**Shape

Description automatically generated with low confidenceGood Shepherd Lutheran Church**

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**25th Sunday after Pentecost**

**November 19, 2023, 9:00 am**

***Introduction to the day…***

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.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**GATHERING**

**GATHERING HYMN O God, Our Help in Ages Past ELW 632**

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

A close-up of a leaf

Description automatically generatedBlessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,

in whose image we are made,

who claims us and calls us beloved.

**Amen.**

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy One,

**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.**

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.

**Amen.**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**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.**

**Amen.**

**CHILDREN’S MUSIC We Are Marching in the Light of God ELW 866**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM: Psalm 90:1-12**

1Lord, you have been our refuge  
  from one generation to another.  
 2**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,**  
  **from age to age you are God.**  
 3You turn us back to the dust and say,  
  “Turn back, O children of earth.”  
 4**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past**  
  **and like a watch in the night;**  
 5you sweep them away like a dream,  
  they fade away suddenly like the grass:  
 6**in the morning it is green and flourishes;**  
  **in the evening it is dried up and withered.**  
 7For we are consumed by your anger;  
  we are afraid because of your wrath.  
 8**Our iniquities you have set before you,**  
  **and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**  
 9When you are angry, all our days are gone;  
  we bring our years to an end like a sigh.  
 10**The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;**  
  **yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**  
 11Who regards the power of your wrath?  
  Who rightly fears your indignation?  
  12**So teach us to number our days**  
  **that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**

**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.

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION ACS 33**

**GOSPEL: 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.’ ”

The gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**SERMON**

**HYMN OF THE DAY** **God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending ELW 678**

**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,**

**A close-up of hands shaking

Description automatically generated with medium confidencesuffered 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**

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

…Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

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

**Amen.**

**PEACE**

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

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**OFFERING***In addition to our normal offering, a* ***Special Benevolence in November*** *(collected in a special envelope) will go to* ***Mary’s Place of Central WI.*** *Mary's Place of Central Wisconsin provides transitional housing services to those in need.*

**OFFERING HYMN I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light ELW 815**

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

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.

**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 our thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (Sung) ACS 36**

**THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:

Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.

You have filled all creation with light and life;

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age:

the promise to Israel,

the rescue from Egypt,

the gift of the promised land,

the words of the prophets;

and, at this end of all the ages, the gift of your Son,

who proclaimed the good news in word and deed

and was obedient to your will, even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

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

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, 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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,

we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

**Christ has died.**

**Christ is risen.**

**Christ will come again.**

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup

we remember the life our Lord offered for us.

And, believing the witness of his resurrection,

we await his coming in power

to share with us the great and promised feast.

**Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit,

that we who share in Christ’s body and blood

may live to the praise of your glory

and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

**Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.**

Join our prayers with those of your servants

of every time and every place,

and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest

until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father,

now and forever.

**Amen.**

A chalice and bread on a table

Description automatically generated**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**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** *- Certified gluten-free crackers are in the bowl on the communion plate.*

There is a place for you at the banquet.

Come and feast at Jesus’ table.

**HOLY COMMUNION**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

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.

**Amen.**

**SENDING**

**BLESSING**

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.

**Amen.**

**CLOSING HYMN The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve ELW 551**

**DISMISSAL**

Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us.

So be swift to love, make haste to be kind, and go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

A group of women in traditional attire

Description automatically generated**Thanks be to God.**

Good Shepherd is in search of an administrative assistant. We are looking for someone friendly and outgoing with good clerical skills to manage office duties.Submit a resume and/or questions to gslcwi.president@gmail.com*.*

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| ***Upcoming Worship Assistants*** | | | | | |
|  | **Usher** | **Lector** | **Communion** | **Offering Counters** | |
| November 19 | Nancy Leonard | Tammy Neumann | Matt & Margo Barrier | Robin Beeman | David Schneider |
| November 26 | Dan & Pam Mundt | Julie Will | Ron Rothfusz  Andrea Hovick | Heidi Binder | Kami Weis |
| December 3 | Tammy Neumann | Andrea Hovick | Sarah Kopitzke Tammy Neumann | Pam Mundt | May Hill |
| December 10 | Rob & Leslie Mader | Nancy Leonard | Bruce & Nancy Tibbett | Dan Mundt | Jon Hill |
| December 17 | Jeff & Carol Peterson | Shelly Schneider | John Wagner Nancy Leonard | Nancy Leonard | Breanna Butler |

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| **Coming up at GSLC** | | |
| Sunday, November 19 | 9:00 am | Worship Service – Sunday School   * 25th Sunday after Pentecost * Matthew 25:14-30; the story of the slaves entrusted with talents. |
| Tuesday, November 21 | 2:00 pm | Chapel at Three Oaks |
|  | 7:00 pm | AA Meeting |
| Wednesday, November 22 | 12:00 pm | Bible Study |
|  | 7:00 pm | Midweek Worship - Thanksgiving Eve   * Pie Social * No Confirmation Class |
| Thursday, November 23 |  | * Church Office Closed |
| Sunday, November 26 | 9:00 am | Worship Service   * Christ the King / Last Sunday after Pentecost * Matthew 25:31-46; the coming of the Son of Man; the separation of sheep and goats. |

**A group of pies on a wood surface

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At the 2023 Synod Assembly, a resolution was passed for churches to participate in an action to honor Native American Heritage Month. The Brothertown Indian Nation, based in Wisconsin, is seeking federal recognition. As a small step we can take to promote equality for all people, a petition will be available through this month to show our support for the Brothertown Nation's efforts.