



23rd Sunday After Pentecost

November 8, 2020



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Introduction

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the lamb.

Welcome to Worship

Confession and Forgiveness

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

All Amen.

P Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

[Silence is kept for reflection](#)

Holy One,

All 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.

P Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.
Through ✝ Jesus you are forgiven,
by Jesus you are welcome,
in Jesus you are called to rejoice!
Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world.

All Amen.

Opening Song

The Heart of Worship

Verse 1

When the music fades all is stripped away and I simply come
Longing just to bring something that's of worth
That will bless Your heart

Pre-Chorus

I'll bring You more than a song
For a song in itself is not what You have required
You search much deeper within through the way things appear
You're looking into my heart

Chorus

I'm coming back to the heart of worship
And it's all about You all about You Jesus

I'm sorry Lord for the thing I've made it
When it's all about You all about You Jesus

Verse 2

King of endless worth no one could express how much You
deserve

Though I'm weak and poor all I have is Yours
Ev'ry single breath *Pre-Chorus*

CCLI Song # 2296522

Matt Redman

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The Greeting

P The Lord be with you!

All And also with you!

Prayer of the Day

P O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son.

All Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

A Reading from Amos, the 5th chapter

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

¹⁸ Alas for you who desire the day of the LORD!

Why do you want the day of the LORD?

It is darkness, not light;

¹⁹as if someone fled from a lion,
and was met by a bear;
or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall,
and was bitten by a snake.

²⁰Is not the day of the LORD darkness, not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹I hate, I despise your festivals,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals
I will not look upon.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;
I will not listen to the melody of your harps.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Amos 5:18-24

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

A Reading from 1 Thessalonians, the 4th chapter

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

¹³We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope.

¹⁴For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise

first. ¹⁷Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

L The word of the Lord

All Thanks be to God!

Gospel Reading

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

All Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. ¹¹Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

Matthew 25:1-13

P The Gospel of our Lord.

All Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Pr. Gordon Young

Apostles' Creed

P Let us join together with the saints across the ages confessing our faith with the words of the Apostles' 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 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.**

Prayers of Intercession

L Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

(each prayer petition ends with)

L: Hear us, O God. *All:* **Your mercy is great.**

Or

L: Lord, in your mercy, *All:* **hear our prayer.**

The Great Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

P The Lord be with you

All And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give God thanks and praise.

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

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
We proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

All Amen! Come Lord Jesus!

The Lord's Prayer

P Gathered together in this new dawn, let us pray the prayer Jesus taught us.

**All Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,**

All 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.

The Invitation and The Meal

P There is a place for you at the banquet.
Come and feast at Jesus' table.

Sharing the Meal

Post Communion Blessing and Prayer

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

All Amen

P Let us pray,

We give you thanks, gracious God,
that you have once again fed us with food beyond compare,
the body and blood of Christ.

All Lead us from this place, nourished and forgiven,
into your beloved vineyard
to wipe away the tears of all who hunger and thirst,
guided by the example of the same Jesus Christ
and led by the Holy Spirit, now and forever. Amen.

Stewardship of Life & Ministry Announcements

Benediction

P 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.

All Amen.

Sending Song

Soon and Very Soon

Soon and very soon we're goin' to see the King.
Soon and very soon we're goin' to see the King.
Soon and very soon we're goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King.

No more cryin' there, we're goin' to see the King.
No more cryin' there, we're goin' to see the King.
No more cryin' there, we're goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King.

No more dyin' there, we're goin' to see the King.
No more dyin' there, we're goin' to see the King.
No more dyin' there, we're goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King.

Soon and very soon we're goin' to see the King.
Soon and very soon we're goin' to see the King.
Soon and very soon we're goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King.

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Dismissal

P Rejoice in hope, be patient in suffering, persevere in prayer.
Contribute to the needs of the saints; extend hospitality to strangers.

Romans 12:12-13

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

All Thanks be to God.

YOU KNOW, SOME OF
JESUS' STORIES ARE KIND
OF **UNBELIEVABLE!**



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YOU
THINK?



YEAH! STAYING UP ALL
NIGHT WAITING FOR
SOMETHING TO HAPPEN?
REALLY!?



MATTHEW 25:1-13

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Readings for next Sunday,
November 15th

First Reading:	Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18
Psalm:	Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 12
Second Reading:	1 Thessalonians 5:1-11
Gospel:	Matthew 25:14-30

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