



THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 14, 2021

BETHEL LUTHERAN CHURCH

November begins with All Saints Day and ends in Advent, when we anticipate Christ's coming again. So the readings today tell of the final resurrection and the end time. In the turmoil of hope, fear, and disbelief that these predictions

provoke in us, Hebrews sounds a note of confident trust. Christ makes a way for us where there is no way, and we walk it confidently, our hearts and bodies washed in baptismal water, trusting the One Who has promised. The more we see the last day approaching, the more important it is to meet together to provoke one another to love.

† GATHERING †

OPENING HYMN

Give to Our God Immortal Praise

#520 (grn)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

P. We are gathered in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. **Amen**

P. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God, the whole company of heaven, and our sisters and brothers.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

P. Most merciful God,

C. You know our failings better than we do; we have sinned against You in thought, word and deed. Our days and years pass by; the things we trust fade like grass. Be gracious to us, O God. Guide us again to the water of life, and renew in us the grace of holy baptism; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen

P. You are all . . . and be glad!

C. **Amen.**

GREETING

P. Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.

C. **And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P. Almighty God, Your sovereign purpose brings salvation to birth. Give us faith to be steadfast amid the tumults of this world, trusting that Your kingdom comes and Your will is done through Your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. C. **Amen.**

✚ WORD ✚

FIRST READING: Daniel 12:1-3

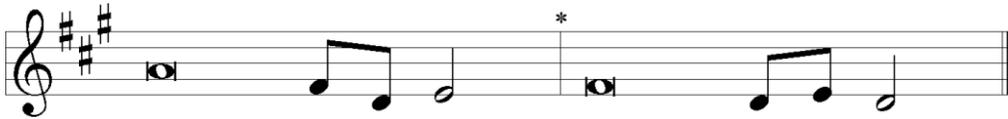
The book of Daniel is an example of apocalyptic literature, which is full of strange visions and symbolism. Arising during times of great persecution, apocalyptic literature is concerned with God's revelation about the end time and the coming kingdom of God, when God will vindicate the righteous who have been persecuted.

“At that time Michael, the great prince, the protector of your people, shall arise. There shall be a time of anguish, such as has never occurred since nations first came into existence. But at that time your people shall be delivered, everyone who is found written in the book. ²Many of those who sleep in the dust of the earth shall awake, some to everlasting life, and some to shame and everlasting contempt. ³Those who are wise shall shine like the brightness of the sky, and those who lead many to righteousness, like the stars forever and ever.”

L. The Word of the Lord. C. Thanks be to God.

Psalm 16

My heart is glad and my spirit rejoices; my body shall rest in hope.



Protect me, O God, for I take refuge in You;
I have said to the LORD,
“You are my LORD, my good above all other.”
²All my delight is in the godly that are in the land,
upon those who are noble among the people.
³But those who run after other gods
shall have their troubles multiplied.
⁴I will not pour out drink offerings to such gods,
never take their names upon my lips.
⁵O LORD, You are my portion and my cup;
it is You who uphold my lot.
⁶My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;
indeed, I have a goodly heritage.
⁷I will bless the LORD Who gives me counsel;
my heart teaches me night after night.
⁸I have set the LORD always before me;
because He is at my right hand, I shall not fall.
⁹My heart, therefore, is glad, and my spirit rejoices;
my body also shall rest in hope.

¹⁰For You will not abandon me | to the grave,
nor let Your holy one | see the pit.
¹¹You will show me the | path of life;
in Your presence there is fullness of joy,
and in Your right hand are pleasures for- | evermore.

SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:11–14, 19–25

Images of worship and sacrifice are used throughout Hebrews to highlight what Christ has uniquely accomplished through His death. Because we have received forgiveness through Christ's death, we live with sincere hearts by trusting in God's promises and encouraging love and good works from each other.

Every priest stands day after day at His service, offering again and again the same sacrifices that can never take away sins. ¹²But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, “He sat down at the right hand of God,” ¹³and since then has been waiting “until His enemies would be made a footstool for His feet.” ¹⁴For by a single offering He has perfected for all time those who are sanctified.

¹⁵And the Holy Spirit also testifies to us, for after saying,

¹⁶“This is the covenant that I will make with them
after those days, says the Lord:
I will put my laws in their hearts,
and I will write them on their minds,”

¹⁷he also adds,

“I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.”

¹⁸Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin.

¹⁹Therefore, my friends, since we have confidence to enter the sanctuary by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰by the new and living way that He opened for us through the curtain (that is, through His flesh), ²¹and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²²let us approach with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³Let us hold fast to the confession of our hope without wavering, for He Who has promised is faithful. ²⁴And let us consider how to provoke one another to love and good deeds, ²⁵not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day approaching.

L. The Word of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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HOLY GOSPEL: St. Mark 13:1-8

In the last week of His life, Jesus warned His disciples concerning trials that were to come upon them and upon the world. He exhorts the listener: Do not be alarmed.

C. Glory to You, O Lord.

✝ SENDING ✝

BENEDICTION

P. May Almighty God, Who makes all things new in Jesus Christ, uphold you by the Spirit in times of trial and bring you at last to the heavenly Jerusalem. Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C. Amen

CLOSING HYMN

O God Beyond All Praising

#797 (blu)

DISMISSAL

P. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God.

THOSE WHO SERVE:

Ministers: All the People of God

Presider: Pastor Ellen Munter

Musician: Ben Prokup

Reader: Linda Bruns

Camera: Josh Sumption

Projection: Sara Wollum

Acolytes: Katie Munter & James Kamrath
Bruns

Sound Room: Ken Jeremiason & Jerome

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Cover Image: "Angkor Temple Ruins" by Kim Yoeung Seng.

November 7, 2021

General: \$1,619.50 (\$464.50 received through eGiving)



The QR Code can be used to directly access the online giving form for Bethel Lutheran.



Emily Morton, Angie Denelsbeck Anderson, Bill and Karen Pohlen, Barb Hurt
The family and friends of Arlene Jerzak

What's with the "display" in the narthex ?

Today is the last day that our spare change will be "gobbled up" to support the community take out Thanksgiving dinner prepared by the Presbyterian Church in Canby.

The remainder of the month, the "coins" will benefit the Canby Food Shelf.



It's Here!:

The Thanksgiving Tree providing gifts for area children at Christmas time is in the in the Narthex. Take a tag, buy a gift. The price range for the gifts is \$20-30.00 and the gifts are not wrapped but the tag from the tree needs to accompany the gift. Thanks.



The Promise of Apocalypse

A joke made the rounds in bookstores in the spring of 2020: “Post-apocalyptic fiction has been moved to our current affairs section.”

The genre of apocalyptic is much like modern science fiction—stories set in surreal landscapes with plot twists that hold up a mirror to the challenges of our own time. Much of the Bible was written by, for, and about people living through persecution, political unrest, suffering, and uncertainty about the future. As we move toward the season of Advent, Jesus frames wars, rumors of wars, earthquakes, and famines as the birth pangs of an emerging new creation. There are always wars and rumors of wars, disasters, and upheavals.

The good news is that God is present in all of it. God shows up in the pain, taking it seriously and holding it gently. And God is present above it all in the cosmic story that is so much larger than the daily news. Furthermore, God is present in the moments of joy that always find a way to break through—for life is always more than its worst moments, even in war zones, crises, and pandemics.

Throughout the centuries, the symbol of hope in religious art is the anchor. God is holding the anchor of hope, holding the line that runs through every human soul, holding for us the hope that will not let us go. Apocalyptic brings these layers together: the cosmic story of the universe, the noise and upheaval of our own generation’s crises and birth pangs, and that solid anchor of hope. Our sacred texts are lenses to open our eyes and minds to uncover and notice how God is present among us in the most bewildering moments of our lives.

Upcoming Commemorations

Elizabeth of Hungary, renewer of society, died 1231

Wednesday, November 17, 2021

Born in Hungary, Elizabeth was betrothed to the son of the Landgrave of Thuringia, and at age four was taken to be raised with him at the Wartburg Castle. Ten years later they were married. She was very generous to the poor, and after her husband's death she lived in cruel hardship until her own death at age twenty-four.