

The Old Testament Reading. Zephaniah 1:7–16

Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—"I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. ¹⁰"On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.' Their goods 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." The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. A day of wrath is that day, 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, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

The Epistle Reading. 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

The Gospel Reading. Matthew 25:14–30

"For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

**HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH
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“Well done, good and faithful servant.”



**Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2020**

**Rev. Frank G. Frye, Senior Pastor
Website: <http://holycrosskc.org>
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Receiving the Lord's Supper at Holy Cross

Our Lord gives both directions and warnings in Scripture when it comes to the precious gift of Holy Communion, which we take great care to follow. A small brochure is available in the pew which describes the importance of the Biblical and historic practice known as "Closed Communion." If you are not under the spiritual care of Holy Cross, please speak with the pastor before communing so that our unity with Christ and with one another may be genuine. Our aim is not to insult, but to instruct and prepare those who earnestly desire to join our communion. So, if you or your children are not yet communicants, you may come forward for a blessing tied to baptism, and you are encouraged to signify this by crossing your arms over your chest as the pastor comes by. The Blood of Christ is offered either in individual glasses, or simply hold out your hand to take the chalice by the base as you drink from it.

Notes on the service: These last weeks of the Church Year are a time of repentance, turning from our sins and to God in faith, confident that He has saved us. At the same time, they remind us of the imminence of Christ's coming. As we gather on this day, Jesus calls not for a decision but a response. Those who receive Him with faith also receive His freely-offered gift of salvation. But faith also welcomes Jesus into our daily lives. Our response to the Gospel is not merely one of words but is displayed in the way we live out our lives. Those who hear and respond to Jesus' call will display a faith active in love. While the faithful may not see the fulness of their reward in this life, they receive an everlasting inheritance laid up for them from the foundation of the world.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY:

P: 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.

Organist. Linda Rusche
Communion Elders. (8:00 A.M.) David Johnson & Dave Senne
November Elders. Dave Senne & Randy Wilson

Psalm 143



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 be- | fore 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, pre- | serve my life!*

In your righteousness bring my soul out of | trouble!

*8:00 A.M.—Divine Service continues with the
Gloria Patri on page 186.*

10:45 A.M.—Matins: Glory be to the Father and to the Son...

Hear my prayer, O LORD; give ear to my pleas for | mercy!*

In your faithfulness answer me, in your | righteousness!

Note: Standing and Kneeling are optional

8:00 A.M.

Divine Service Setting Three LSB 184

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn—LSB #613

Confession and Absolution LSB 184

Service of the Word LSB 186

Introit - Psalm 143—(printed at left)

Gloria Patri - LSB 186

Kyrie - LSB 186

Gloria in Excelsis—LSB 187-189

The Lessons: (printed on back)

The Nicene Creed - LSB 191

Hymn of the Day - LSB #508

Sermon - "Living as a Good and Faithful

Servant" - Text: Matthew 25:14-30

Offertory & Offering - LSB 192-193

Prayer of the Church - LSB 193

Service of the Sacrament LSB 194

Sanctus - LSB 195

Lord's Prayer - LSB 196 (Spoken)

Agnus Dei - LSB 198

Distribution - LSB 199

Hymns—LSB #562, #730, #348

Nunc Dimittis - LSB 199

Benedicamus & Benediction - LSB 201-202

Closing Hymn—LSB #655

10:45 A.M.—Matins LSB 219

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Hymn—LSB #613

Opening Verses—LSB 219

Isaiah 143—(printed at left)

Office Hymn—LSB #348

The Lessons: (printed on back)

Common Responsory - LSB 221

Catechetical Instruction—The Creed -
LSB 322-323

Sermon Hymn—LSB #508

Sermon - "Living as a Good and Faithful

Servant" - Text: Matthew 25:14-30

Canticle—LSB #941

Offering

Prayer—LSB 227

Benediction—LSB 228

Closing Hymn—LSB #655