Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost November 12, 2023

As We Gather - What do you do when you wait? What do others do? Whether sitting in the lobby of a doctor's office, or stuck behind a mile of cars in traffic, or counting down the days until an exciting event—what is done while waiting? Some seek distraction through technology to pass the time, others watch the time slowly pass, and still others wait impatiently, made known through verbal and nonverbal ways. How about when it comes to Jesus? What do we do while we wait for Him? Rather than seeking distractions to pass the time or feverishly looking at a clock while growing impatient, we are instead called to wait for Him in faith. We do not know the day nor the hour, but we wait in faith with more than oil in our lamps—faith in our hearts and on our lips until we meet the Bridegroom at the marriage feast.

Offering and Registry of Worship Cards: Please fill out a Registry of Worship Card found in the pew racks. We ask that you print the names of every person in your family, indicating if they take communion. One side of the card is for members and the other side for guests. As the offering is collected, pass the cards to the center aisle so our ushers can gather them.

Saturday Worship: Offerings and Worship Cards will be received in the offering plates at the rear of the church either upon entering or when leaving. Thank you for your gift to the work of the Lord.

About Protecting the Healthy: To protect yourself and others from COVID-19 and other infectious respiratory diseases, individuals may choose to mask at any time. Appropriate hand washing by everyone is encouraged. People with symptoms of an infectious illness are highly encouraged to stay home. Symptoms include fever or chills, cough, shortness of breath or difficulty breathing, fatigue, muscle or body aches, headache, new loss of taste or smell, sore throat, congestion or runny nose, nausea or vomiting, and diarrhea. Thank you for helping to keep everyone healthy as we receive God's gifts in worship.

GENERALLY, BE MINDFUL, NOT FEARFUL.

Prelude and Meditation: Before worship we talk to God (see prayers on page 308 in the hymnal); during worship God talks to us; after worship we talk to one another.

Prelude:

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS The Greeting and Sharing of Peace (stand)

Confession and Absolution



Stand

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

- ▶ In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **C** Amen.
- **P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
- But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.
- Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and 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.
- **C** Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit

Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young,

at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

How lovely is your dwelling place,

O LORD of hosts!

G Behold our shield, O God;

look on the face of your anointed!

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

- For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and honor. No good thing does he withhold from those who walk uprightly.
 - O LORD of hosts, blessèd is the one who trusts in you!
- 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. Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself, where she may lay her young,

at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.

Kyrie

LSB 152

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.



P For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.





Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



P Let us pray.

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Sit

Old Testament Reading

Amos 5:18-24

¹⁸Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! Why would you have the day of the LORD? It is darkness, and not light, ¹⁹as if a man fled from a lion, and a bear met him, or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall, and a serpent bit him. ²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? ²¹"I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. ²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the peace offerings of your fattened animals, I will not look upon them. ²³Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. ²⁴But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

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

Epistle

1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

¹³But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L This is the Word of the Lord.



Stand



Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:1–13

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.



¹[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' ¹⁰And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. ¹¹Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹²But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



Sit





Sermon:

"What Do You Need to Be Ready?" Matthew 25:1-13

Stand

Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all С things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again Pilate. according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end. And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

Sit

Choir Anthem: (Sunday Only) "Great Is Thy Faithfulness"

Gathering of Our Tithes and Offerings (Sunday Only)

Registry of Worship Cards (Sunday Only) – Please pass your completed cards to the center aisle.

Stand

Service of the Sacrament

LSB 160

Preface P The Lord be with you.



P Lift up your hearts.



It is truly good, 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 on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:



Prayer of Thanksgiving

Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

The Words of Our Lord

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 + 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 + blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

- As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.
- **G** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.
- O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.



Sit

Distribution:

Distribution Hymns (Sunday Only)

LSB 802 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise LSB 461 I Know That My Redeemer Lives



Post-Communion Collect

(Saturday)

- **P** Let us pray together.
- ☑ I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have graciously kept me this day; and I pray that You would forgive me all my sins where I have done wrong, and graciously keep me this night. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me. Amen.

(Sunday)

P 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.



Benediction

LSB 166

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.





Tune: Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813, Harrisb Text and tune: Public domain

Acknowledgments

Divine Service, Setting One from Lutheran Service Book

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LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor	Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist	Elena Miraztchiyska

Saturday

Elder	Steve Rosane
Lector	
Audio	Lee Crapo/Robin Fox/Taniqua Jackson

Sunday	
Elder	Lee Crapo
Lector	Jon Lindstrom
Greeter	
Audio	Kyle Welch
Video	Video TD: Kris Welch
	GFX/ Stream: Robin Fox
Altar Guild	Rita and George Czanko

LEADING AND ASSISTING IN WORSHIP <u>NEXT SUNDAY</u>

Pastor	Pastor Christopher Hazzard
Organist	Elena Miraztchiyska
Elder	
Lector	Kim Kaniecki
Greeter	
Audio	Maria Hazzard
Video	Video TD: Kris Welch
	GFX: / Stream: Robin Fox
Altar Guild	Rita and George Czanko

ATTENDANCE AND OFFERINGS FROM LAST WEEK

Saturday Worship Attendance	36
Sunday Worship Attendance	
Envelope and Loose Plate Offerings	
Simply Giving/Vanco	\$0
Paypal Offerings	
Website (ShareFaith)	\$0
Total of Offerings Received	\$0
Misc. Income, Memorials and Special Gifts	\$0

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFE THOUGHTS IN THE CHURCH - Pentecost XXIV – Like the parable's bridegroom, Jesus often meets us in unexpected moments (Matthew 25:10). He even sometimes hides in surprise pregnancies or terminal diagnoses in order to rescue and bless. So, we dare not ignore the poor and needy neighbors who cry out for deliverance (Psalm 70:1, 5) from abortion and assisted suicide. If we do indeed love the Lord's salvation, then let us say so (Psalm 70:4)!

FLOWER SPONSOR – Janette Williams, in memory of loved ones.

BULLETIN SPONSOR – No Bulletin sponsor this week.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR (SUNDAY) – Team 1 is serving today; team 2 will serve next week. Everyone is invited. There is no charge and a freewill offering is voluntary.

COUNCIL MEETING – The Church Council will meet Monday, November 13th, at 6:30 pm.

NEW MEMBER CLASS – On Tuesdays during the month of November from 6 -8 pm by ZOOM or in person, there will be a New Member Class for anyone interested in joining our congregation, have never had confirmation instruction in a Lutheran church or for those looking for a refresher about the key things of faith. Please contact the church office to register.

ENDOWMENT FUND COMMITTEE - The Endowment Fund Committee will meet today, Sunday, November 12th following the worship service. The meeting will be held in the Choir Room. Looking forward to seeing everyone on the Committee. Helen Borgwardt, Chairperson

ANNUAL FUNDRAISER FOR ENDOWMENT FUND TODAY - The Christ Lutheran Church Endowment Fund Committee is having our annual fundraising drive this<u>Saturday</u>, <u>November 11th</u> and <u>Sunday</u>, <u>November 12th</u>. We ask the congregation to prayerfully consider making a donation to support the Endowment Fund. You may designate it as a memorial gift to your loved one if you desire. We have a separate offering plate in the back and we ask that you make your check payable to Christ Lutheran Church Endowment Fund which is a separate account from the church's general fund. Thank you for your support. If you have any questions, please call Helen Borgwardt at (863) 660-0055.

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – There will be a Congregational Meeting next Sunday, November 19th, after the service.

2024 FLOWER CHART - The new Flower Chart is posted in the Narthex. You can sign up for flowers for the new year. Please write your name and what occasion is being celebrated. If you would like real flowers, please let us know, otherwise they will be silk

flowers. When you donate money for the flowers, please mark it for the Flower Fund. The monies in the Flower Fund pay for the Christmas and Easter flowers that are put in the church. If you have any questions, you can call me. Barbara Miller 863-858-5790

UNUSED HEARING AIDS: Unused hearing aids can be donated. Place them in the Munz mailbox in the church mailroom. Pastor Jerry Munz collects them and takes them to the Lakeland Hearing Center. If you want a tax receipt be sure to ask Pastor Jerry to get one for you.

CLC BAZAAR & CRAFT SHOW CANCELLED- Due to the lack of participation, the Bazaar and Craft show has been cancelled.

UPDATE FROM THE NOMINATING COMMITTEE –We have been blessed with people willing to use their talents to serve as President and Vice President of our congregation. However, we still need to fill the following positions of Treasurer (2 Year Term), Christian Education (1 Year Term), and Youth (1 Year Term). Elections will be during the November Voters' meeting. The new officers will begin serving in January 2024. For more information, please contact Pastor Thomas Block (863-853-9792) or Carol Ceaglske (863-660-2426). This is a blessed opportunity to use your talents helping with God's work.

MARY MARTHA QUILTERS – The Mary Martha Quilters meet each Tuesday morning from 10 AM – Noon. Anyone who would like to join them is welcomed.

DREAM CENTER VOLUNTEERS – Volunteers are needed to help check- in and sort items here at Christ Lutheran for the Dream Center. Please see or contact Robin Fox at 863-513-4774 to schedule a day and time to volunteer.

RECIPES WANTED - Mary Martha is collecting favorite recipes for the Church Cookbook. If you have a favorite recipe and would be willing to share it, please write it legibly, sign your name on it and put it in the box located in the Narthex. There is no limit to number of recipes you can submit.

CHURCH DIRECTORY – For those that are not aware, our church member directory is now available online. Please see the flyer sheets in the narthex for more information or email Kim Kaniecki at stewardship@clclakeland.org.

TRUSTEE VOLUNTEER DAY – Every Tuesday from 9 am – 1 pm. If you would like to help with the various needs of the church, come join us. A job, whether large or small can be found to help with. If you notice something you think needs attention, come let us know. Thanks for helping.

GREETERS NEEDED – Volunteers are needed to be Greeters in the Narthex to welcome guest and members as they enter for service. If you are interested, please sign up on the sign-up sheet on the Bulletin Board.

NAMETAGS – We would like to encourage all our members to please wear their nametags to church. If you can't find your nametag or don't have one, please sign-up for one on the bulletin board in the Narthex of the church.

CHECK YOUR MAILBOX – Please check your mailbox in the narthex.

STEWARDSHIP CORNER - Matthew 25:4 – "But the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps." Why did they take flasks of oil with them? Because they listened to the Bridegroom's words and believed what He said. Our actions always start with and flow from our beliefs. What do your actions in the realm of stewardship say about what you believe?

THIS WEEK AT CHRIST LUTHERAN

Monday	Circuit Pastors meeting@ 9 am
	Council Meeting @ 6:30 pm
Tuesday	Trustee Workday @ 9 am
	Quilters @ 10 am
	New Member Class @ 6 pm
Wednesday	Dream Center @ Christ Lutheran
	Private Communion @ 1:30 – 2:30 pm
	Youth Group Meeting @ 6 pm
	Jr. Confirmation Class @ 7 pm
	Choir @ 7 pm
-	In Person and ZOOM Bible Study@ 10 am
-	Church Office closed, Pastor's Day Off
Saturday	Bible Study @ 4 pm
	Worship @ 5:30 pm
Sunday	Bible Study @ 8:30 am
	Worship Service @ 10 am
	Bible Study @ 11:15 am
	Congregational Meeting