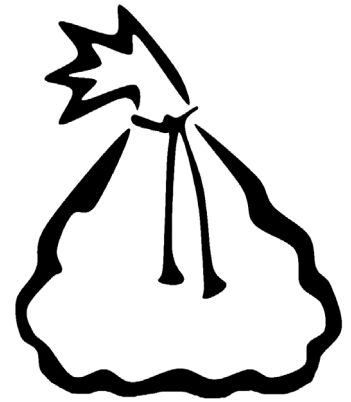


Pentecost 25

November 15, 2026

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost, Proper 28 (Year A)

The Day of the Lord is ever upon us, even though believers have been waiting for his return since his ascension long ago. Time for us is vastly different than God's time, and so we wait with anticipation and patience for the return of Christ. In the meantime we are encouraged to be good stewards of all that God has given us: investing in others, sharing His Word, and living each day with joy and mercy



THIS WEEK'S SCRIPTURE TEXTS

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7-16**God Will Intervene**

God's Word came to the prophet Zephaniah, and it was a judgment on the house of Judah. The Lord threatened to sweep away the entire tribe, to wipe them off the face of the earth. Their idolatry of Baal incensed the Lord God, who commanded them to be silent in his presence. The Great Day of the Lord was near, and it would be a day of wrath, ruin, and utter devastation.

Psalm 90:1-12**God, the Everlasting One**

The psalmist sang of the everlasting nature of God for whom a thousand years is like one day. Secret sins are brought to light in the sight of the God of the ages.

Second Reading: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**The Coming Day of the Lord**

The day of the Lord will come suddenly like a thief in the night. It will be like the sudden onset of labor pains of a mother ready to give birth. Paul urged the Christians at Thessalonica to keep awake, be sober, do not sleep or fail to be ready, for the coming of the Lord is near. Those who believe bear the marks of faith and are not destined for wrath, but for salvation through Christ.

Gospel Reading: Matthew 25:14-30**Parable of the Talents**

Jesus taught about stewardship by using a story about a master who entrusted his property to his servants' care while he was away. Two invested what they had been given, realizing a profit before the master's return. One, however, buried his portion in the ground. The master returned to judge the "worthless servant."

Suggestions for the Day:

Liturgical Color: Green

During the Season of Pentecost:

• Use either the Kyrie or the Hymn of Praise.

How do we balance the wrathful words of Zephaniah with the grace God has shown us through Christ? Should we be terrified of a judgment day that leaves us in darkness and under rubble? Or should we look forward to the coming Day of the Lord that bring salvation for the faithful? Paul comforts the Thessalonians by reminding them of God's love and that his love has become our love for the world. We are to watch with joyful anticipation for Christ, not sit still and be slothful in our service to Him.

SUGGESTED HYMNS FOR WORSHIP

Hymn Titles:

	LBW	WOV	LSB	ELW	REC	Sola
All Who Believe and Are Baptized	194	---	601	442	75	75
Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending	27	---	336	435	---	---
Chief of Sinners Though I Be	306	---	611	609	187	187
Christ, the Life of All the Living	97	---	420	339	218	218
Come, Thou Almighty King	522	---	905	408	247	247
How Great Thou Art	532	---	801	856	26	26
Great is Thy Faithfulness	---	771	809	733	211	211
Here in this Place (Gather Us In)	---	718	---	532	---	---
O God, Our Help in Ages Past	320	---	733	632	225	225
Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence	198	---	621	490	80	80

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

Everlasting God
(CCLI# 4556538)
Ten Talents
(CCLI# 5364107)
Make Me A Servant
(CCLI# 33131)
Better is One Day
(CCLI# 1097451)
Cry of My Heart
(CCLI# 844980)

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