

Pentecost 24

November 8, 2026

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 27 (Year A)

The question of how to be prepared for Jesus' return is answered four times in today's lessons. Being ready for Jesus' return is not passivity on our part; instead, it is an active preparing, an active waiting and serving and doing justice in the world in the name of Christ. There is no reason to fear anything. Christ promised he would return in due time. We await this moment with an active and vibrant faith.



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Reading: Amos 5:18–24**Let Justice Roll Down**

The prophet Amos conveyed God's anger toward his people for their empty sacrifices and meaningless worship. He called them to act with justice rather than to offer vain gifts, and to live in righteousness rather than sing noisy songs and try to appease him with fattened calves. True peace comes not from solemn assemblies but from serving faithfully in the name of God.

Psalm 70**Deliver Me**

The psalmist cried out to God for deliverance from his enemies. He called the Lord his help and his deliverer, the one who saves his life.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18**The Return of the Lord**

Met with questions about the return of Jesus and the final resurrection of the dead, St. Paul encouraged the Thessalonian Christians not to fear. When Christ comes again, he said, those who are dead will be raised first, followed by those who are alive. Do not grieve, he told them, as those who have no hope.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:1–13**Wise and Foolish Virgins**

Jesus offered a parable about being ready for the bridegroom when he arrives. Ten virgins were awaiting that bridegroom's arrival. Before he arrived, five of the virgins found themselves without enough oil to keep their lamps going. They were advised by the wise virgins to go and buy more oil, but while they were away, the bridegroom returned and those who had left found themselves excluded from the banquet.

Suggestions for the Day:

Liturgical Color: Green

During the Season of Pentecost:

• Use either the Kyrie or the Hymn of Praise.

Encourage families to dwell in the Word of God together. Check out the NALC's Holy Families website at www.holyfamilytime.com. There is a new devotion for each day of the year!

As the topic of Christ's return is prominent in the last days of the Church year, Sola has John's *Unfolding Cosmic Drama: A Literary and Theological Analysis of Revelation*, written by Dan Lioy and George Coon along with several Bible Studies on the book of Revelation

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
Children of the Heavenly Father	474	---	725	781	201	201
Be Thou My Vision	---	776	---	793	230	230
All Depends on Our Possessing	447	---	732	589	194	194
Behold a Host, Arrayed in White	314	---	676	425	173	173
Come to Calvary's Holy Mountain	301	---	435	---	188	188
My Hope is Built on Nothing Less	294	---	576	597	192	192
Now Thank We All Our God	534	---	895	839	50	50
O Word of God Incarnate	231	---	523	514	---	***
On My Heart Imprint Your Image	102	---	422	811	52	52
Immortal, Invisible God Only Wise	526	---	802	834	40	40

The hymn suggestions above can be found in: LBW=Lutheran Book of Worship, WOV=With One Voice, ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (Augsburg Fortress); LSB=The Lutheran Service Book (Concordia Publishing), REC=The ReClaim Hymnal for Church and Home (ReClaim Resources), and *** means you can find it on SOWeR at "Hymns and Music."

CONTEMPORARY SONGS

Praise Song Titles

Hear the Call of the Bridegroom
(CCLI# 3639896)
Soon and Very Soon
(CCLI# 11249)
It Is You
(CCLI# 3001606)
Let Justice Roll
(CCLI# 6379562)
When You Return
(CCLI# 1197351)

The contemporary song suggestions above are noted by their CCLI number. To print these songs, a congregation must have a CCLI license.