

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2017

8:30 A.M.

WELCOME TO GRACE

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Stand as you are able.

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

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P 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**

Greeting

Be seated.

Opening Litany

A Make a joyful noise unto the Lord all the lands!

C **Serve the Lord with gladness! Sing with joy unto the Lord!**

A Know that the Lord is God and we are God's creations.

C **We are God's chosen servants given special talents for service.**

A Let us serve the Lord with joy and lift our voices in praise!

C **Blessed be the name of the Lord!**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray

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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God

Second Reading

I 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.

L The Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation 'Alleluia!' p. 142

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

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴For 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 the Lord.
C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Be seated.

Sermon

Hymn of the Day

'Take My Life, That I May Be'

685

Stand as you are able.

Apostles' Creed

p. 105

Prayers of Intercession

Petitions end:

A Lord, in your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Receive these prayers and the hopes and concerns of our hearts, O God, as we entrust into your loving care all for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C **Amen**

Peace

The people greet one another saying: "Peace be with you".

Be seated.

Offering

Stand as you are able.

Offertory *'Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful'* 184

Offering Prayer

A Creator God,

C you made everything, and you provide for every need. The bread we break and the wine we pour come from you. As we eat and drink with thanksgiving, fill us with your love; let that love flow through us to others; and join us to the saints before us in a holy and boundless communion; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Blessing of New Chalice

Great Thanksgiving p. 144

Lord's Prayer p. 145

Be seated.

Distribution of Holy Communion

Communion, this morning, will be by intinction. The ushers will direct you to the front, first the pulpit side and then lectern side. Come up using the center aisle and return by the side aisle. Wine will be in the larger portion and grape juice in the smaller portion of the chalice. Gluten free wafers available by request. Children are invited for a blessing. All are welcome who believe Christ is present in this meal for the forgiveness of sins.

Hymns at the Distribution

'Lamb of God' p. 146

'Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ' **674**

'When Peace like a River' **785**

Stand as you are able.

Table Blessing

Post Communion Prayer

A Sovereign God,

C in this meal you give us a foretaste of the great feast to come. Keep us faithful to you, that we, with all your saints, may at length celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Blessing

Sending Hymn

'Go, My Children, with My Blessing'

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Dismissal

A Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Postlude

Prayer Huddle

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Welcome to Grace

Whether you are a member or visiting for the first time, may God's grace surround you today. There is a guest book to sign in the gathering area. If you are looking for a church home, you are welcome here.

Worship Assistants: November 19

Greeters: Mason–Mary Kruckeberg / Mary Wheeler
East – Sharon & Bob Meier

Assisting Minister: Larry Baumbach

Lector: Carey Mackesy

Communion 8:30: Gene Krull

Communion 10:30: Judy Cross

Ushers: Robbie Johnson, David Lease, Aaron Seidl,
Jon Seidl

Hospitality: The Nieft Family

Organist: Diane Bailey

Attendance 11/12: 8:30 am–65 & 10:30 am–17

H.S. Grilled Cheese Lunch: 11/9 – 155 students

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Pastor Dan Luett

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Office Manager: Sarah Bultman

In Prayer this Week

For members on the Care List especially Henry Schoenborn & Pastor Jim Seim.

For Healing for Norma Bryant; Tom Jensen; Mardie Paalman, Cookie Regal's sister; Winston Augustus Smith, Cheryl Muggenthaler's nephew; Mary Langdon, Cheryl Muggenthaler's sister-in-law; Rev. Jennie Johnson Wrege; Valerie Sieg; Marvin Wrege; Sharon Meier; Margaret Congdon; Jerry Wilharms.

For those with cancer especially Melissa Heins, Gene and Karen Krull's daughter; Mark Catlin; Roger Schmidt; Marian Breitenfeldt; Enid Andrews.

“Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.” Romans 12:12



If you have a Prayer Chain request, please contact Mary Hubers (731-1428) or Susan Pringnitz (733-7591). Call the church office with requests for prayer to be put in the bulletin and/or to ask for a prayer to be relayed to the Prayer Chain.

Announcements

Thanksgiving Eve

Come and join as Grace and Trinity celebrate Thanksgiving Worship on Wednesday, November 22 at 6:30 pm. Come and give thanks to God for all of our many blessings.

Advent will be here soon. Plan now to attend the Mid-week Advent services at 6:30 pm in December. These services will be about 30 minutes so you can plan your Wednesday activities. We are inviting Trinity to join us for these services.

Dec. 6 – The Angel Speaks to Zechariah’s Fear

Dec. 13 - The Angel Speaks to Joseph’s Confusion

Dec. 20 – The Angel Speaks to Mary’s Doubt

Linwood Place Apartments has openings: large 2 BR with 1½ bath, large 2 BR, and 1 BR. Our waiting list is empty! Call now to see an apartment or to secure a spot for the future. This is the time to act!!! Call Becky at 920-734-7725 or 920-594-2016, or call Brian at 920-840-3578.

Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) Program at Goodwill NCW in Menasha needs volunteers from throughout the Fox Cities to help prepare tax returns for low-to-moderate income households, persons with disabilities or non-English speaking taxpayers. Tax prep experience is not required; however, computer skills are desirable. Training will be provided. To learn more, you can register to attend an information session at www.filetaxes4free.org or contact Jackie Zolp, Goodwill NCW VITA Site Coordinator, at 920-968-6021 or jzolp@goodwillncw.org.

GRACE FOR THE WEEK

Sunday, Nov. 19.....8:30 a.m. Worship
9:25 a.m. Sunday School
9:40 a.m. Adult Forum
10:30 a.m. Worship
Sunday School sings at 10:30 service.

Monday, Nov. 20.....7:30 p.m. AA Meeting

Tuesday, Nov. 21.....8:30 a.m. Quilting
6:00 p.m. Confirmation
6:30 p.m. TLC Council Mtg.
6:30 p.m. FV Chorus

Wednesday, Nov. 22.....9:00 a.m. Bible Study
6:30 p.m. Thanksgiving Worship
6:45 p.m. AA Meeting

Thursday, Nov. 23.....Happy Thanksgiving!
Church office closed for the holiday.

Friday, Nov. 24.....9:00 a.m. Bible Study

Saturday, Nov. 25.....9:00 a.m. Hmong Service

Sunday, Nov. 26.....8:30 a.m. Worship
9:25 a.m. Sunday School
9:40 a.m. Adult Forum
10:30 a.m. Worship