



Faith Lutheran Church

***Faithfully Growing, Welcoming,
and Caring through Christ***

November 17, 2019

The 23rd Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

TEMPLE TALK
BISHOP JEFFREY CLEMENTS
ON VIDEO



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the + Holy Trinity, the one who fashions us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin, calling for God's transforming power. *(A brief silence.)*
Source of all life,

C: we confess that we have not allowed your grace to set us free. We fear that we are not good enough. We hear your word of love freely given to us, yet we expect others to earn it. We turn the church inward, rather than moving it outward. Forgive us. Stir us.

Reform us to be a church powered by love, willing to speak for what is right, act for what is just, and seek the healing of your whole creation. Amen.

P: God hears our cry and sends the Spirit to change us and to empower our lives in the world. Our sins are forgiven +, God's love is unconditional. And we are raised up as God's people who will always be made new, in the name of Jesus Christ.

C: Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

**Come, ye thankful people, come;
raise the song of harvest home.**

**All be safely gathered in
ere the winter storms begin.**

**God, our maker, doth provide
for our wants to be supplied.**

**Come to God's own temple, come,
raise the song of harvest home.**

**All the world is God's own field,
fruit unto his praise to yield;
wheat and tares together sown,
unto joy or sorrow grown.
First the blade, and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear.
Lord of harvest, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.**

**For the Lord our God shall come
and shall take his harvest home;
from his field shall in that day
all offenses purge away;
give his angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store
in his garner evermore.**

**Even so, Lord, quickly come
to thy final harvest home.
Gather then thy people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there, forever purified,
in thy garner to abide.
Come, with all thine angels, come,
raise the glorious harvest home!**

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.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DAY

P: The end is near. There is no doubt about it. The warnings are dire. The tone of today's texts is ominous. But the baptized know how to live in the "meantimes." The baptized are strengthened for the living of these days in word and sacrament. The baptized rally around the invitation of the apostle: "Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right."

C: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray. (*A brief silence.*) O God,
the protector of all who trust in you,

**C: Without you nothing is strong,
nothing is holy. Embrace us with your
mercy, that with you as our ruler and
guide, we may live through what is
temporary without losing what is
eternal, through Jesus Christ, our
Savior and Lord. Amen.**



Kids Church

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:8-12

A reading from Malachi, the 3rd chapter.

Will anyone rob God? Yet you are robbing me!

But you say, "How are we robbing you?" In your tithes and offerings! You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me — the whole nation of you! Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, so that there may be food in my house, and thus put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts;

see if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you an overflowing blessing. I will rebuke the locust for you, so that it will not destroy the produce of your soil; and your vine in the field shall not be barren, says the LORD of hosts. Then all nations will count you happy, for you will be a land of delight, says the LORD of hosts.

R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

A RESPONSIVE READING ~ PSALM 98

R: Sing a new song to the LORD, who has done marvelous things, whose right hand and holy arm have won the victory.

C: **O LORD, you have made known your victory, you have revealed your righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

R: You remember your steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel; all the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

C: Shout with joy to the LORD, all you lands; lift up your voice, rejoice, and sing.

R: Sing to the LORD with the harp,
with the harp and the voice of song.

**C: With trumpets and the sound of the
horn shout with joy before the king,
the LORD.**

R: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it,
the world and those who dwell therein.

**C: Let the rivers clap their hands, and let
the hills ring out with joy before the
LORD, who comes to judge the earth.**

R: The LORD will judge the world with
righteousness and the peoples
with equity.

C: Amen.

SECOND READING: II Corinthians 9:6-12

A reading from 2nd Corinthians, the 9th chapter.

The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.

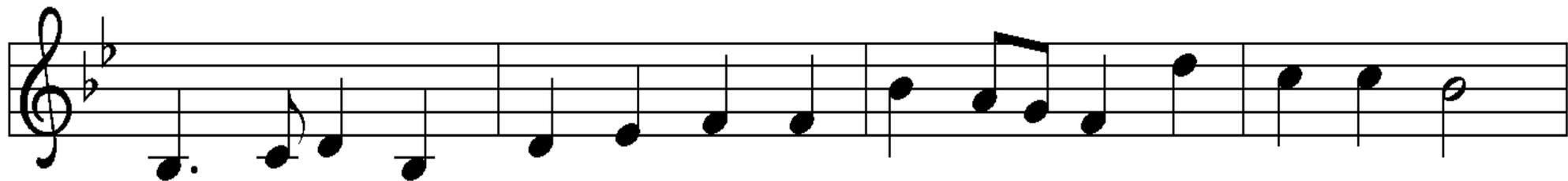
And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. As it is written, "He scatters abroad, he gives to the poor; his righteousness endures forever." He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness.

You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.

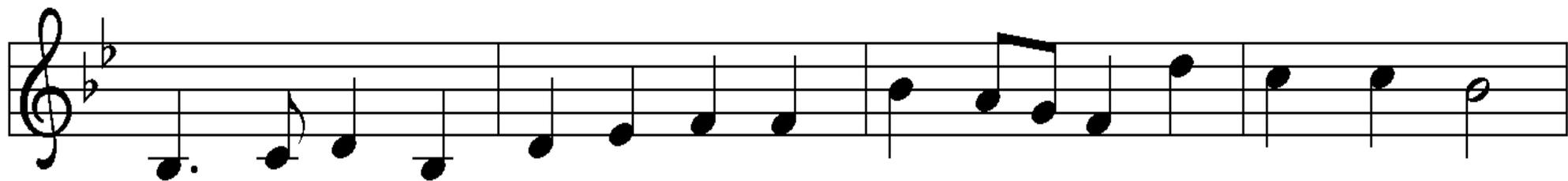
R: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.



Let it burn like fire with - in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.



Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

GOSPEL: Luke 21:1-8

P: The holy gospel according to Luke,
the 21st chapter.

C: *Glory to you, O Lord.*

Jesus looked up and saw rich people putting their gifts into the treasury; he also saw a poor widow put in two small copper coins. He said, "Truly I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them; for all of them have contributed out of their abundance,

but she out of her poverty has put in all she had to live on." When some were speaking about the temple, how it was adorned with beautiful stones and gifts dedicated to God, he said, "As for these things that you see, the days will come when not one stone will be left upon another; all will be thrown down." They asked him, "Teacher, when will this be, and what will be the sign that this is about to take place?"

And he said, "Beware that you are not led astray; for many will come in my name and say, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is near!' Do not go after them.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“Signs of a Healthy Congregation”

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Praise and Thanksgiving”

**Praise and thanksgiving, God,
we would offer
for all things living, you have made good:
harvest of sown fields, fruits of the orchard,
hay from the mown fields,
blossom and wood.**

**God, bless the labor we bring to serve you,
that with our neighbor we may be fed.
Sowing or tilling, we would work with you,
harvesting, milling for daily bread.**

**Father, providing food for your children,
by Wisdom's guiding teach us to share
one with another, so that, rejoicing
with us, all others may know your care.**

**Then will your blessing reach ev'ry people,
freely confessing your gracious hand.
Where you are reigning, no one will hunger;
your love sustaining showers the land.**

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.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: United with the saints of every time and place, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

(A brief silence.) Faithful God, when we question the future, you reveal the hope of victory through your Son, Jesus Christ. Give us the wisdom to rely on your words and the courage to witness to your love and faithfulness. Hear us, O God.

C: our mercy is great.

P: God our joy, the seas and the hills shout your praise. Inspire us to sing a joyful song to you as we work to preserve and protect your marvelous creation.

Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: God our ruler, you judge the world with righteousness and the people with equity. Grant perseverance to world leaders and elected officials, so that they never grow weary in doing what is right. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: Gracious God, you offer peace to fearful hearts. Heal the hurts of all those who suffer injustice and persecution, those who spend months and years in prisons and in hospitals, and for any one in need today (*especially*). Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: God our song, thank you for worship leaders, artists, and musicians who create works of praise and prayer. Guide them in their leadership, and empower them to lift up new voices and works of art among the assembly. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: Everlasting God, as we await the dawn of the new heaven and the new earth, we give thanks for your beloved who have died in Christ. Hear us, O God.

C: **Your mercy is great.**

P: Rejoicing in hope, we lift our prayers to you, most gracious Lord, trusting that you have received them in your care.

C: Amen.

SHARING THE PEACE

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

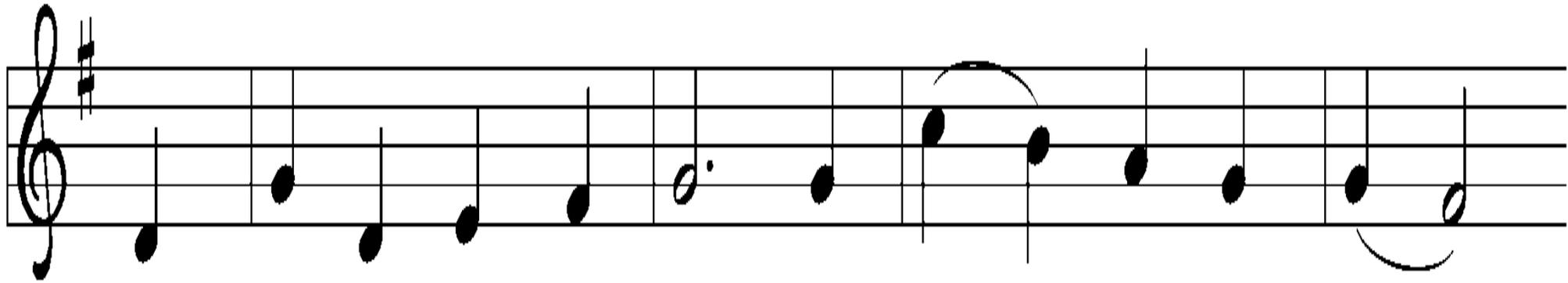
C: **And also with you.**

OFFERING

~VIDEO DURING OFFERING ~

***“Yes I Will”* by Vertical Worship**

Offertory Response



1 We give thee but thine own, what - e'er the gift may be;
2 May we thy boun - ties thus as stew - ards true re - ceive,



all that we have is thine a - lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.
and glad - ly, as thou bless - est us, to thee our first - fruits give.

OFFERING PRAYER

P: God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and our labor. Take them offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal the whole creation; through Jesus Christ, our savior and Light.

C: Amen.

DIALOGUE

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 and praise to the
Lord our God.

**C: It is right to give God thanks
and praise.**

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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.**

COMMUNION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

P: Holy and compassionate God, in bread and wine you give us gifts that form us to be humble and courageous. May your words come to life in our serving and in our witness, that we might speak a living voice of healing and justice to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our rock and our redeemer.

C: Amen.

BLESSING

P: Almighty God, Father, + Son,
and Holy Spirit, bless you now
and forever.

C: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

**For the fruit of all creation,
thanks be to God.**

**For these gifts to ev'ry nation,
thanks be to God.**

**For the plowing, sowing, reaping,
silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping,
thanks be to God.**

**In the just reward of labor,
God's will is done.**

**In the help we give our neighbor,
God's will is done.**

**In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing,
God's will is done.**

**For the harvests of the Spirit,
thanks be to God.**

**For the good we all inherit,
thanks be to God.**

**For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all, that love has found us,
thanks be to God.**

DISMISSAL

P: Go forth into the world to serve God
with gladness.

C: **Thanks be to God.**











