

*Master, you
delivered to me
five talents*

Matthew 25:20



24th Sunday after Pentecost

November 15, 2020

Enter into the Joy of Your Master

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH

3210 Maple Drive, Plover, Wisconsin 54467

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Pastor David E. Ficken

Our Mission

“To Know Jesus and to Make Him Known”

Our Vision

Educate, Equip and Encourage ourselves and our families through worship and study, and engage our community through discipleship, example and Acts of Kindness, using the unique gifts bestowed on each member of our congregation by the Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Worship Information

Parents with Young Children: We encourage families to worship together.

Worship Bulletin: Our order of service is printed out in your worship folder.

Worship Form: There are 5 “Movements” in our Worship.

- God grants us the gift of forgiveness.
- God speaks to us from His Word.
- God receives our offerings and prayers.
- God offers us His real presence in Holy Communion.
- God blesses us and sends us out.

Communion: Please read the Statement of Communion below.

(If you are **gluten intolerant** please speak with Pastor or an elder prior to the worship service so we can accommodate you.)

STATEMENT OF COMMUNION

BECAUSE THE WORD OF GOD TEACHES THAT:

- We are all sinners in need of forgiveness.
- Jesus is our only Savior from sin through His death and resurrection.
- The True Body and Blood of Christ is present in the Sacrament of the Holy Communion

 **Please see Pastor if you have any questions about this or do not believe in the Lord’s Supper in this way. You are welcome to come forward for a blessing if you are not communing.**

- **TO PREPARE:** Please use the Christian Questions with Their Answers from “The Sacrament of the Altar” on page 329 in the front of the Lutheran Service Book. You are not obligated to partake if you feel, for whatever reason, the need to refrain from the Lord’s Supper for a short time.
- **Please see Pastor if there is something going on in your life that needs the attention of Christ in private confession and absolution.**

AS WE GATHER We read today about three servants. Two were good and faithful. One was evil and faithless. Two enter into the joy of their master. One does not. Our Lord has entrusted us with many good and gracious gifts and sends us into the world to make disciples and multiply the gifts we have received. Yet, it is not our own work that leads us into the joy of our Master; rather, it is our Master's work on our behalf. Jesus' saving work of death and resurrection brings us into the joy of our Master.

WITNESS & OUTREACH Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus again teaches us about His Kingdom with a parable but as He does - He reveals two diametrically different understandings about the Master, the Creator and Giver of all things: one where the receiver of the talents sees the Master as a generous giver and invests the talents with joy in the "business" of the Master; the other where the receiver of the talent sees the Master as hard and stingy and therefore hides the talent in fear of the Master. As a steward of all that God has given you, how do you see the Giver? If you see Him as hard, stingy, unfair in comparison to what others have and question His giving to you, you will never steward with the joy that God intended. But, if you believe that God gave you exactly the talent and the blessings and has in mind the purpose for His Kingdom that He has intended through you, you will go about your daily tasks with joy and contentment and you will rejoice to hear the words, "Well done, good and faithful servant!" May God fill your heart and life with this trust and joy going about the stewardship of your Master's business.

Hymns will be from the Lutheran Service Book (LSB).

WELCOME to GUESTS & VISITORS

HYMN "Let It Be Said Of Us"

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Let it be said of us
That the Lord was our passion
That with gladness we bore
Ev'ry cross we were given
That we fought the good fight
That we finished the course
Knowing within us
The pow'r of the risen Lord

Chorus

Let the cross be our glory
And the Lord be our song
By mercy made holy
By the Spirit made strong
Let the cross be our glory
And the Lord be our song
'Til the likeness of Jesus
Be through us made known
Let the cross be our glory
And the Lord be our song

Let it be said of us
We were marked by forgiveness
We were known by our love
And delighted in meekness
We were ruled by His peace
Heeding unity's call
Joined as one body
That Christ would be seen by all **Chorus**

INVOCATION *(The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of your Baptism.)*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.

People: You have been our good and faithful Master.

Pastor: You have poured out blessings upon us.

People: You have given us all we need to support this body and life.

Pastor: We meditate on all that You have done.

People: We ponder the work of Your hands.

Pastor: On account of Your name, O Lord, preserve our lives.

People: In Your righteousness, bring us out of trouble.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *(Silence for reflection on the Word of God and self-examination.)*

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

People: Most merciful God, I confess that I am by nature sinful and unclean. I have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what I have done and by what I have left undone. I have not loved you with my whole heart; I have not loved my neighbors as myself. I justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on me. Forgive me, renew me, and lead me, so that I may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

Pastor: 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 the Word I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING Zephaniah 1:7–16 (*The Day of the Lord is near.*)
BACK OF BULLETIN

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11 (*Let us live as children of the light.*)

BACK OF BULLETIN

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

VERSE *Matthew 25:29a*

Alleluia. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL *Matthew 25:14–30 (The parable of the talents)*

BACK OF BULLETIN

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

HYMN "Make Me A Servant"

AGPS 174

Make me a servant
Humble and meek
Lord let me lift up
Those who are weak
And may the prayer
Of my heart always be
Make me a servant
Make me a servant
Make me a servant today

SERMON

NICENE CREED

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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Dear heavenly Father, You have placed us in various vocations for the sake of Your people. Strengthen us when we face challenges and trials that would tempt us to abandon Your Church. Forgive us when we go astray. Bring back all those who have wandered from the faith. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

People: **Give ear to our pleas for mercy.**

Pastor: Lord, raise up good and faithful servants in Your Church, that we work together for the common good and spread the good news of Your kingdom to all nations. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

People: **Give ear to our pleas for mercy.**

Pastor: Lord, raise up good and faithful servants in the governments of the world, that citizens of all nations might be treated with fairness and justice. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

People: **Give ear to our pleas for mercy.**

Pastor: Lord, the day of Jesus' return is drawing near. Give us patience and faith as we await His return. Embolden us to serve our neighbors and never grow weary of doing good. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

People: **Give ear to our pleas for mercy.**

Pastor: Lord, disease and devastation have infected so much of Your creation, but we know Your healing is always close at hand. Be with all those who suffer now through abuse, illness, and injustice. Heal them according to Your will, and send justice for the oppressed. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

People: Give ear to our pleas for mercy.

Pastor: Lord, by the resurrection of Your Son, death has been destroyed. Yet each human being still faces earthly death. We bring before You all those who are mourning the death of loved ones. Comfort them with the hope of the resurrection to eternal life. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

People: Give ear to our pleas for mercy.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

People: Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *2 Timothy 4:22*

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *Colossians 3:1*

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *Psalms 136*

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who on this day overcame death and the grave and by His glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:

SANCTUS Holy, holy, holy LSB 161

Holy, holy, Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna.

Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD *Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24;
Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25*

Pastor: 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 ✠ 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 ✠ 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 *1 Corinthians 11:26, Revelation 22:20*

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

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

Pastor: O Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

LORD’S PRAYER (*Matthew 6:9–13*)

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

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **And also with you. Amen.**

AGNUS DEI Lamb of God LSB 198

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world have mercy upon us.

O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world grant us Thy peace. A---men.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness”

LSB 809

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father;
There is no shadow of turning with Thee.
Thou changest not: Thy compassions, they fail not;
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be.

Refrain:

Great is Thy faithfulness!
Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;
All I have needed Thy hand hath provided;
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest,
Sun, moon and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy and love. **Refrain**

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! **Refrain**

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Public Domain

Let us break bread together
on our knees, (*on our knees,*)
Let us break bread together
on our knees; (*on our knees;*)

When I fall on my knees,
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (*on me.*)

Let us drink the cup together
on our knees, (*on our knees,*)
Let us drink the cup together
on our knees; (*on our knees;*)

When I fall on my knees,
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (*on me.*)

Let us praise God together
on our knees, (*on our knees,*)
Let us praise God together
on our knees; (*on our knees;*)

When I fall on my knees,
With my face to the rising sun,
O Lord, have mercy on me. (*on me.*)

BENEDICTION *Numbers 6:24–26*

Pastor: 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 favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN “My Jesus I Love Thee”

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My Jesus I love Thee I know Thou art mine
For Thee all the follies of sin I resign
My gracious Redeemer my Savior art Thou
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me
And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree
I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

I'll love Thee in life I will love Thee in death
And praise Thee as long as Thou lendest me breath
And say when the death dew lies cold on my brow
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

In mansions of glory and endless delight
I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright
I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow
If ever I loved Thee my Jesus 'tis now

SENDING

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
People: **Thanks be to God.**

TITHE & OFFERING – our sacrifice of thanksgiving to the Lord

Our “**tithes**” are our first fruits returned to God in proportional, joyful, thankful and faithful response to His grace. “**Offerings**” are special gifts for ministries, memorials and needs over and above the tithe.

(If you are a guest, we welcome you as a guest, so please do not feel obligated to give an offering unless you feel moved to do so by the Spirit).

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

OLD TESTAMENT Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24 (*God will search for His sheep.*)

PSALM Psalm 95:1–7a

EPISTLE 1 Corinthians 15:20–28 (*The last enemy to be destroyed is death.*)

HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 25:31–46 (*The separation of the sheep and the goats*)

TODAY'S PSALM Psalm 90:1–12

Lord, you have been our dwelling place
in all generations.

² Before the mountains were brought forth,
or ever you had formed the earth and the world,
from everlasting to everlasting you are God.

³ You return man to dust
and say, “Return, O children of man!”

⁴ For a thousand years in your sight
are but as yesterday when it is past,
or as a watch in the night.

⁵ You sweep them away as with a flood; they are like a dream,
like grass that is renewed in the morning:

⁶ in the morning it flourishes and is renewed;
in the evening it fades and withers.

⁷ For we are brought to an end by your anger;
by your wrath we are dismayed.

⁸ You have set our iniquities before you,
our secret sins in the light of your presence.

⁹ For all our days pass away under your wrath;
we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

¹⁰ The years of our life are seventy,
or even by reason of strength eighty;
yet their span is but toil and trouble;
they are soon gone, and we fly away.

¹¹ Who considers the power of your anger,
and your wrath according to the fear of you?

¹² So teach us to number our days
that we may get a heart of wisdom.

Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 1:7-16

- ⁷ Be silent before the Lord God!
For the day of the Lord is near;
the Lord has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.
- ⁸ 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.
- ⁹ 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.
- ¹¹ Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!
For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.
- ¹² 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.'
- ¹³ 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."
- ¹⁴ 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.
- ¹⁵ 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,
- ¹⁶ a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

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.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

¹⁴[Jesus said:] "I 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. Ther 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.'