms.gle/TtoU3yJRvMmssm14A>. Registrations are due TODAY, November 19th. Anyone able to volunteer at Kids Club or provide a meal, please sign up here:

<https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/60B0C4AA9A92FA3F85-45613507-rlcadvent>.

CUPS OF CHEER for homebound members: Advent Kids Club will be putting together the Cups of Cheer for homebound members this year. If you're able to help deliver or donate items, please sign up here: <https://m.signupgenius.com/#!/showSignUp/60B0C4AA9A92FA3F85-44822762-2023>. Please have all donations to church by Sunday, December 3rd.

LSSI Cup of Kindness Christmas Program With the significant rise in cost of basic needs, such as housing and utilities, Lutheran Social Services of Indiana (LSSI) has changed the Christmas Program model. This Christmas, LSSI is asking congregations to make cash donations to the Cup of Kindness Program. By donating to Cup of Kindness, LSSI staff will be able to provide more families with utility payments to ensure electricity and water stay on or provide them a rent or mortgage payment. A donation box will be located at the welcome center for your contributions beginning November 5th and ending December 10th.

Do you enjoy seeing the **LUMINARIES** all lit up on Christmas Eve? If so, we need your help! We are in need of someone to be in charge of setting up and taking down the luminaries this year and volunteers to help, if that's you, please email the office at office@rlcfw.org.

December 3, 2023, will be **Barb's last Sunday here at RLC**. We will be having one service at 9:30am with Bishop Gafkjen attending and a reception after in the fellowship hall. Spread the news and let's fill the church to show Barb just how much she will be missed and what an incredible blessing she has been to Resurrection!

Adding to the excitement of December 3, we will also be celebrating **Pat Gottschalk's 90th birthday!** There will be a box in the welcome center to place cards in, wishing Pat a Happy Birthday.

Prayer List will reset tomorrow, November 20th. If you have someone you would like to add to or remove from the list, please email Robin at office@rlcfw.org.

Barb is only weeks from retirement and to further show our appreciation the council is collecting a monetary gift. If you choose to add to this gift of thanks, any cash or checks can be placed in the designated box at the welcome center no later than December 1. Please make any check payable to "Rob Mundroff, Treasurer". Please add "Barb's gift" to the memo of any electronic gifts.

PRAY FOR . . .

Jack Bigham
Eddie Carnahan
Lela & George Dunn
Becky Schoepp
Mike Hudecki
Bruce Schlosser
Mark Grove
Darlene Lebrecht
Debbie Hinnah
Steve Maxwell
Andrew Reagan
Don Dennis
Wayne Dennis

Jan Hieber
Terra Dunn
Diann
Ron Knepper
Jenny Hobby
Stephanie Haft
Pastor John Roberts
Bob Hobby
Jo Belans
Anthony Alphonso Silvera
Noah Smith
Suzanne Seele
Elaine Kirkendall
Craig Kirkendall

Military Service:
Bailey Beyer
Jaidyn Beyer
Collin Monteith
Dakota Francis
Jon Popovich
Matthew Gephart
Alex Horvath
Homebound:
Cindy Dankert
Bob & Cheryl Goble
Norma Greener
Sarajane Hill
Joyce Svoboda
Jen Knepper



*Today's altar flowers are given by Mary Patty in
memory of Jim Patty.*

