



“PARABLES OF JESUS: THE TALENTS”

***Sunday, June 20, 2021 9:00AM
Worship Service***

AS WE GATHER

In the parable of The Talents, Jesus turns our attention to the “Great Day” when God will call us to account and judgment. At the same time, we acknowledge that God has given us all that we need to be prepared for the great day of the Lord. With His call to repentance, He has given us His Spirit that we may hear and believe, heed, and act in response. With the news of Christ’s coming, He has reminded us that He has saved us through the blood of Christ. The great day of God’s judgment is, for us, also the great day of salvation, when He will bring to fulfillment all He has promised. There is no cause for fear here, but for joy. As Christians we act not because of the threat, but because of the promise.

Sit

OPENING HYMN

“All Depends On Our Possessing”

LSB 732 sts. 1-3 & 6

- 1 All depends on our possessing
God’s abundant grace and blessing,
Though all earthly wealth depart.
They who trust with faith unshaken
By their God are not forsaken
And will keep a dauntless heart.
- 2 He who to this day has fed me
And to many joys has led me
Is and ever shall be mine.
He who ever gently schools me,
He who daily guides and rules me
Will remain my help divine.
- 3 Many spend their lives in fretting
Over trifles and in getting
Things that have no solid ground.
I shall strive to win a treasure
That will bring me lasting pleasure
And that now is seldom found.
- 6 If my days on earth He lengthen,
God my weary soul will strengthen;
All my trust in Him I place.
Earthly wealth is not abiding,
Like a stream away is gliding;
Safe I anchor in His grace.

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Stand

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy!

C In Your faithfulness answer me, in Your righteousness!

P Enter not into judgment with Your servant,

C for no one living is righteous before You.

P Indeed, no one living is righteous before the Lord, including you and me. However, our Heavenly Father has assured us that if we confess our sins, He will be gracious and merciful and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

C We confess to You, O Lord, and to one another, that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You above all things nor our neighbor as ourselves. Forgive us our sins and grant us the aid of Your Holy Spirit to amend our sinful lives.

P 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.

P May He who began this good work within you bring it to completion on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

HYMN of PRAISE

“Thanks to Thee, O Christ, Victorious”

LSB 548 st 2

2 Thou hast died for my transgression,

All my sins on Thee were laid;

Thou hast won for me salvation,

On the cross my debt was paid.

From the grave I shall arise

And shall meet Thee in the skies.

Death itself is transitory;

I shall lift my head in glory.

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SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Mighty Lord, the day is coming when You will call to account all people. Help us to use rightly and for Your glory all that You have given to us, that we may not fear the return of Jesus in His glory. Give us courage and confidence that He has equipped us with every grace and that we may serve Him faithfully here and enter into His eternal joy when He comes again; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Zephaniah 1:7–16

P The Old Testament Reading is from Zephaniah, chapter 1.

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is near;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.

⁸And 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.

⁹On 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.

¹¹Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!

For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.

¹²At 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.’

¹³Their 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.”

¹⁴The 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.

¹⁵A 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,
¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

P The Epistle is from 1 Thessalonians, chapter 5.

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While 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. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But 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. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 25:14–30

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴[Jesus said:] “For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And 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.’ ²¹His 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.’ ²²And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.’ ²³His 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.’ ²⁴He 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, ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But 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? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. ²⁹For 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. ³⁰And 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 to You, O Christ.

NICENE CREED

C I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all 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 Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again 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

P Set apart in Christ for new and eternal life, let us come before the Lord in prayer for ourselves, for our journey of faith, and for all people as they have need.

The day of judgment rightfully causes us fear, O Lord, but Christ has come to release us from our fears. Grant us repentance that we may receive every benefit of His holy life and saving death, and welcome Him when He comes to bring all things to their completion. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P We know that when Christ comes, He will return suddenly. Release us from our anxieties, that we may walk in confidence of the grace and mercy of our Lord, and live lives of holiness, righteousness, and faith until the day when He returns in His glory as Lord and Judge of all. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You have established Your Church to proclaim Your saving Word to the world and to call all people to repentance and faith. Bless all those who minister Your Word to us and who administer Your sacraments to the joy and edification of Your holy people. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P The world lives in darkness still. Give us good and wise leaders who will act with integrity on behalf of justice and freedom. Bless the world with true and lasting peace, and protect those who defend us from our enemies. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P You have called us by name in the waters of Baptism. Keep what You have begun in us, O Lord. Restore the wanderer and those lost in error's maze that they may abide again in hope and faith. Lord, in Your mercy,

C hear our prayer.

P The homes of Your people cry out for Your blessing and peace. Teach us to love one another, O Lord, and to forgive one another as You have forgiven us. Help us to encourage one another to faithfulness and good works that glorify You. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P You know the needs of all, and You invite us to turn to You in prayer. Heal, relieve, and sustain to eternal life all the sick and those who suffer. Comfort all who grieve and give peace to those in their final days on earth, [*especially* . . .]. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P The resources You have supplied us are rich and abundant. Give us generous hearts, O Lord, that we may honor You with the tithes and offerings that belong to You, and that we may use Your resources for Your glory and the good of our neighbors in need. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P You set Your table in the presence of our enemies. Grant to us Your Spirit, O Lord, that we who commune here this day may receive with faith the bread which is Your body and the cup of Your blood. Strengthen us by this communion, and encourage our unity of faith. Lord, in Your mercy,
C **hear our prayer.**

P The eyes of all look to You, O Lord. Deliver everyone from the burdens of want and need, and grant us a cheerful heart that we may evermore rejoice in Your mercy and use faithfully all Your gifts for Your glory. Lord, in Your mercy.
C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C **Amen.**

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

P In the beginning, You made all things for Yourself until through sin and rebellion Your creation was lost to You and marked for death. In Your great love, You sent forth the promise of redemption, and in the fullness of time You kept Your promise and sent Your only Son to be our Savior. By His death, He has paid the cost of our redemption, and by His rising again, He has restored us to You and to the eternal life You prepared for Your people. Restore us by Your grace, that we may be kept holy and blameless before You and be received to eternal life when our Lord returns in His glory. Amen.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

P 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 $\cdot\text{I}$ 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 H blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

PROCLAMATION OF CHRIST

P As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

C Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

LORD’S PRAYER

P Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

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.

PAX DOMINI

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“What Is the World To Me”

LSB 730

- 1 What is the world to me
With all its vaunted pleasure
When You, and You alone,
Lord Jesus, are my treasure!
You only, dearest Lord,
My soul’s delight shall be;
You are my peace, my rest.
What is the world to me!
- 2 The world seeks to be praised
And honored by the mighty
Yet never once reflects
That they are frail and flighty.
But what I truly prize
Above all things is He,
My Jesus, He alone.
What is the world to me!
- 3 The world seeks after wealth
And all that mammon offers
Yet never is content

Though gold should fill its coffers.
I have a higher good,
Content with it I'll be:
My Jesus is my wealth.
What is the world to me!

- 4 What is the world to me!
My Jesus is my treasure,
My life, my health, my wealth,
My friend, my love, my pleasure,
My joy, my crown, my all,
My bliss eternally.
Once more, then, I declare:
What is the world to me!

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Jesus Christ, Our Blessed Savior”

LSB 627

- 1 Jesus Christ, our blessed Savior,
Turned away God's wrath forever;
By His bitter grief and woe
He saved us from the evil foe.
- 2 As His pledge of love undying,
He, this precious food supplying,
Gives His body with the bread,
And with the wine the blood He shed.
- 3 Jesus here Himself is sharing;
Heed then how you are preparing,
For if you do not believe,
His judgment then you shall receive.
- 4 Praise the Father, who from heaven
To His own this food has given,
Who, to mend what we have done,
Gave into death His only Son.
- 5 Firmly hold with faith unshaken
That this food is to be taken
By the sick who are distressed,
By hearts that long for peace and rest.
- 6 Agony and bitter labor
Were the cost of God's high favor;
Do not come if you suppose
You need not Him who died and rose.
- 7 Christ says: “Come, all you that labor,
And receive My grace and favor:
Those who feel no pain or ill
Need no physician's help or skill.

- 8 “For what purpose was My dying
If not for your justifying?
And what use this precious food
If you yourself were pure and good?”
- 9 If your heart this truth professes
And your mouth your sin confesses,
You will be your Savior’s guest,
Be at His banquet truly blest.
- 10 Let this food your faith so nourish
That its fruit of love may flourish
And your neighbor learn from you
How much God’s wondrous love can do.

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POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** God of mercy, once we were no people and our hearts were filled only with fear and dread of Your presence. By Your Son, Jesus Christ, You have restored us as Your own people, washed us clean in the blood of the Lamb, and filled us with the joy of Your presence and the promise of eternity. Guide us to live this hope out in fruitful lives by the power of the Holy Spirit, that we may use well and use wisely all Your gifts for Your glory, and be found holy and blameless in Christ when He comes in His glory; through Jesus Christ our Lord.
- C** Amen.

HYMN of the DAY “Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness” LSB 788 sts. 1, 4 & 6

- 1 Forgive us, Lord, for shallow thankfulness,
For dull content with warmth and sheltered care,
For songs of praise for food and harvest press,
While of Your richer gifts we’re unaware:
- 4 Teach us, O Lord, true thankfulness divine,
That gives as Christ gave, never counting cost,
That knows no barrier of “yours” and “mine,”
Assured that only what’s withheld is lost.
- 6 Open our eyes to see Your love’s intent,
To know with minds and hearts its depth and height;
May thankfulness be days in service spent,
Reflection of Christ’s life and love and light.

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SERMON

PARABLES OF JESUS: THE TALENTS

CLOSING HYMN “Savior, Again to Thy Dear Name We Raise” LSB 917 sts 1-2

- 1 Savior, again to Thy dear name we raise
With one accord our parting hymn of praise;
Once more we bless Thee ere our worship cease,
Then, lowly bending, wait Thy word of peace.
- 2 Grant us Thy peace upon our homeward way;
With Thee began, with Thee shall end, the day.

Guard Thou the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,
That in this house have called upon Thy name.

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