

2020 11 15 Service of the Word.

IN THE NAME

P: "Be silent before the Lord God!

C: For the day of the Lord is near." (*Zephaniah 1:7*)

P: In the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Friends in Christ: Let us confess our sins to God our Father and ask Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to forgive us.

C: We confess that we are born in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have failed to do. We have not loved You with our whole heart, and we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves. We deserve Your eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us. Amen.

P: Upon this your confession and prayer I, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. On behalf of my Lord Jesus Christ, and by His command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you!

C: Amen.

PSALM 123

P: To You I lift up my eyes,

O You who are enthroned in the heavens!

C: Behold, as the eyes of servants

look to the hand of their master,

as the eyes of a maidservant

to the hand of her mistress,

so our eyes look to the Lord our God,

till He has mercy upon us.

Have mercy upon us, O Lord, have mercy upon us,

for we have had more than enough of contempt.

Our soul has had more than enough

of the scorn of those who are at ease,

of the contempt of the proud.

C: Glory to the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

GREETING

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

C: Lord God, govern our hearts by Your Holy Spirit. Make us mindful of the end of all things and the day of Your just judgment. Stir us up to lead holy lives, and let us live with You forever. We ask this through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

READING

P: Our Scripture reading for today comes from **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 sown 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.’”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord!

C: Praise be to You, O Christ!

APOSTLES CREED

C: I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven, and sits at the right hand of God, the Father almighty, from thence He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

SERMON for today is based on **Matthew 25:14-30**

P: Grace to you and peace from God the Father and our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

Sermon “If only we would get it!”

P: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus. **C: Amen.**

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P: Let us pray!

C: Gracious Father, we offer with joy and thanks what You have first given us — ourselves, our time, and our possessions — as signs of Your goodness and symbols of our love. Accept them for the sake of Jesus Christ, who offered Himself for us. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Almighty God, everlasting Father, You are worthy of being praised for all Your gifts and graces, which You have given to us, Your unworthy people. Hear us this day as we cry to You for mercy toward all people as they have need.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayers!**

You have made us Your people and preserved us through the ministry of Your Word and Sacraments. Continue to pour out upon us grace upon grace, that we may be kept in faith and guarded in hope. Make Your Church throughout the world one in doctrine, confession and life, and give to Your Church faithful pastors who will preach and teach Your Word with conviction.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayers!**

Deliver us from confusion and error by the power of Your Holy Spirit, and raise up those who will continue to serve in faithfulness and humility. Deliver all enemies of Your Church and convert their hearts to repentance and faith. Strengthen all Christians in their faith and in their vocation of service as Your children, that we may be obedient to Your Word and receive the salvation of our souls.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayers!**

Deliver the nations from oppression and ungodly rulers and governments. Bless all in authority, that righteousness may flourish and injustice end. Bless all those places where Your people teach and learn, that our children may honour You, walk in Your commands, and show forth in their lives the fruits of the Spirit.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayers!**

Prevent all disaster and calamity, deliver us from war and violence, and spare us from pestilence. Help us to know and rejoice in the good fruits of the earth, bless all noble occupations, and help the arts to flourish, that our lives may be enriched by beauty. Help us to receive with thanksgiving the fruits of the earth You supply for our common good.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayers!**

Receive with our song of praise and sacrifice of thanksgiving the tithes and offerings we bring, that, through good use of the skills, talents and time You have given us, You may be glorified in all we are and do.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayers!**

Give to the sick healing, to the suffering relief, to the grieving hope and to the dying peace. Hear us especially on behalf of those who have requested our prayers, and especially today we pray for Nigel and his family, for Bob and Pat Taplin and for Margaret Moll. Sustain us in the day of trial, deliver us from all our enemies of body and soul, and keep us steadfast in the day of trouble.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayers!**

Mighty and eternal God, we pray for our brothers and sisters in Christ, for all their needs and for all their loved one entrusting them into Your hands, and today especially for Marlene Hoffmann, Tom Hoffmann, Neville Jaeschke, Elizabeth Jaeschke, Dean Jaeschke, Lorraine Jaeschke, Trevor Jantke, Nora Jantke, Narelle Balk. Bless them and keep them in true Christian fellowship with You and with Jesus through Your Spirit.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Give unity to Your people, that we may not be divided in doctrine or witness, and grant us grace, that we may come to the Lord's table and receive there the body and blood of our Lord Jesus in sincere repentance and faith.

Lord, in Your mercy, **hear our prayers!**

Remembering that here we have no abiding city but heaven is our home, give us Your aid so that we may by true faith and godly life prepare for the coming of our Saviour, doing the works You have called us to do and accomplishing Your purpose in our daily lives. Help us to multiply Your mercy by loving our neighbour in need and loving You with all our body, soul, strength and will; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

C: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be Your name, Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

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 favour †, and give you peace.

C: Amen.