

"Living, sharing and teaching the Love of Christ as we reach out to all people" "Viviendo, compartiendo y ensenando el Amor de Cristo mientras alcanzamos a toda persona"

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2020

As WE GATHER

We read today about three servants. Two were good and faithful. One was evil and faithless. Two enter into the joy of their master. One does not. Our Lord has entrusted us with many good and gracious gifts and sends us into the world to make disciples and multiply the gifts we have received. Yet, it is not our own work that leads us into the joy of our Master; rather, it is our Master's work on our behalf. Jesus' saving work of death and resurrection brings us into the joy of our Master.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & GREETING

OPENING SENTENCES

- Pastor: Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.
- People: You have been our good and faithful Master.
- Pastor: You have poured out blessings upon us.
- People: You have given us all we need to support this body and life.
- Pastor: We meditate on all that You have done.
- People: We ponder the work of Your hands.
- Pastor: On account of Your name, O Lord, preserve our lives.
- People: In Your righteousness, bring us out of trouble.

INVOCATION

- Pastor: In the name of God the Father:
- People: Praise to our creating God!
- Pastor: In the name of His Son, Jesus:
- People: Praise to our redeeming God!
- Pastor: In the name of God the Spirit:
- People: Praise to our renewing God!
- Pastor: Let us join our thankful voices.
- People: Amen! Amen! Praise the Lord!

JOYFUL, JOYFUL WE ADORE THEE [LSB#803]

OPENING HYMN

Joyful, joyful we adore Thee, God of glory, Lord of love! Hearts unfold like flow'rs before Thee, praising Thee, their sun above. Melt the clouds of sin and sadness; drive the gloom of doubt away. Giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.

All Thy works with joy surround Thee, Earth and heav'n reflect Thy rays, Stars and angels sing around Thee, Center of unbroken praise. Field and forest, vale and mountain, Flow'ry meadow, flashing sea, Chanting bird, and flowing fountain Call us to rejoice in Thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving, Ever blessing, ever blest, Wellspring of the joy of living, Ocean-depth of happy rest! Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, Fountainhead of love divine: Joyful, we Thy heav'n inherit! Joyful, we by grace are Thine!

CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Indeed, our heavenly Father has done wonderful things for us. He has given us more than we could ever ask for or imagine. Yet, there have been times when we have been ungrateful for God's gifts, times when we have been lazy and selfish with what He has given us, times when we have been unfaithful servants. Yet, our heavenly Father invites us to return to Him and ask for His forgiveness.

Silence for reflection.

Pastor: Heavenly Father,

- People: we confess that we have not been faithful with all of the good gifts You have given us. We have sinned in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have failed by our inactivity. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, O Lord, that we might be restored as Your servants.
- Pastor: God hears your confession and has promised to be with you always. Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son, Jesus Christ, to die and rise for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As an ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ≇ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- People: Amen. We are forgiven. We are restored in Jesus.

SHOUT TO THE LORD

HYMN

My Jesus, my Savior, Lord there is none like You. All of my days, I want to praise, the wonders of Your mighty love. My Comfort, my Shelter, Tower of refuge and strength; Let every breath, all that I am, never cease to worship You.

Chorus: Shout to the Lord, all the earth, let us sing; Power and majesty, praise to the King; Mountains bow down and the seas will roar at the sound of Your name. I sing for joy at the work of Your hands, Forever I'll love You, forever I'll stand;

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Together: Heavenly Father, You are our good and faithful Master. Thank You for the abundance of blessings You have poured into our lives. Strengthen us by Your mighty power, that we might serve You well and faithfully; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

FIRST LESSON

Zephaniah 1:7–16

^{1:7}Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is near; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. ⁸And on the day of the Lord's sacrifice— "I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. ⁹On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. ¹⁰"On that day," declares the Lord, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. ¹¹Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The Lord will not do good, nor will he do ill.' ¹³Their goods 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 mighty man cries aloud there. ¹⁵A day of wrath is that day, 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.

+++ ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION +++

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.People: Thanks be to God.

SECOND LESSON

1 THESSALONIANS 5:1–11

^{5:1}Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

+++ ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION +++

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

BREATHE

This is the air I breathe This is the air I breathe Your holy presence living--- in me This is my daily bread This is my daily bread Your very-- word spoken-- to me And I,---- I'm lost without you This is the air I breathe.

- Pastor: The Gospel according to Saint Matthew:
- **People:** Glory be to You, O Lord.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:14-30

^{25:14}"For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. ¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' ²¹His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

^{25:14}»El reino de los cielos será también como un hombre que, al emprender un viaje, llamó a sus *siervos y les encargó sus bienes. ¹⁵A uno le dio cinco mil monedas de oro, a otro dos mil y a otro sólo mil, a cada uno según su capacidad. Luego se fue de viaje. ¹⁶El que había recibido las cinco mil fue en seguida y negoció con ellas y ganó otras cinco mil. ¹⁷Así mismo, el que recibió dos mil ganó otras dos mil. ¹⁸Pero el que había recibido mil fue, cavó un hoyo en la tierra y escondió el dinero de su señor. ¹⁹»Después de mucho tiempo volvió el señor de aquellos siervos y arregló cuentas con ellos. ²⁰El que había recibido las cinco mil monedas llegó con las otras cinco mil. "Señor -dijo-, encargó cinco usted me mil monedas. Mire, he ganado otras cinco mil." ²¹Su señor le respondió: "iHiciste bien, siervo bueno y fiel! En lo poco has sido fiel; te pondré a

²²And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more,' ²³His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' ²⁴He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' ²⁶But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and anashing of teeth.'

cargo de mucho más. iVen a compartir la felicidad de tu señor!" ²²Llegó también el que recibió dos mil monedas. "Señor —informó—, encargó dos usted mil me monedas. Mire, he ganado otras dos mil." ²³Su señor le respondió: "iHiciste bien, siervo bueno y fiel! Has sido fiel en lo poco; te pondré a cargo de mucho más, iVen a compartir la felicidad de tu señor!" ²⁴»Después llegó el que había recibido sólo mil monedas. "Señor -explicó-, yo sabía que usted es un hombre duro, que cosecha donde no ha sembrado y recoge donde no ha esparcido. ²⁵Así que tuve miedo, y fui y escondí su dinero en la tierra. Mire, aquí tiene lo que es suyo." 26Pero su señor le contestó: "iSiervo malo v perezoso! ¿Así que sabías que cosecho donde no he sembrado y recojo donde no he esparcido? ²⁷Pues debías haber depositado mi dinero en el banco, para que a mi regreso lo hubiera recibido con intereses.

²⁸»"Quítenle las mil monedas y dénselas al que tiene las diez mil.
²⁹Porque a todo el que tiene, se le dará más, y tendrá en abundancia.
Al que no tiene se le quitará hasta lo que tiene. 30 Y a ese siervo inútil échenlo afuera, a la oscuridad, donde habrá llanto y rechinar de dientes."

+++ ENGLISH STANDARD VERSION +++

+++ NUEVA VERSIÓN INTERNACIONAL +++

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.People: Praise to You, O Christ.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

APOSTLES' CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

WORSHIP WITH TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Note: If you have a prayer request, please put it on a "Prayer Request Card" and the ushers will bring it forward with the offering.

OFFERING HYMN

GIVE THANKS WITH A GRATEFUL HEART [LSB#806]

// Give thanks with a grateful heart, give thanks to the Holy One; Give thanks because He's given Jesus Christ, His Son. // 2x

// And now let the weak say, "I am strong," Let the poor say, "I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us." //2x

Give thanks!

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

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.

SERMON HYMN

HOW SWEET THE NAME OF JESUS [TLH#364]

How sweet the name of Jesus sounds In a believer's ear! It soothes our sorrows, heals our wounds, And drives away our fear.

It makes the wounded spirit whole And calms the troubled breast; 'Tis manna to the hungry soul And to the weary, rest.

Dear name! The Rock on which I build, My Shield and Hiding-place; My never-failing Treasury filled With boundless stores of grace.

SERMON

PASTOR ELY PRIETO

CLOSING PRAYER

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord look upon you with favor, ♥ and give you peace.

People: Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

CLOSING HYMN

HOW SWEET THE NAME OF JESUS [*TLH*#364]

Jesus, my Shepherd, Guardian, Friend, My Prophet, Priest, and King, My Lord, my Life, my Way, my End, Accept the praise I bring.

Weak is the effort of my heart And cold my warmest thought; But when I see Thee as Thou art, I'll praise Thee as I ought.

Till then I would Thy love proclaim With every fleeting breath; And may the music of Thy name Refresh my soul in death!

✤ TO GOD ALONE BE ALL THE GLORY
 ✤ A DIOS SEA TODA LA GLORIA
 ✤