



CALVARY LUTHERAN CHURCH

CALVARY Lutheran Church
480 MONTEREY AVE.
MORRO BAY, CALIFORNIA
Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

November 19, 2023
Twenty Fifth Sunday After Pentecost



PRELUDE - We Gather Together Mark Hayes

John Cribb

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Brian Stein-Webber

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,
we confess that we are not awake for you.
We are not faithful in using your gifts.
We forget the least of our siblings.
We do not see your beautiful image in one another.
We are infected by sin
that divides your beloved community.
Open our hearts to your coming,
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,
open our hands to serve your creation.
Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through † Jesus we are forgiven,
by Jesus we are welcome,
in Jesus we are called to rejoice!

Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world.

Amen.

GATHERING **Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer #618 (red hymnal, rear section)**

**Guide me ever, great Redeemer, pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but you are mighty; hold me with your pow'rful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.**

**Open now the crystal fountain where the healing waters flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through
Strong deliv'rer, strong deliv'rer, shield me with your mighty arm,
shield me with your mighty arm.**

**When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction, land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs and praises, songs and praises, I will raise forevermore,
I will raise forevermore.**

GREETING

The grace of Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

KYRIE

Now the Feast and Celebration booklet p. 3

In peace, in peace, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

For the reign of God, and for peace throughout the world,
for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

For your people here who have come to give you praise,
for the strength to live your word, let us pray to the Lord.
Lord, have mercy. Christ have mercy. Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, and defend us, O God.
A---men.

NOW THE FEAST AND CELEBRATION

NTFAC booklet p. 4

REFRAIN

**Now the feast and celebration, all of creation sings for joy
to the God of life and love and freedom;
praise and glory forevermore!**

**Now is the feast of the Lamb once slain,
whose blood has freed and united us
to be one great people of God.**

REFRAIN

**Power and riches, wisdom and might,
all honor and glory to Christ, forever.**

REFRAIN

**For God has come to dwell with us,
to make us people of God;
to make all things new.**

REFRAIN**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you!

And also with you!

Let us pray together.

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have.
Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through
Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

FIRST LESSON: Zephaniah 1:7-18

*(The congregation will read the **bold** words.)*

Be silent before the Lord God!

For the day of the Lord is at hand;

the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, and has consecrated the guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,

and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs,

those who say in their hearts, “God will not do good, nor will God do harm.”

Their wealth 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.

The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast;

the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.

That day will be a day of wrath, 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,

a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities

and against the lofty battlements.

I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind;

because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust,

and their flesh like dung.

Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of God’s wrath;

in the fire of God’s passion the whole earth shall be consumed;

for a full, a terrible end God will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 90:1-12

*(The congregation responds with the **bold** words)*

Lord, you have been our refuge from one generation to another.

Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born,

from age to age you are God.

You turn us back to the dust and say, “Turn back, O children of earth.”

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past

and like a watch in the night;

you sweep them away like a dream, they fade away suddenly like the grass:

in the morning it is green and flourishes; in the evening it is dried up and withered.

For we are consumed by your anger; we are afraid because of your wrath.

Our iniquities you have set before you,

and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.

When you are angry, all our days are gone; we bring our years to an end like a sigh.

**The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**

Who regards the power of your wrath?

Who rightly fears your indignation?

So teach us to number our days that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

*(The congregation reads the **bold** words.)*

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters,
you do not need to have anything written to you.

For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord
will come like a thief in the night.

When they say, "There is peace and security,"

then sudden destruction will come upon them,

as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape!

**But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief;
for you are all children of light and children of the day;
we are not of the night or of darkness.**

So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober;
for those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night.

But since we belong to the day, let us be sober,

and put on the breastplate of faith and love,

and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

For God has destined us not for wrath

but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ,

who died for us,

so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him.

Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Word of God, Word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S CONVERSATION

Gospel Acclamation

Celtic Alleluia #174

(red hymnal, rear section)

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 25:14-30

The gospel lesson for this Twenty-fifth Sunday After Pentecost is from the 55th chapter of the Gospel of Matthew, beginning with the 14th verse.

Glory to you, O God.

*(The congregation shall read the **bold** words.)*

[Jesus said to the disciples:]

"For it is as if a man, going on a journey,

summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them;
to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one,
to each according to his ability

Then he went away.

The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them,
and made five more talents.

In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents.

**But the one who had received the one talent
went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.**

After a long time the master of those slaves came
and settled accounts with them.

Then the one who had received the five talents came forward,
bringing five more talents, saying,
'Master, you handed over to me five talents;
see, I have made five more talents.'

His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave;
you have been trustworthy in a few things,
I will put you in charge of many things;
enter into the joy of your master.'

And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying,
'Master, you handed over to me two talents;
see, I have made two more talents.'

**His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave;
you have been trustworthy in a few things,
I will put you in charge of many things;
enter into the joy of your master.'**

Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying,
'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man,
reaping where you did not sow,
and gathering where you did not scatter seed;
so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground.
Here you have what is yours.'

But his master replied,
'You wicked and lazy slave!
You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow,
and gather where I did not scatter?
**Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers,
and on my return I would have received what was my own
with interest.**

So take the talent from him,
and give it to the one with the ten talents.

For to all those who have, more will be given,
and they will have an abundance;

but from those who have nothing,
even what they have will be taken away.

As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness,
where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

This is the gospel indeed.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON HYMN O God Our Help in Ages Past #632 (red hymnal, rear section)

**O God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.**

**Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is your arm alone and our defense is sure.**

**Before the hills in order stood or earth received its frame,
from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.**

**A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.**

**Time, like an ever-rolling stream bears all our years away;
they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.**

**O God our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.**

APOSTLE'S CREED

Let us confess our faith in the words of the Apostle's Creed.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
 who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
 suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried;
 He descended to the dead.
 On the third day he rose again;
 He ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
 And he will come to judge the living and dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
 the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
 the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Gracious God, you give talents and gifts to all your people, and you equip the church to serve. Turn us from fear and self-serving ways, that we use our talents to glorify you and encourage our neighbor. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You have been our dwelling place from one generation to another. Sustain the life of the planet; protect farmlands and harvests. Direct all people in wise stewardship of all the earth's resources. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You call us to honesty and integrity. Instill these values in the hearts of all nations and their leaders. Free any who are oppressed, expose all corruption, and bring redemption to victims of injustice. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart. Where there is sickness or sorrow, bring healing, and where there is loneliness, reveal your love in community. We remember before you especially,

- Tom Bauer – recovering from surgery
- Brenda Ouwerkerk and family – death of mother, Edith West
- Elaine Grawe
- Nancy Padilla – multiple dental procedures
- Becky Padilla – dealing with recurrence of cancer
- Robin Karas – Home from Bayside and recovering
- Christian – Heidi Carney’s son – dealing with multiple ailments
- Barbara Stein, Tom Anello’s sister – dealing with resurfacing cancer
- Jim Luke and family – in the death of his wife, Linda
- Joyce Bauer – recovering from double surgery
- Wes, brother of John Cribb – facing the choice between kidney dialysis and kidney transplant
- Byron Nelson - friend of Jacoby's - Cancer
- Mike Johnson - lymphatic cancer
- Chris Senter – dealing with frontal temporal lobe dementia and aphasia.
- Heidi Carney – Puzzling spots in her lungs
- Kate Anderson
- Ina Davenport – preparing to move to assisted living
- Aaron Brochtrup - for perseverance and patience while he works to recover from his injuries
- Denise Kenealy, daughter-in-law of Robin Karas – learning to live with condition
- Marcia Shep, Jennifer Kurrle's grandmother
- James Hecker- weighing treatment options for persistent infection
- Mercedes Stevens, Katie Edson's mother
- Iglesia Santa Cruz, Pastor Esteban and Angie- for our support of their ministry
- For those who are contracting COVID
- For the people of Ukraine, for strength, healing, protection, and changes of heart for those attacking them
- For the earthquake victims in Afghanistan
- For the people of Israel and Palestine
- Victims of senseless gun violence
- For Glenna Baker and Kathie Sperow who celebrate their birthdays this week

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the faith formation ministries of our church. Give to all children, youth, and adults who study your word the breastplate of faith and love. Shape us by your love and show us how to encourage one another. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

O God, you know each one, so we pray for those whom we have not named yet, but are also in need of our support and intercession, especially,

[You may name out loud or in your heart, those who are on your hearts, this morning.]

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Gracious God, you are faithful in all generations. For the promise of life and rest and for the witness of those who have died in faith we praise your goodness. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Let us share that peace with one another.

OFFERING SONG Create in Me a Clean Heart #186 (red hymnal, rear section)

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.

Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY

NTFAC booklet p. 11

**Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;
heaven and earth are filled with your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in your name.

Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he was betrayed,
 our Lord Jesus took bread, gave thanks and broke it
 and gave it to his disciples saying,
 "Take and eat, this is my body given for you.
 Do this in remembrance of me."

Again after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
 and gave it to his disciples, saying,
 "Drink this, all of you. It is the new covenant of my blood,
 shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin.
 Do this in remembrance of me.'

Let us pray the prayer that our Lord Jesus taught us:

**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.**

TAKING OF HOLY COMMUNION

[All who desire may come forward to take the body and blood of Christ. Gluten-free bread is available if you ask for it, and alcohol-free grape juice is in the center ring of the tray. During the distribution of Communion, you may also seek prayers of healing at the chair by the baptismal font.]

COMMUNION HYMN

Precious Lord, Take My Hand #773 (red hymnal, rear section)

**Precious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
 I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
 Through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light.
 Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When my way grows drear, precious Lord, linger near, when my life is almost gone,
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall.
 Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

**When the darkness appears and the night draws near, and the day is past and gone,
 at the river I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand.
 Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.**

COMMUNION MUSIC - Give Thanks Mark Hayes

COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

THANKS BE TO YOU

NTFAC booklet p. 15

**Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!**

**From of old you loved and sought us: thanks be to you forever!
Truth and justice you have taught us: thanks be to you forever!**

**Strong is your faithfulness, strong is your love,
rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.**

**Praise to you, O God of mercy: thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!
Thanks be to you forever!**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together:

**Lord Jesus,
in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey,
strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,
and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.
AMEN.**

BLESSING

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN Jesus Shall Reign #434 (red hymnal, rear section)

**Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head;
his name like sweet perfume shall rise with ev'ry morning sacrifice.**

**People and realms of ev 'ry tongue dwell on his love and sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.**

**Blessings abound where'er he reigns; the pris'ners leap to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.
Let ev'ry creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our king;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.**

DISMISSAL

Beloved of God,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE - Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow Mark Hayes

John Cribb

Thank you to:

- **Katie Edson** for being worship assistant.
- **John Cribb** for accompanying.
- **Sandy McMillan and others** for counting the offering.
- **Joyce Bauer, Nikki Rocha and Kathie Sperow** for preparing communion.
- **Janet Lorenzo** and others for streaming worship.
- **Janet Lorenzo and Gail Brochtrup** for editing and assembling bulletins and the newsletter.
- **Nancy Padilla**, for setting up and welcoming.
- **Gary and Mark Orback**, for tending to our outside property.
- **Sophia and Janet Lorenzo**, for tending to our inside property.
- **Ken Brocks, Dan Sperow, Andrew Jacoby, Mike Lorenzo and Gary Brochtrup** for their handyman work.
- **The Church Council**, for leading our congregation.

Events this week:

- **The discussion group on The Chosen** will meet tonight, Sunday, November 19th, 7:00 to 8:00 pm on Zoom, to discuss the movie, *Tender Mercies*.
- **Sermon Feedback and Feedforward** will be on Zoom on Monday, November 20th starting at 9:30 am. If you want to join, please speak with Pastor Brian and he will send you an invitation. Next Sunday's Bible passages will be Ezekiel 34:11-16, Psalm 95:1-7a, Ephesians 1:15-23, and Matthew 25:31-46.
- **Confirmation** will take place on Monday, November 27th at 6:00 pm in the fellowship hall. The topic will be the **Psalms**.
- **Bible Study** is not meeting this week and will resume on Wednesday, November 29th at 10:00 am in the fellowship hall. The subject will be *Esther, Daniel and Life Under Empire*.
- We will be providing meals for the **Los Osos Community Dinner** on Wednesday, November 22nd. Please speak with Nancy Padilla or Janet Lorenzo if you wish to contribute a dish.
- If you would like to participate in **Project Angel Tree** this year with Iglesia Santa Cruz, please contact Nancy Padilla.
- If you wish to participate in **decorating the sanctuary** for Christmas on Saturday, December 2nd, starting at 9:30 am, please speak with Gail Brochtrup.
- Let Pastor Brian know if you would like to **start receiving his weekly emails**. (bsteinwebber@gmail.com)

Don't forget to check the Calendar website page for upcoming events:
morrobaylutherans.org