



# ST. GEORGE LUTHERAN CHURCH

803 West Main St, Brighton, MI 48116

[www.stgeorgelutheran.org](http://www.stgeorgelutheran.org)

November 19, 2023

9:00 a.m.

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Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

***Welcome! We are glad you're here!***

**A warm welcome is extended to all!**

**Your presence enriches us at this time of celebration together.**

**Announcements**

**Prepare Hearts for Worship**

**Welcome and Sharing the Peace**

**Confession and Forgiveness** (inspired by 1 Thessalonians 5: 1-11 and Matthew 25: 14-30)

**Lord, Lord,**

**we know who you are,**

**we know you bring in the kingdom of heaven.**

**But when you assign us the job of lighting the way,**

**we barely announce your divine rule to ourselves.**

**We celebrate your redemptive action in history**

**with our calendar - Sundays, seasons, year after year.**

**Yet we become drowsy: unprepared,**

**because we are not disciples each day, at all hours.**

**Those times we live for ourselves because we think we do not need you right now.**

**We do not want justice, and self-righteousness is easier than right relationship.**

**Forgive us Lord the sins we can bear to name,**

**Save us Lord from the sins we will not speak.**

## Assurance of Forgiveness

God redeems.

Our hope lives in the one we call Jesus the Christ.

Time and again we go to this hope, ready or not.

For Christ's sake our sins are forgiven.

May the flood of God's love in Christ Jesus

be poured out in our lives and cease not at this worship's end.

To the glory of the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit. **Amen**

~ adapted from a confession written by Bill Wessner, on his Confessional RCL blog. <http://confessionrcl.blogspot.com/2011/11/cycle-lectionary-32-proper-27.html>

### Opening Hymn:

### *Guide Me Ever, Great Redeemer*

**#618**

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 evermore,

I will raise evermore.

Text: William Williams, 1717-1791; tr. William Williams and Peter Williams, 1722-1796, alt.

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

### Hymn of Praise: This is the Feast

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

**For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## **Prayer of the Day:**

**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**

## **Youth Message**

### **First Lesson: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18**

Be silent before the Lord God, for the day of the Lord is at hand!

The Lord has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated his guests.

At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who settle like dregs in wine, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he 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 the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed, for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

L This is the Word of the Lord      **All Thanks be to God**

## **Psalm 90**

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

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

You turn us back to dust, and say, "Turn back, you mortals."

**For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past, or like a watch in the night.**

You sweep them away; they are like a dream, like grass that is renewed in the morning;

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

For we are consumed by your anger; by your wrath we are overwhelmed.

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

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

**The days of our life are seventy years, or perhaps eighty, if we are strong; even then their span is only toil and trouble; they are soon gone, and we fly away.**

Who considers the power of your anger? Your wrath is as great as the fear that is due you. **So teach us to count our days that we may gain a wise heart.**

### **Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

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, brothers and sisters, 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.

L: The Word of the Lord   **All: Thanks be to God.**

**All: Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.  
Alleluia, Alleluia.**

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

**All: Glory to you, O Lord.**

**Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30**

"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. At once the one who had received the five talents went off 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, 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.'

P: The Gospel of the Lord **All: Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Sermon

### Hymn of the Day:

### Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

#674

Let us talents and tongues employ,  
reaching out with a shout of joy:  
bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

Jesus calls us in, sends us out  
bearing fruit in a world of doubt,  
gives us love to tell, bread to share:  
God (Immanuel) ev'rywhere!

Christ is able to make us one,  
at the table he sets the tone,  
teaching people to live to bless,  
love in word and in deed express.

Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!  
Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound!

**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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come to judge the living and the 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.**

*\*catholic here meaning "universal"*

### **Prayers of Intercession:**

**A Lord, in your mercy.... C Hear our prayer**

### **Offertory:**

**Let the vineyards be fruitful Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.**

**Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.**

### **Offertory Prayer:**

**We dedicate this offering  
to the work of Your kingdom here on earth.**

**As we dedicate this offering,  
we offer ourselves too,  
for these gifts of money are but tokens of ourselves.**

**Take and use us,  
that our hands may reach out in service,  
our feet may walk the difficult path of reconciliation,  
and that our words may be words of peace.**

**For this we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

### **Words of Institution**

#### **The Lord's Prayer:**

**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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Lamb of God: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

## **Holy Communion**

### **Communion Hymn**

### **This Little Light of Mine**

**#677**

This little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine; this little light of mine, I'm goin'a let it shine, let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Ev'ry where I go, I'm goin'a let it shine;  
Ev'ry where I go, I'm goin'a let it shine;  
Ev'ry where I go, I'm goin'a let it shine;  
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine; Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine;  
Jesus gave it to me, I'm goin'a let it shine; let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Text: African American Spiritual, Boyer, 1935

### **Take My Life, That I May Be**

**#685**

Take my life, that I may be  
consecrated, Lord, to Thee;  
take my moments and my days;  
let them flow in ceaseless praise.

Take my silver and my gold,  
not a mite would I withhold;  
take my intellect, and use  
ev'ry pow'r as Thou shalt choose.

Take my hands and let them move  
at the impulse of Thy love;  
take my feet and let them be  
swift and beautiful for Thee.

Take my will and make it Thine;  
it shall be no longer mine.  
Take my heart, it is Thine own;  
it shall be Thy royal throne.

Take my voice and let me sing  
always, only, for my King;  
take my lips and let them be  
filled with messages from Thee.

Take my love; my Lord, I pour  
at Thy feet its treasure store;  
take myself, and I will be  
ever, only, all for Thee.

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836-1879, adapt.; Spanish text: Vicente Mendoza, 1875-1955.

### **Post Communion Blessing:**

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.  
**Amen.**

**Post Communion Canticle: Thank the Lord and sing his praise, tell everyone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He recalls his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, Alleluia.**

**Benediction**

When you leave the house of prayer, do so with a buoyant heart.

Trust Christ to take an intimate interest in the costly investment he has made.

Invest in others as his love has invested in you; Rejoicing in the fellowship of his Spirit.

There is no difficulty that God has not foreseen,  
no error or sin that God cannot ultimately correct,  
no suffering where God will make you go on all alone,  
and no joy that cannot be enriched by God's happiness within you.

The grace of our Lord Christ Jesus, the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,

will be

with you today and forevermore!

***Amen!***

**Sending Hymn**

**Here I Am Lord**

**#574**

"I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.

All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.

I, who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?"

***Refrain***

***Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the night.***

***I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will hold your people in my heart.***

"I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people's pain.

I have wept for love of them. They turn away.



I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love alone.  
I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?" **Refrain**

"I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.  
I will set a feast for them. My hand will save.  
Finest bread I will provide till their hearts be satisfied.  
I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?" **Refrain**

Text: Daniel Schutte (c) 1981 Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music. All rights reserved.

### **Dismissal**

A: Go in peace, serve the Lord.           **C: Thanks be to God.**

### **Current Budget Report: as of 11/12/2023**

**Last week's giving: \$4,514.16**

**Needed to meet budget: \$5,357.69**

**Year to Date: \$238,324.18**

**Ahead (Behind) Budget: (\$8,129.67)**

### **Announcements**

**Adult Sunday School:** Today at 10 AM.

**Bible Study:** Thursdays at 10:00 at the Parish House and via Zoom.

**Love Inc, Buckets of Blessings:** We are asking for steel wool pads this month!

**Musikgarten:** Wednesday, from 10-10:30 AM.

**Gymnastics Open Play:** Wednesday, from 11-11:45 AM.

**Church Decorating:** Wednesday, November 29<sup>th</sup> at 10 AM. The Friendship Circle invites anyone to help!

**Book Club:** Thursday, November 30<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 PM.

**Needleworks:** Fridays, December 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. All are welcome!

**Crafternoon Tea:** Saturday, December 2, from Noon to 2 PM.

**Annual Meeting:** Sunday, December 3 at Noon.

**Advent Service:** Tuesday, December 5 at 6:30 PM in the sanctuary. Following this special Advent service presented by the Friendship Circle, enjoy desserts in the lower level. Please attend, bring a friend and a dessert.

**Friends and Family Breakfast:** Sunday, November 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

**Birthday Celebration:** Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM.

**Friendship Circle Cookie Sale:** Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup>. Cookie Drop-off on Saturday, December 16<sup>th</sup> from 10 AM until Noon.

**Will you help us this year spread Holiday Cheer amongst 3,000 seafarers out at sea during Christmas?**

90% of global trade is transported on the high seas by crew members on container ships who remain invisible to most people, yet our supply chains especially during the Holidays depend on their services. Seafarers are the “unseen essential workers” and are often overworked and lonely. We collect each year for the ELCA ministry to seafarers who will not be home for Christmas. Port chaplains deliver satchels filled with gifts to the ships.

Every crew member on a ship regardless of their faith or nationality will open their satchels, each containing:

- One Sweatshirt – hooded or unhooded (size M-L-XL)
- Three Pairs of Socks – thermal or gym
- One T- Shirt (size M-L-XL)
- One Knitted Winter Cap (coordinating scarf optional; no pastels please)
- One Can of Nuts, Large Bar of Chocolate, or Health Snack Bar
- A Holiday or Christmas Card from YOU!

You pick the colors, styles and brands, but please no substitutions from the list.

<b>Sunday 11/19</b>	<b>9 AM Traditional Worship 10 AM Sunday School/Birthday Celebration/Cinnamon Roll Sale 11AM Contemporary Worship</b>
<b>Monday 11/20</b>	<b>Office Hours 11:30 AM – 2:30 PM</b>
<b>Tuesday 11/21</b>	<b>7:30 PM AA</b>
<b>Wednesday 11/22</b>	<b>Office Hours 8 AM-1 PM; 8 AM Men’s Club; Musikgarten 10 AM; Gymnastics 11 AM;</b>
<b>Thursday 11/23</b>	<b>7:00 PM AA</b>
<b>Friday 11/24</b>	<b>Office Hours 8 AM-3 PM</b>
<b>Saturday 11/25</b>	

	November 19	November 26
	9:00 AM	9:00 AM
Asst. Min	Keith B.	Keith B.
Lay Reader	Keith B.	Keith B.
Greeter		
Usher	Michele	Bob S.
Media	Graenser	Prieskorn
Fellowship	Birthday Celebration	Elizabeth H.
Altar Care	Elaine	Nancy & Sharon



For Our Church Members, especially:

**Kathie Wilhelm**, for biopsy and surgery for possible kidney cancer.

**Kathy Schenk**, for healing after a broken wrist.

**Cindy, John and Jon Brach**, with health concerns.

**Bill Foster** in assisted living.

**Kathy Boyes** with health challenges.

**Barb Gienapp** with health concerns.

**Theo Evans** being treated for leukemia.

**Joan Richardson**, dealing with health concerns.

For Friends and Family of our Church Members:

**Carl Loerwald**, friend of Joanne Bellmard, recovering from back surgery and other medical issues.

**Dian Kolis**, friend of Linda Fox, with Parkinson's and scheduled for brain surgery.  
**Virginia Stevens-Johnson**, Arlene Turner's sister, who has COVID.  
**Nick Hodgin**, Jim Hartman's friend's 12-year-old son, following brain cancer surgery.  
**Chris Petersburg**, son of Brian and Jeanie, who had a mini-stroke.  
**Matt B.**, Linda Walton's son's best friend, diagnosed with stage 4 liver disease.  
**Nathan**, friend of the Petersburg's, paralyzed in a diving accident.  
**Stacy Scott's stepdad**, friend of Michele Hirschman, with lung cancer.  
**Lydia**, Gail's adult piano student, recovering from brain surgery.  
**Norma Topp**, Michele Hirschman's friend, going through radiation and chemotherapy.  
**Victor**, Gail's 82-year-old student's wife, in hospice.  
**Isabella**, Gail's 9-year-old student, who broke her ankle.  
**Alicia Gardner**, Linda Walton's niece, awaiting a liver transplant.  
**Trey Martin**, cousin of Bryan Rush, in Europe in the military. Pray for his safety.  
**John D**, friend of Bryan Rush, suffering from Diabetes Type II.  
**Melissa Alofalter**, Angela Martin's friend, battling an unknown medical issue.  
**Charlie Davis**, Marylou's husband, with cancer.  
**Margaret Doane**, Kristiina H.'s friend, with breast cancer.  
**Micah**, Alia's nephew, with a chronic infection and declining health.  
**Ethan and his mom, Marianne**, friends of Linda Walton, as they are dealing with major physical and emotional struggles.  
**Jackie**, Gail's piano student, diagnosed with throat cancer.  
**Theresa Knight**, spouse of Michael Knight, for her battle with breast cancer.  
**Patsy McIntyre Costin**, niece of Elaine McIntyre, with colon cancer.  
**Terry Pitt**, Collene Hedden's brother-in-law, with auto-immune disease.  
**Vicki**, Kristiina Herbst's neighbor, with health concerns.  
**Beulah & Mark** who are having health and life difficulties.

For Our Community and Beyond:

Prayers for peace in Ukraine

Prayers for peace in Israel