

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

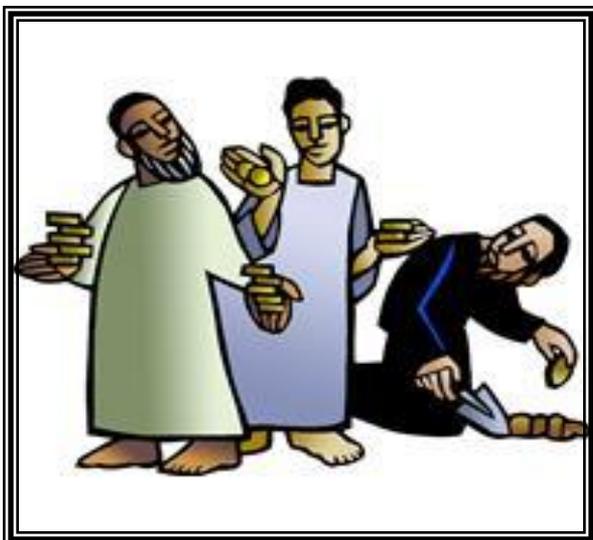
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24th Sunday after Pentecost

Matthew 25:18

¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

To listen to the service, please turn your radio to

FM 88.9

Thank you for joining our service today.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Prelude

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness

Lutherans understand that sin is separation from God. Inherited from Adam we, human beings, are unable to love God from all our hearts, minds, and souls. Sin is not merely making mistakes or saying mean words or mistreating ourselves and our neighbors. Sin is that we are away from love of God. What are things that are taking you away from God past week?

This morning we use this time of confession to express our fear to God. Jesus repeatedly said to his followers, “Do not be afraid.” Fear can easily consume us and separate us from the love of God. Let us name some our fears this morning.

We will take a few minutes of silence to bring our fears to God.
You may use this space to write them down.

Then, we will hear the word of gracious God together.

P: Jesus said, “Very truly, I tell you, everyone who commits sin is a slave to sin. The slave does not have a permanent place in the household; the son has a place there forever. So if the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed.” (John 8:34-35) Our sins are forgiven in the name of † Jesus Christ. Led by the Holy Spirit, live in freedom and newness to do God’s work in the world. Amen.

Hymn **“Oh Happy Day When We Shall Stand”** ELW441

Word

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

Scripture Reading

Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then 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.’ ²¹His 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.’ ²²And 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.’ ²³His 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.’ ²⁴Then 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; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But 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?’ ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For 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. ³⁰As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’ ”

L: Word of God, word of life. **C:** **Thanks be to God.**

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

Message

Hymn

“As Saints of Old”

ELW#695

Hymn will be played. You may hum along.

Prayer

L: The Lord be with you. C: **And also with you.**

L: With confidence in God’s grace and mercy, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need. Merciful God we give thanks to you that you give us new life every day. Strengthen us to be your hands and feet to the world you love.

We especially pray

for your church and its ministry of love,
for your creation
for those who govern nations of the world
for all who work for peace
for the hungry and the oppressed
for the sick, the despairing, or suffering
for those who are grieving.

Additional prayer will be lifted here.

L: All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, O God, for the sake of Christ who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

Amen

Prayer will conclude with the Lord’s Prayer.

Leader will lead the Lord’s Prayer and you may pray in silence.

Sending

God bless us and send us in mission to the world.

Blessing and Dismissal

P: The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord’s face shine on us with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace. **Amen.**

P: Go in peace. Christ is with us. **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

“Lord of Light”

ELW #688

