



# Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

## November 19, 2023

\* *Please stand if you are able*

Prelude: "For the Fruit of All Creation"

Hymn #396

### Gathering

WELCOME & LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Acolyte: May the Holy Spirit unite us in worship, point us toward Jesus Christ, and inspire us to love mercy, do justice, and walk humbly with God. Come, let us worship God.

\* CALL TO WORSHIP

Liturgist: Lord, you have been our dwelling place throughout all generations.

**All:** **Before the mountains were born or you brought forth the whole world, from everlasting to everlasting, you are God.** *Psalm 90:1-2*

\* **All Singing:** **404** "God of Our Life"

\* GOD'S GREETING

\* GOD'S PEOPLE GREETING ONE ANOTHER

\* **All Singing:** **370** "My Soul Finds Rest"

*Children ages 2–7 may come forward for a brief word and blessing before they leave for "God Loves Me" and "Children in Worship."*

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Children: The peace of Christ be with you.

**All:** **And also with you.**

## Reconciliation

Liturgist: You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals."

**All: For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night.**

Liturgist: You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning; in the morning it flourishes and is renewed; in the evening it fades and withers.

**All: For we are consumed by your anger; by your wrath we are overwhelmed. You have set our iniquities before you, our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**

Liturgist: For all our days pass away under your wrath; our years come to an end like a sigh. The days of our life are seventy years, or perhaps eighty, if we are strong; even then their span is only toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away. Who considers the power of your anger? Your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you.

**All: So, teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.**  
*Psalm 90:3-12*

*Silent Confession and Reflection*

**All Singing: 169 "Jesus Remember Me"**  
*Repeating...*

Liturgist: Now you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. But you, brothers and sisters, are not to be surprised.

**All: For we are children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night.**

Liturgist: Since we belong to the day, let us be awake sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.

**All: For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him.**

Liturgist: Therefore, encourage one another and build each other up.  
*1 Thessalonians 5:1-11, adapted*

\* **All Singing: "Day of the Lord"** W. Kimbrough

**It's not long till the boastful are silenced and shamed.  
It's not long till the wealth of the wicked is reclaimed.  
And the ones who have waited with eyes on the Lord  
will shine like the sun forevermore.  
It's not long till the Day of the Lord.**

**Just be still and be faithful and dwell in the land.  
Put your trust in the Savior and cling to his hand.  
When your heart burns with anger for all that is wrong,  
do not let the dark steal your song.  
It's not long till the Day of the Lord. *Refrain***

*Refrain*

**It's not long till the Day of the Lord,  
It's not long till the Day of the Lord!  
Everything that is broken will soon be restored.  
It's not long till the Day of the Lord.**

**Do not fear for the wicked with weapons of war,  
for the Lord is the shelter and strength of the poor.  
And our God comes with laughter; let him be your joy.  
The power of the sword, he'll destroy.  
It's not long till the Day of the Lord. *Refrain (2x)***

Liturgist: We long for the day when we will see our Savior face to face, sacrificed Lamb and triumphant King, just and gracious. He will set all things right, judge evil and condemn the wicked.

**All: We face that day without fear, for the Judge is our Savior.**

Liturgist: His shed blood declares us righteous. We live confidently, anticipating his coming, offering our daily lives—our acts of kindness, our loyalty, and our love—knowing that God will one day make all things new.

**All: And every eye will see at last that our world belongs to God.**  
*Our World Belongs to God, 57-58*

## Proclamation

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Soloist: "Listen"

M. Coleman

Listen, listen. Open your heart, hear God's voice.  
Quiet, quiet. Hear God speak.

Scripture: Matthew 25:14-30

Minister: The Word of the Lord.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: Investment Advice

\* **All Singing: 689 "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"**

## Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Liturgist: With joy, let us now offer our gifts, in music, heart, and resource, as a sign of our deep devotion and covenant faithfulness.

OFFERING November: Stewardship Month – General Fund

OFFERTORY "Now Thank We All Our God"

J.S. Bach

\* **All Singing: 358 "Give Thanks"**

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

# Sending

\* BENEDICTION

\* **All Singing:** 938 “My Friends, May You Grow in Grace”

Postlude: “God Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens” Alec Wyton

## Worship Leaders

|                       |                       |            |                     |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|------------|---------------------|
| Organist:             | Dora Diephouse        | Acolyte:   | Tyler Hughes        |
| Pianist / Vocalist:   | Erin Pacheco          | Liturgist: | Kim Ottenhoff       |
| Soloist:              | Marjie Coleman        | Prayer:    | Jason van den Brink |
| Violinist / Vocalist: | Bethany Keeley-Jonker |            |                     |
| Flutists:             | Trinity Simpson       |            |                     |
|                       | Lynn Hollender        |            |                     |
| Tenor Saxophone:      | Aaron Murawski        |            |                     |
| Percussion:           | Clay Carlson          |            |                     |
| Minister:             | Roger Nelson          |            |                     |

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