



Keep Us FAITHFUL

Grace Lutheran Church
Yorba Linda, California

November 15, 2020
24th Sunday after Pentecost



The week was Holy and Jesus was preparing for his battle to secure heaven for us. He also used that last week to prepare his disciples – and us – for his departure to prepare a place for us and what to do while we wait. That preparation is what Matthew 25 is all about. In three parables Jesus encourages us to pray:

Last week: Keep Us Watchful (Matthew 25:1-13)

Today: Keep Us Faithful (Matthew 25:14-30)

Nov.22: Keep Us in Your Kingdom (Matthew 25:31-46)

Nov.25 – Keep Us Thankful (Thanksgiving Eve)



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Gathering around Grace – Growing in Grace – Going with Grace

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Music – Online: David and Alexis Stansfield
In person: Margie Erickson
Video editor: Eric Ericson

Text in grey is not included in the video service

DIVINE SERVICE 1



L: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

L. Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

C. Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.

L. God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son (+) and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

John 20:21-23

L: In the peace and joy of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.



GLORY TO GOD

All: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

L. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory!

All: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

L. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer, receive our prayer.

All: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

L: For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in the glory of God the Father.

All: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Glory to God, glory to God!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

L: Let us pray.

Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present age and to the day of your glory. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith and present us at last holy and blameless before you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Sometimes referred to as the "Collect," these ancient prayers "collect" the thoughts of the day for the people in the form of a petition.

*God has distributed
to each of us his
grace and
goodness and
equipped each of
us with what we
need as we wait for
his coming.*

THE FIRST READING

Romans 12:1-8

Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship. ²Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God's will is—his good, pleasing and perfect will.

³For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. ⁴For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, ⁵so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. ⁶We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your^[a] faith; ⁷if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; ⁸if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.



HYMN OF THE DAY

O God, your hand the heavens made (#481)

**1 O God, your hand the heavens made And all that they contain;
The world appeared at your command, And in it now you reign.
The restless sea, the land, the sky Your handiwork declare;
The touch of your creative pow'r Is present ev'rywhere.**

**2 To us are given gifts divine; All talents you have sent.
Inspire us now to use them well Your kingdom to extend.
We hold each gift a trust from you Nor claim it as our own;
We gratefully acknowledge, Lord, All things are yours alone.**

**3 Deliver us from selfish aims; True stewards we would be.
Endow us with a deep desire To live unselfishly.
A full accounting we must give And see you face to face;
Let us approach your throne with joy, Supported by your grace.**

Keep Us Faithful

“bag of gold” or in Greek, “talent.” A talent was worth about 20 years of a day laborer’s wage.”

¹⁴ “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

¹⁹ “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

²¹ “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²² “The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’

²³ “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²⁴ “Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

²⁶ “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.

²⁸ “So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. ²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’



NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is,
seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one being with the Father.

Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,
and became fully human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

*Offerings are part of
our worship life and
our life in the church.
During this time of
social distancing, your
offering may be left
at the door or mailed
or you may give
online at
[www.gracelutheran.c
hurch](http://www.gracelutheran.church).*

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH and LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

SERMON HYMN

My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness

Words & Music: Keith Getty and Start Townend

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who bore my pain;
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace
And gave me life again;
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness
And clothed me in His light
And wrote His law of righteousness
With pow'r upon my heart.

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who walks beside;
Who floods my weaknesses with strength
And causes fears to fly;
Whose ev'ry promise is enough
For ev'ry step I take,
Sustaining me with arms of love
And crowning me with grace.

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To him who reigns above,
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace,
Whose ev'ry thought is love.
For ev'ry day I have on earth
Is given by the King;
So I will give my life, my all,
To love and follow him.



OPPORTUNITY – If you would like to support ministry to our active duty military personnel and veterans and families, a door offering is being taken this morning to help support Gospel and counseling ministry. Look for the ammo can in the entry way

CALENDAR

Today – Thanksgiving basket delivery
Confirmation

Thursday - Bible Study online – 10 AM or 7 PM

Sunday– Worship online or in-person at 9:30 AM.
Confirmation class

November 25th – Thanksgiving Eve worship