# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH





Rev. George Fields, Pastor Sr. Sara Fields, Deaconess Divine Service Each Week with Holy Communion: 10:30 a.m. Sunday School for all ages: 9:00 a.m. 4423 I-55 North, Jackson, MS 39206-6102 – (601) 366-2055 www.ChristLutheranJacksonMS.org

# **THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST** + November 12, 2023 +

"Watch, Therefore"



We welcome our members and guests to Christ Lutheran today, and pray God's richest blessings upon you during this time of worship!

All members and our guests are asked to complete the worship attendance pads which can be found on each pew. Guests are also asked to sign the guest register found in the Narthex. We are so glad to have you worshiping with us today!

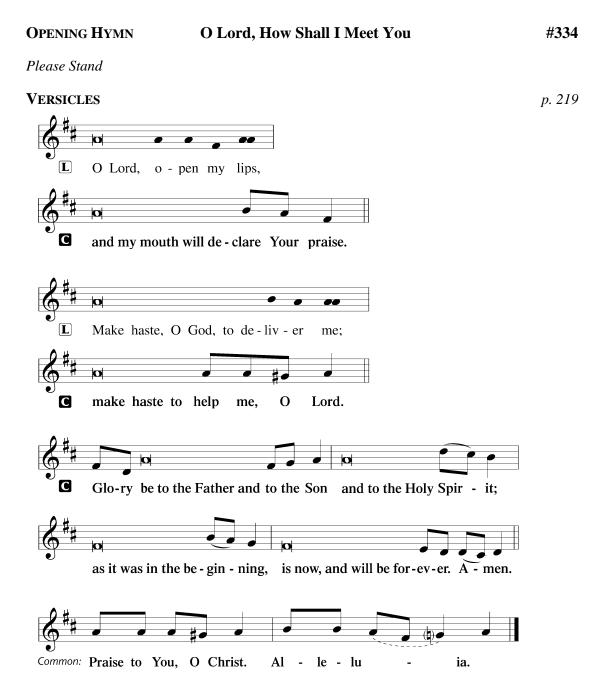
> LARGE PRINT worship folders are available at the usher stand at the back of the nave.

## WELCOME:

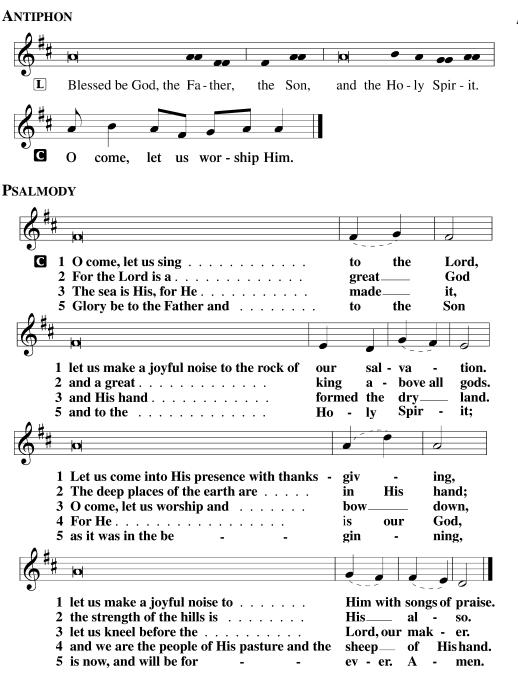
"What, then, is the meaning of 'they all slept'? There is another sleep which no one escapes. Don't you remember the apostle saying, 'But I would not have you to be ignorant, brothers, concerning those who are asleep, ' that is, concerning those who are dead? For why are they called 'those who are asleep, ' except that they all have died in their own time? Therefore it is said 'they all slept.' Do you imagine that just because the one is wise, she does not have to die? Whether the virgin is foolish or wise, all suffer equally the sleep of death."

-St. Augustine, Sermon XLIII

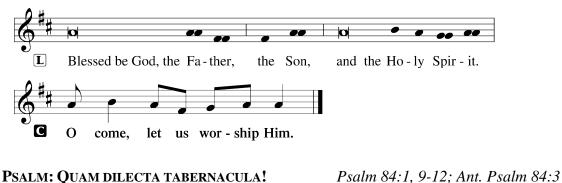
# MATINS



## **PSALMODY**



#### ANTIPHON





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!

## Behold our shield, | O God;\*

look on the face of your a- | nointed!

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 up- | rightly.

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 be- | ginning,\*

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is now, and will be forever. Amen.
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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.

## READINGS

#### FIRST READING

Amos 5:18-24

Woe to you who desire the day of the LORD! Why would you have the day of the LORD? It is darkness, and not light, as 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. Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? "I hate, I despise your feasts, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. Even 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. Take away from me the noise of your songs; to the melody of your harps I will not listen. But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream. O Lord, have mercy on us. A

**C** Thanks be to God.

### SECOND READING

But 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. For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. For 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. For 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. Then 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. Therefore encourage one another with these words.

A O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

Please stand for the Holy 🕂 Gospel

### THIRD READING

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' And 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. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

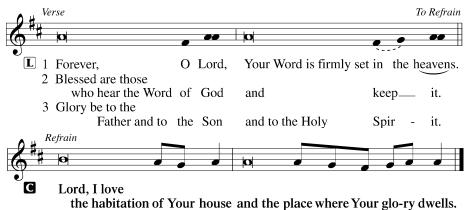
- A O Lord, have mercy on us.
- **C** Thanks be to God.

Please be seated

## Matthew 25:1-13

## 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

#### RESPONSORY

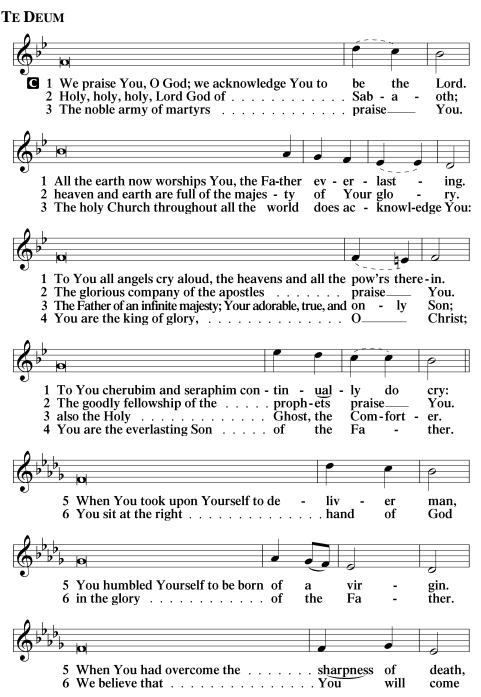


**SERMON** 

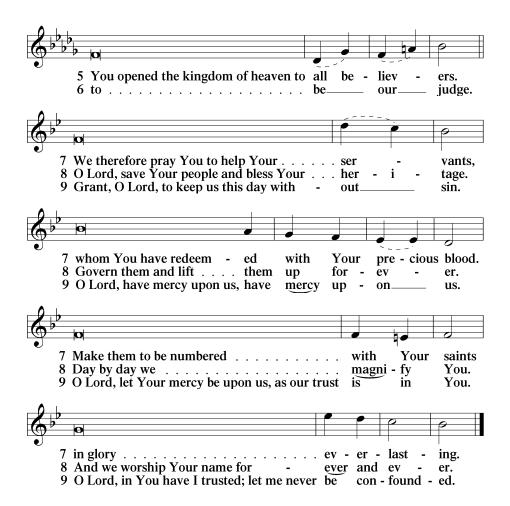
Fear and Trembling

Please stand

# CANTICLE



p. 223



Please be seated

#### OFFERING

Please stand

# PRAYER



LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

**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.





- 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.
- **C** Amen.
- L O Lord, look down from heaven, behold, visit, and relieve Your servants for whom we offer our supplications, especially Nathan Brown, Hunter Burkhalter, Marie Ferderer & Tahlia, MariLynn Fuhrer, Gary Henderson, Kim Hill, Marsha Hobbs, Carmen Hunn, Todd Jardee, Robert Kelly, Anita Martin, Casey Paton, Doris Roberts, Gary Stoeckmann, Donny Thomas, Leslie Thomas,

the family of Francis Adams; look upon them with the eyes of Your mercy; give them comfort and sure confidence in You, defend them from the danger of the enemy, and keep them in perpetual peace and safety; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

## **C** Amen.

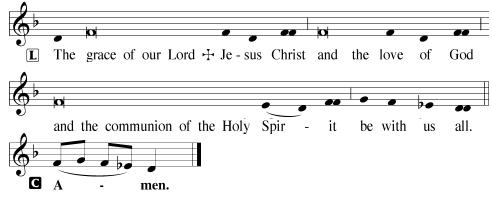
■ O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, You have safely brought us to the beginning of this day. Defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doings, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



#### **BENEDICAMUS**



#### **BENEDICTION**



CLOSING HYMN

#### The Clouds of Judgment Gather

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### Serving Today: Liturgist: Eric Held Acolyte: William Held Interpreter: Denee Smith

**Elder:** Keith Martin **Altar Guild:** Sabrina Goodlett

**Christmas Choir:** The festival season of the Church year is almost here – and we know what that means: Christmas is coming! Come sing with us as we prepare for Christmas Eve Lessons and Carols; Christmas choir rehearsals begin at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday evenings until Christmas. Ask Sister Sara for more details!

**CLC Christmas Recital:** Calling all musicians! It is time to start practicing up, because the Christ Lutheran Christmas Recital is coming on **Saturday, January 6**! If you are interested in participating, email Sister Sara at sistersara@christlutheranjacksonms.org. All ages and levels are welcome!

**Readings for next Sunday, November 19th, the Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost:** Introit Ps. 143:2, 5-6, 10-11; Psalm 90:1-12; Zephaniah 1:7-16; 1 Thess. 5:1-11; Matt. 25:14-30.

This week at Christ Lutheran Church: November 13 – November 19

Tuesday	6:15 p.m.	Council Meeting
Wednesday	7:00 p.m.	Choir Rehearsal
Friday	6:30 a.m.	Bible Study @ Christ Lutheran, Breakfast @ Broadstreet
Sunday	9:00 a.m.	Sunday School for All Ages
·	10:30 a.m.	Divine Service – The Twenty-Fifth Sunday after
		Pentecost



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# What is the "church"?

When someone says the word "church," we usually think of a place people go to worship. The Lutheran Confessions teach us that the church is the "assembly of all the believers among whom the Gospel is preached in its purity and the Holy Sacraments are administered according to the Gospel." Wow! The church is so much more than a building!

# If the church is more than just the building, then why is the building and everything in it so important?

The church building, or the "sanctuary," is a place where God is present. We know that our Lord has promised to come to us in His Sacraments. Since God is actually here with us in His house, we should be very reverent, or respectful. We don't want anything in the church pulling us away from what God gives us in His Word and Sacraments. Everything should direct our attention toward Him.

**Parents:** Before or after the service, direct your children to the wonderfully Gospel-rich symbolism found in the sanctuary, including the on the altar, windows and banners. Remind them that the Lord truly comes to us here in His Word and Sacraments. He brings us what we really need: the forgiveness of sins.

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