

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity

18 November 2018 Anno Domini

INTROIT (*Ps. 31:1-2a, 5, 24; antiphon: Ps. 31:9a, 15b, 17a*)



*Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am | in distress;**
rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my perse- | cutors!

O LORD, let me not be | put to shame,*

For I call up- | on you.

*In you, O LORD, do I take | refuge;**

let me never be | put to shame.

*In your righteousness de- | liver me;**

incline your ear to me; rescue me | speedily!

*Into your hand I commit my | spirit;**

you have redeemed me, O LORD, | faithful God.

Be strong, and let your heart take | courage,*

all you who wait | for the LORD!

*Glory be to the Father and | to the Son**

and to the Holy | Spirit;

*as it was in the be- | ginning,**

is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

*Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am | in distress;**

rescue me from the hand of my enemies and from my pers- | cutors!

O LORD, let me not be | put to shame,*

for I call up- | on you.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

Almighty God, we implore You, show Your mercy to Your humble servants that we, who put no trust in our own merits, may not be dealt with after the severity of Your judgment but according to Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

GRADUAL (*Rev. 7:14b; Ps. 84:5*)

*Your foes have roared in the midst of your | meeting place;**

they set up their own | signs for signs.

*Remember your congregation, which you have pur- | chased of old,**

which you have redeemed to be the tribe of your | heritage!

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 32:1-20

'When the people saw that Moses delayed to come down from the mountain, the people gathered themselves together to Aaron and said to him, "Up, make us gods who shall go before us. As for this Moses, the man who brought us up out of the land of Egypt, we do not know what has become of him." "So Aaron said to them, "Take off the rings of gold that are in the ears of your wives, your sons, and your daughters, and bring them to me." "So all the people took off the rings of gold that were in their ears and brought them to Aaron. 'And he received the gold from their hand and fashioned it with a graving tool and made a golden calf. And they said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" "When Aaron saw this, he built an altar before it. And Aaron made proclamation and said, "Tomorrow shall be a feast to the LORD." "And they rose up early the next day and offered burnt offerings and brought peace offerings. And the people sat down to eat and drink and rose up to play.

'And the LORD said to Moses, "Go down, for your people, whom you brought up out of the land of Egypt, have corrupted themselves. "They have turned aside quickly out of the way that I commanded them. "They have made for themselves a golden calf and have worshiped it and sacrificed to it and said, "These are your gods, O Israel, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt!" "And the LORD said to Moses, "I have seen this people, and behold, it is a stiff-necked people. "Now therefore let me alone, that my wrath may burn hot against them and I may consume them, in order that I may make a great nation of you."

"But Moses implored the LORD his God and said, "O LORD, why does your wrath burn hot against your people, whom you have brought out of the land of Egypt with great power and with a mighty hand? "Why should the Egyptians say, "With evil intent did he bring them out, to kill them in the mountains and to consume them from the face of the earth?" Turn from your burning anger and relent from this disaster against your people. "Remember Abraham, Isaac, and Israel, your servants, to whom you swore by your own self, and said to them, 'I will multiply your offspring as the stars of heaven, and all this land that I have promised I will give to your offspring, and they shall inherit it forever.'" "And the LORD relented from the disaster that he had spoken of bringing on his people.

"Then Moses turned and went down from the mountain with the two tablets of the testimony in his hand, tablets that were written on both sides; on the front and on the back they were written. "The tablets were the work of God, and the writing was the writing of God, engraved on the tablets. "When Joshua heard the noise of the people as they shouted, he said to Moses, "There

is a noise of war in the camp." "But he said, "It is not the sound of shouting for victory, or the sound of the cry of defeat, but the sound of singing that I hear."

"And as soon as he came near the camp and saw the calf and the dancing, Moses' anger burned hot, and he threw the tablets out of his hands and broke them at the foot of the mountain. He took the calf that they had made and burned it with fire and ground it to powder and scattered it on the water and made the people of Israel drink it.

Epistle Reading: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

"But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. "For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. "For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. "For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. "Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. "Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 24:15-28

"So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), "then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains. "Let the one who is on the housetop not go down to take what is in his house, "and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. "And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! "Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath. "For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be. "And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short. "Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There he is!' do not believe it. "For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. "See, I have told you beforehand. "So, if they say to you, 'Look, he is in the wilderness,' do not go out. If they say, 'Look, he is in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. "For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. "Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather.

²⁵ See, I have told you beforehand. ²⁶ So, if they say to you, 'Look, he is in the wilderness,' do not go out. If they say, 'Look, he is in the inner rooms,' do not believe it.

- Jesus predicts all of these things beforehand, showing His divine nature and the truthfulness of his promises.
- The return of Christ will be instantaneous and from the sky (Matthew 24:27; Acts 1:11). He will not be in a place where man will seek Him, but His appearing will be manifest to all.

²⁷ For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

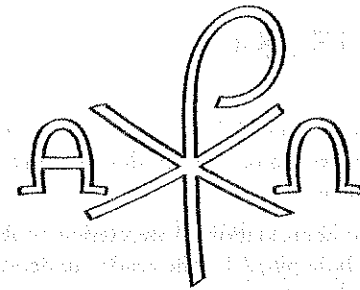
- The Church is continually watching for the return of Christ, even as Jesus says in this passage. To confess this reality, the Church saw fit whenever possible to orient their church buildings so that the congregation was facing east toward the altar, the direction from whence the Lord will appear. This was to teach the people that they were to continually watch for His coming (Matthew 24:42).
- "Certain signs will announce the coming of Jerusalem's destruction. But no special signs will announce the judgement of the world...when the world has become a hopeless, polluting carcass, the end will come, without special preceding signs, suddenly, unexpectedly." (Fred Lindemann, *The Sermon and The Propers*, 176)

²⁸ Wherever the corpse is, there the vultures will gather."

- When God's people face hardships and suffering, false teachers and sectarians try to entice them toward false belief and reliance upon things other than God's Word and Sacraments. This only ends in despair or a delusional existence. As long as God's people endure suffering in this world, there will always be false teachers, spurred on by the devil and their own flesh, which descend upon them like vultures, promising them comfort and peace which they can never deliver. God's people take refuge in what God has revealed us and in no other earthly comfort.



www.steadfastlutherans.org/parish



THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER TRINITY

Study Notes for the Christian Layperson

by: Rev. Brandon Ross

Collect of the Day:

Almighty God, we implore You, show Your mercy to Your humble servants that we, who put no trust in our own merits, may not be dealt with after the severity of Your judgment but according to Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Introit:

Psalm 31:1-2a, 5, 24 (antiphon: Psalm 31:9a, 15b, 17a) — *In You, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame*

Psalm:

Psalm 14 (antiphon: v. 7) — *The fool says in his heart, "There is no God."*

Old Testament Reading:

Exodus 32:1-20 — *The people of Israel commit idolatry and worship the golden calf*

Gradual:

Psalm 74:4, 2a — *Remember Your congregation, which You have purchased of old*

Epistle:

1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 — *The coming of the Lord Jesus and the resurrection of the body*

Verse:

Psalm 46:4 — *Alleluia. There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. Alleluia.*

MATTHEW 24:15-28 ESV

Author and Date:

Matthew Levi the apostle around AD 50. This reading comes in the last major discourse of Jesus in Matthew's gospel which describes signs to come in Jerusalem and at the coming judgement.

¹⁵ "So when you see the abomination of desolation spoken of by the prophet Daniel, standing in the holy place (let the reader understand), ¹⁶ then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains.

- Jesus alludes here to a prophecy in the book of Daniel (9:27) which was fulfilled in 167 BC, when the Seleucid king Antiochus profaned the Jerusalem temple by building an altar to Zeus on top of the altar for burnt offerings (1 Maccabees 1:54-59). Jesus uses this allusion to say that again the temple will be defiled. The Romans desecrated and tore down the Temple in 70 AD. Christians living in Jerusalem indeed would flee before the Romans besieged the city.
- "For this reason God announces besides His miracles with clear and plain prophesies that [the Jews'] kingdom shall have an end and that God has abolished the external reign of the law, meats, offerings, etc., as the angel announced to the virgin concerning Christ, as recorded in Luke 1: 'And He shall reign over the house of Jacob forever; and of His kingdom there shall be no end.'" (Martin Luther, Sermon for the 25th Sunday after Trinity)

¹⁷ Let the one who is on the housetop not go down to take what is in his house, ¹⁸ and let the one who is in the field not turn back to take his cloak. ¹⁹ And alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days!

- The fall of Jerusalem was indeed imminent, so those who were able should flee at the first signs of trouble.
- Indeed, the Roman consul Cestius Gallus would lay an unsuccessful siege to Jerusalem in 66 AD. It was then that many heeded the Lord's Word and left all that they had behind. The general Titus would lay successful siege to Jerusalem and destroy it in 70 AD.

²⁰ Pray that your flight may not be in winter or on a Sabbath.

- Jesus exhorts the people to not be lazy with their planning to leave the city. Here we see the compassion of Jesus who cares not only for our eternal salvation but also for our earthly well-being.
- "Therefore Jesus admonishes His disciples that they should not postpone their flight to the Sabbath, when they did not dare journey; nor to the winter, when it would be cold; but that they should depart, the sooner the better; that if they hesitate, an inconvenient time to flee would come. (Martin Luther, Sermon for the 25th Sunday after Trinity)

²¹ For then there will be great tribulation, such as has not been from the beginning of the world until now, no, and never will be.

- The siege of Jerusalem was an atrocity on a mammoth scale. Josephus reports that the siege of 70 AD took place when tens of thousands of pilgrims were in Jerusalem for Passover. The seven month siege, battle, and subsequent sickness and starvation claimed 1 million lives according to Josephus, not including Roman casualties.
- "Do not let anyone suppose the he's merely speaking in hyperbole. All you need to do is study the writings of Josephus [*The Jewish War*] to learn the truth of these predictions. No one who knows the fact of history can say that Christian believers have exaggerated this tragic history or been any part in trying to see that Christ's words were fulfilled." (St. John Chrysostom, The Gospel of Matthew, Homily 76.1)

²² And if those days had not been cut short, no human being would be saved. But for the sake of the elect those days will be cut short.

- The elect are those who have heard and believe the Gospel. It is for their sake that the tribulation ends, otherwise the atrocity of the siege of Jerusalem would claim every involved human life.
- In the Lutheran Churches of the 16th and 17th century, Josephus' account of the fall of Jerusalem was read in the Divine Service for the 10th Sunday after Trinity, the Sunday when we hear that Jesus laments over Jerusalem. The tribulation that Jesus describes here is the reason that He weeps over Jerusalem, His people.

²³ Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There he is!' do not believe it. ²⁴ For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect.

- This same delusion still persists to our day, when churches and cults claim to be representations of Jesus when their doctrine undermines the very Word which Jesus gives to his Church.
- "For also now, what do all the various denominations of our day call to the Christians with one voice other than, 'Here is Christ, there is Christ'? Those opposed to organized religion cry, 'Here is Christ!'...The Papists cry, 'Here is Christ! For wherever the Pope, his substitute, is, only there you find Christ and his true church. See how many beautiful churches we build'...One joins himself to the crowd of mockers, a second seeks refuge in the great and splendid temple of the papists, a third abandons the old faith of his fathers, becomes a victim of the enthusiasts and now considers only a powerful excitement of his feelings to be true Christianity. Poor casualties of seductive spirits! May God himself look upon this. (C.F.W. Walther, Sermon for Trinity 25, translated by Aaron Jensen)

News and Notes of Interest

Please use our new Narthex to enter and exit the Sanctuary!

After the early service, join us from 9:15am-9:30am for Coffee & Goodies in the new Fellowship Hall! Stick around for Sunday School and Adult Bible Class from 9:30am-10:15am! We are currently studying the Old Testament book of Leviticus in our Adult study.

SUNDAY SCHOOL and WEDNESDAY FAMILY NIGHT have resumed! May the Lord richly bless all parents, youth, children, teachers and volunteers as we gather around God's Word, that we may grow together in fear and love of our Lord!

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK: 11/18 Barbie Hoins
11/19 Victoria Nissen 11/20 Emily Nissen 11/22 Lyla Russell
11/23 Bruce Black

BAPTISMAL ANNIVERSARIES: 11/19 Jerry Blazer 11/23
Alexx Uecker, Izzy Uecker, Maxx Uecker, Annalicia Potter
11/24 Donna Fowler
Nov. 18-24th No Wedding Anniversaries

HIGER THINGS DEVOTIONALS & PORTALS OF PRAYER available in the Narthex November 4th -December 1, 2018. Please check in this weeks bulletin for Bulletin Study Notes for the Christian Layperson.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25TH -L.W.M.L. is sponsoring a carry-in dinner for the Mackay Family following 10:30am service. Bring your favorite family dish.

LADIES OF PEACE: Please sign up by Monday, Nov. 26th, for L.W.M.L. Christmas Dinner held on Sunday, Dec. 2nd table in the Narthex. Thanks, Diane Gundlach

HUMAN CARE COMMITTEE: "SOCK DRIVE"
Now Collecting all sizes of new "SOCKS" for families from California Fire areas. Please show your SUPPORT!
NARTHEX CONTAINER, THANKS!

YOUTH SERVICE PROJECT - Food Boxes: Now Collecting dry goods, canned food, and non-perishable items until Sunday, Dec. 16th, 2018. Thanks For Your Support

LIFEQUOTE "God is the ultimate Designer. He designed the greatest good the world has ever seen to come from the most heinous evil mankind has ever produced. You are never too stained for God to love. When you are feeling weak and foolish, give thanks to God for that, because that's exactly the kind of person that God likes to use." *Rev. Dan Larsen is pastor of Bethany Lutheran Church, Wabasso, Minnesota, and Trinity Lutheran Church, Sanborn, Minnesota - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org*

DECLARING TO YOU THE WHOLE COUNSEL OF GOD...Issues, Etc. is a radio talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio in Collinsville, IL and hosted by LCMS Pastor Todd Wilken. This week's teachings include: The Movie "The Nutcracker," The Book of Joel, Hallowed By Thy Name, Responding to Calvinist Proof Texts and more. You can listen at your convenience at www.issuesetc.org and on the LPR mobile app.

LCMS STEWARDSHIP (Trinity 25)

1 Thess. 4:13 - "But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope." Christians are different from unbelievers. Our trust in Christ changes us. Our hope in Christ means that we don't grieve in the same way that unbelievers grieve: we know what comes after death. We don't treat our time or money in the same way as unbelievers either. We start each week with a sacrifice of our time as we come to the Lord's House to hear His Word and receive His Sacraments. And we also set aside a generous, first-fruits proportion of our income for the support of the Lord's work in His Church. Our faith changes us and our actions ... we don't do anything as others do who have no hope.

Twenty-fifth Sunday after Trinity

November 18th
8:00am & 10:30am



Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod

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Pastor Marcus J. Mackay peacemackay@gmail.com

Cell 402-831-1084 Parsonage 402-462-9800

Welcome to Peace!

We are glad that you are here as we gather around the Word and Sacraments of our Lord Jesus Christ! If you have not already done so, we ask that you sign the Guest Book at the entrance to the church. Contact information can be written in the Fellowship Book located in the aisle side of each pew. If you do not have a church home and are interested in becoming a member here at Peace, please contact Pastor Mackay 402-831-1084.

The Lord's Supper is a Gift. . . . and as with all our Lord's gifts, we desire to give and receive them as He intends. The Lord's Supper is for our benefit, but it can be received unworthily. *"Therefore whoever eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of sinning against the body and blood of the Lord"* (1 Corinthians 11:27). Therefore, in faithfulness to our Lord, and in love for you, Peace follows the practice of closed communion. If you are a fellow LCMS member, please let Pastor or an Elder know beforehand!

All Guests should visit with our pastor before coming to the Altar to receive the Lord's Supper. If you do not have opportunity to visit with our Pastor prior to the service, he is more than willing to visit with you during the week.

The Divine Service utilizes beautiful Liturgies and Hymns that the Christian Church has passed down for generations, all the while retelling the story of salvation and enacting the work of Christ among us. This bulletin contains an outline to assist you in locating the various parts of the service within our Hymnal. The inserts have the Scriptures & Propers for the Day, as well as Notes about this particular Sunday or Festival of the church year. May God strengthen you today with His Word and Sacrament!

Prayers of the Church

Mourning + Family of Bob Korth + Family of Norma Metzger + Family of Norma Hanson + Family of Anita Bennett + Family of Chuck Thecsen **Expecting** + Sara Armon + Erica Siebert + Kayla Reutzler + Jessica (Jay Jay) Morgan **Holy Matrimony** + Roger & Julie (Klatt) Volk + Matt & Andrea (Hesterman) Simianer **Divine Call** + Pastor Mackay & family **Hospice, Surgery, or Hospitalization** + Walt Irmer + Ethel Schukei + Ronda Johnson + Angel Adz + Ramona Holtzen + Deb Johnson + Al Kress **Health Issues** + Tammy Alber + Kent Cohagan + Lindsay Brettman + Lisa Brettman + Margret Herbert + Jean Thom + Carol Smith + Randy Russell **Cancer** + Kathy Sneed + Barbara Classan + Andy Jacques + Ed Elshof + Marilyn Houston **Military** + Gary Thompson + Ross Peters

In His Service

Presiding Minister: Rev. Marcus J. Mackay
Organist: Dr. Phil Hesterman Cantor: Mr. David Witt A/V: Tim Yurk
Altar Guild: Nov. Lisa N., Janelle H. Dec. Michaela Novak, Sandy Nissen
Ushers: 8:00am Roger B., Whitney R., Jeri D., 10:30am Harold & Janelle Ham
Elders: 11/18 Ernesto A. 402-705-3472 11/25 Dale G. 308-641-6658
Bus Drivers: 11/18 Gary O. 402-469-9797 11/25 Wes C. 402-984-4650

Gifts of Time and Treasure

<u>Last Week's Attendance</u>	183	<u>YTD Avg Weekly Attendance</u>	152
<u>Last Week's Offering</u>	\$ 1,970.00	<u>Jan-Oct Income</u>	\$ 126,902.00
<u>Weekly Need</u>	\$ 3,378.85	<u>Jan-Oct Expense</u>	\$ 159,734.00

OTD II Capital Campaign Remaining Loan Balance as of 10/31/18 \$ 190,222.00

*A complete accounting of all financials are provided at each Quarterly Voters' Meeting.
Questions? Contact our Treasurer, Mrs. Jan Hinz jan@balancedbooksllc.com*

The Lord's Week

Sunday, November 18th	8:00am	Divine Service
	9:30am	Quarterly Voters' Meeting-Budget & Elections
	10:30am	Divine Service
Monday, November 19th	7:00pm	Right to Life Board
Tuesday, November 20th	4:00pm	Volunteers set-up Nativity Scene
Wednesday, November 21st	7:00pm	Thanksgiving Eve Worship
Thursday, November 22nd		Thanksgiving Day - Office Closed
Sunday, November 25th	8:00am	Divine Service
	9:30am	Sunday School & Bible Study
	10:30am	Divine Service
	12:00pm	Noon carry-in Farewell Dinner-Mackay Family

*Church Office hours are 9:00am to 12:00 noon and 1:00pm to 4:00pm, Monday through Friday.
The office may be closed on occasion due to holidays and errands. Our Secretary is Mrs. Jeri Dush,
Church Office 402-462-9023 or peacelutheranastings@gmail.com*

Faith Comes By Hearing the Word of Christ

"The kingdom of God is not coming with signs to be observed" (Luke 17:20). You must use your ears and not your eyes. For God's kingdom in this world is one of faith, and faith comes by hearing the Word of Christ. The people of Israel, however, wanted to walk not by faith but by sight. When Moses delayed in coming down the mountain, they decided to make a visible god for themselves, the golden calf (Ex. 32:1). Upon such faithless and false worshipers God's judgment comes. Only on the Last Day will our faith be turned to sight. "For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man" (Matt. 24:27). The Lord Himself will descend from heaven with a shout, and He will gather His people to Himself, both the living and the dead. In a world in which our days are few and full of trouble (Job 14:1), let us comfort one another with these words of the resurrection and the coming of our Lord Jesus.

Prelude & Ringing of Bells	
Hymn	#726
Confession & Absolution	p.184
Service of the Word	
Introit	<i>insert</i>
Gloria Patri	p.186
Kyrie	
Gloria in Excelsis	
Salutation & Collect	
Old Testament Reading	
Gradual	
Epistle Reading	
Alleluia & Verse	
Gospel Reading	
Nicene Creed	
Hymn of the Day	#658
Sermon	Mt. 24:27
<i>"He Comes & Shines"</i>	
Offertory & Offering	p.192
Prayer of the Church	
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Preface & Proper Preface	p.194
Sanctus & Lord's Prayer	
The Words of our Lord	
Pax Domini & Agnus Dei	
Distribution	#630 #801 #461
Dismissal & Nunc Dimittis	
Thanksgiving & Collect	
Salutation & Benedicamus	
Benediction	
Hymn	#816
Postlude	