

**Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost**  
**November 19, 2023**

**733 O God, Our Help in Ages Past**

*sts. 1–5*

- 1 O God, our help in ages past,  
Our hope for years to come,  
Our shelter from the stormy blast,  
And our eternal home:**
- 2 Under the shadow of Thy throne  
Thy saints have dwelt secure;  
Sufficient is Thine arm alone,  
And our defense is sure.**
- 3 Before the hills in order stood  
Or earth received her frame,  
From everlasting Thou art God,  
To endless years the same.**
- 4 A thousand ages in Thy sight  
Are like an evening gone,  
Short as the watch that ends the night  
Before the rising sun.**
- 5 Time, like an ever-rolling stream,  
Soon bears us all away;  
We fly forgotten as a dream  
Dies at the op'ning day.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.  
Text: Public domain

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** Dearly beloved, Christ our Lord says in the last chapter of Matthew, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Me. Therefore go and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.” In the last chapter of Mark our Lord promises, “Whoever believes and is baptized will be saved.” And the apostle Peter has written, “Baptism now saves you.”
- The Word of God also teaches that we are all conceived and born sinful and are under the power of the devil until Christ claims us as His own. We would be lost forever unless delivered from sin, death, and everlasting condemnation. But the Father of all mercy and grace has sent His Son Jesus Christ, who atoned for the sin of

the whole world, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

- P** How are you named?
- R** [Name]
- P** [Name], receive the sign of the holy cross both upon your ✠ forehead and upon your ✠ heart to mark you as one redeemed by Christ the crucified.
- P** Let us pray.
- Almighty and eternal God, according to Your strict judgment You condemned the unbelieving world through the flood, yet according to Your great mercy You preserved believing Noah and his family, eight souls in all. You drowned hard-hearted Pharaoh and all his host in the Red Sea, yet led Your people Israel through the water on dry ground, foreshadowing this washing of Your Holy Baptism. Through the Baptism in the Jordan of Your beloved Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, You sanctified and instituted all waters to be a blessed flood and a lavish washing away of sin.
- We pray that You would behold [name(s)] according to Your boundless mercy and bless [him/her/them] with true faith by the Holy Spirit, that through this saving flood all sin in [him/her/them], which has been inherited from Adam and which [he himself / she herself / they themselves] [has/have] committed since, would be drowned and die. Grant that [he/she/they] be kept safe and secure in the holy ark of the Christian Church, being separated from the multitude of unbelievers and serving Your name at all times with a fervent spirit and a joyful hope, so that, with all believers in Your promise, [he/she/they] would be declared worthy of eternal life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** From ancient times the Church has observed the custom of appointing sponsors for baptismal candidates and catechumens. In the Evangelical Lutheran Church sponsors are to confess the faith expressed in the Apostles’ Creed and taught in the Small Catechism. They are, whenever possible, to witness the Baptism of those they sponsor. They are to pray for them, support them in their ongoing instruction and nurture in the Christian faith, and encourage them toward the faithful reception of the Lord’s Supper. They are at all times to be examples to them of the holy life of faith in Christ and love for the neighbor.
- P** Is it your intention to serve [name of candidate(s)] as sponsors in the Christian faith?
- R** *Yes, with the help of God.*

**P** God enable you both to will and to do this faithful and loving work and with His grace fulfill what we are unable to do.

**C** Amen.

**P** Hear the Holy Gospel according to St. Mark.  
They brought young children to [Jesus] that He might touch them; but the disciples rebuked those who brought them. But when Jesus saw it, He was greatly displeased and said to them, "Let the little children come to Me, and do not forbid them; for of such is the kingdom of God. Assuredly, I say to you, whoever does not receive the kingdom of God as a little child will by no means enter it." And He took them up in His arms, put His hands on them, and blessed them.

**P** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

### Lord's Prayer

**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.

**P** The Lord preserve your coming in and your going out from this time forth and even † forevermore.

**C** Amen.

**P** [*Name(s)*], do you renounce the devil?

**R** Yes, I renounce him.

**P** Do you renounce all his works?

**R** Yes, I renounce them.

**P** Do you renounce all his ways?

**R** Yes, I renounce them.

**P** Do you believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth?

**R** Yes, I believe.

**P** Do you believe 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?

**R** Yes, I believe.

**P** Do you 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?

**R** Yes, I believe.

**P** [*Name*], do you desire to be baptized?

**R** Yes, I do.

**P** [*Name*], I baptize you in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

**P** The almighty God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has given you the new birth of water and of the Spirit and has forgiven you all your sins, strengthen you with His grace to life † everlasting.

**C** Amen.

**P** Receive this white garment to show that you have been clothed with the robe of Christ's righteousness that covers all your sin. So shall you stand without fear before the judgment seat of Christ to receive the inheritance prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

**P** Receive this burning light to show that you have received Christ who is the Light of the world. Live always in the light of Christ, and be ever watchful for His coming, that you may meet Him with joy and enter with Him into the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which shall have no end.

**A** In Holy Baptism God the Father has made you [*a member / members*] of His Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and [*an heir / heirs*] with us of all the treasures of heaven in the one holy Christian and apostolic Church. We receive you in Jesus' name as our [*brother(s)/sister(s)*] in Christ, that together we might hear His Word, receive His gifts, and proclaim the praises of Him who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light.

**C** Amen. We welcome you in the name of the Lord.

**P** Let us pray.

Almighty and most merciful God and Father, we thank and praise You that You graciously preserve and enlarge Your family and

have granted *[name(s)]* the new birth in Holy Baptism and made *[him/her/them]* *[a member / members]* of Your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, and *[an heir / heirs]* of Your heavenly kingdom. We humbly implore You that, as *[he/she/they]* *[has/have]* now become Your *[child/children]*, You would keep *[him/her/them]* in *[his/her/their]* baptismal grace, that according to Your good pleasure *[he/she/they]* may faithfully grow to lead a godly life to the praise and honor of Your holy name and finally, with all Your saints, obtain the promised inheritance in heaven; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

- C** Amen.
- P** Peace ☩ be with you.
- C** Amen.

**Introit** *Psalm 143:2, 5–6, 10–11; antiphon: v. 1*

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!  
**In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!**  
Enter not into judgment with your servant,  
**for no one living is righteous before you.**  
I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done;  
**I ponder the work of your hands.**  
I stretch out my hands to you;  
**my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.**  
Teach me to do your will, for you are my God!  
**Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!**  
For your name's sake, O LORD, preserve my life!  
**In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!**  
**Glory be to the Father and to the Son**  
**and to the Holy Spirit;**  
**as it was in the beginning,**  
**is now, and will be forever. Amen.**  
Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for mercy!  
**In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!**

**Kyrie**

- C** Lord, have mercy upon us.  
Christ, have mercy upon us.  
Lord, have mercy upon us.

**Gloria in Excelsis**

- P** Glory be to God on high:
- C** and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.  
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee,  
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.

**O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.  
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.  
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have  
mercy upon us.  
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.  
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.**

**Salutation and Collect of the Day**

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with thy spirit.
- P** Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

- C** Amen.

**Old Testament Reading**

*Zephaniah 1:7–16*

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

**Gradual**

*Revelation 7:14b; Psalm 84:5*

These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation.  
**They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.**  
Blessèd are those whose strength is in you,  
**in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

**Epistle Reading**

*1 Thessalonians 5:1–11*

- A** This is the Word of the Lord.
- C** Thanks be to God.

*Stand*

**Alleluia**

*LSB 190*

- C** Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel Reading

*Matthew 25:14–30*

- P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
- C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.
- P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

## 508 The Day Is Surely Drawing Near

*sts. 1–2, 5, 7*

- 1** The day is surely drawing near  
When Jesus, God's anointed,  
In all His power shall appear  
As judge whom God appointed.  
Then fright shall banish idle mirth,  
And flames on flames shall ravage earth  
As Scripture long has warned us.
- 2** The final trumpet then shall sound  
And all the earth be shaken,  
And all who rest beneath the ground  
Shall from their sleep awaken.  
But all who live will in that hour,  
By God's almighty, boundless pow'r,  
Be changed at His commanding.
- 5** My Savior paid the debt I owe  
And for my sin was smitten;  
Within the Book of Life I know  
My name has now been written.  
I will not doubt, for I am free,  
And Satan cannot threaten me;  
There is no condemnation!
- 7** O Jesus Christ, do not delay,  
But hasten our salvation;  
We often tremble on our way  
In fear and tribulation.  
O hear and grant our fervent plea:  
Come, mighty judge, and set us free  
From death and ev'ry evil.

Text: Bartholomäus Ringwaldt, 1532–99; tr. Philip A. Peter, 1832–1919, alt.  
Text: Public domain

## Sermon 'Children of Light' 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

## Reception of Members by Transfer or Profession of Faith

### Offertory

- C** Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.  
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.  
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

### Offering

### Prayer of the Church

- P** ...Lord, in your mercy:
- C** Hear our prayer.
- P** ...through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C** Amen.

### Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And with thy spirit.
- P** Lift up your hearts.
- C** We lift them up unto the Lord.
- P** Let us give thanks unto the Lord, our God.
- C** It is meet and right so to do.
- P** It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

### Sanctus

- C** Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;  
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

## 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.**

## The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Pax Domini

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

## Agnus Dei

**C** O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen.

## Distribution

## Nunc Dimittis

**C** Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,  
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people,  
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.  
Amen.

## Thanksgiving

**A** O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,

**C** and His mercy endureth forever.

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And with thy spirit.

## Benedicamus

**A** Bless we the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.

**C** Amen, amen, amen.

## 411 I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light

**1** I want to walk as a child of the light.

I want to follow Jesus.

God set the stars to give light to the world.

The star of my life is Jesus. Refrain

**ref** In Him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God.

Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

**2** I want to see the brightness of God.

I want to look at Jesus.

Clear Sun of Righteousness, shine on my path,

And show me the way to the Father. Refrain

**3** I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race,

We shall know the joy of Jesus. Refrain

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, 1934

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