# **Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost**

November 16 and 17, 2025



God's Judgment Gives Us Peace



198 Westridge Avenue, Burlington, Wisconsin 262-763-8229 | stjohnsburlington.org Pastor Kirk Lahmann | Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue

#### Welcome to Worship

Thank you for joining us for worship today! We are honored that you are with us. We pray that the Word of God you hear will strengthen your faith and increase your love for the Lord! Please fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in an offering plate, located near the sanctuary doors, as you leave worship. If you are a guest, know that we are thankful you have joined us and hope that you will join us again soon.

#### **Prepare for Worship**

To prepare for worship, read through the service focus and the Scripture readings. Ponder the words of the Psalm of the Day. Spend time in prayer, using the prayers on the inside cover of the hymnal or on pages 255-258. For those intending to receive the Lord's Supper, read through the "Christian Questions" on pages 295-296. Consider reading through portions of the Small Catechism on pages 286-293.

#### Today's Focus for Worship - God's Judgement Gives Us Peace

If you were making a list of things that might make society more peaceful, would you include "more judgment"? Likely not. Many people assume that judgment leads to conflict, not peace. However, a lack of judgment is a luxury many cannot afford. When we are horribly wronged, what are our options? Taking matters into our own hands? Despair? Jesus provides a better option. Trust that he will keep his promise to return, bringing judgment. The effect of that promise? We have peace, knowing that every wrong will eventually be righted by the one righteous Judge.

#### **Serving at Worship**

Presiding Minister: Pastor Kirk Lahmann Preacher: Pastor Kenneth Rodrigue Accompanist: Stephen Radsek

### Acknowledgments

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# **Gathering Rite**

## on Holy Baptism

Stand

Invocation

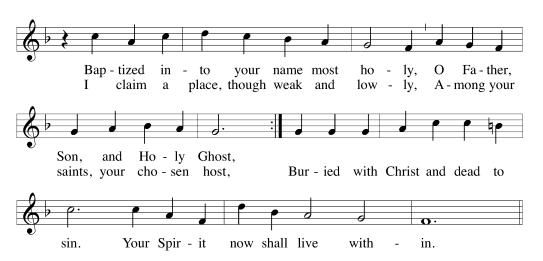


Matthew 18:20; 28:19-20

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** 

#### **Gathering Rite Hymn**

Baptized into Your Name Most Holy



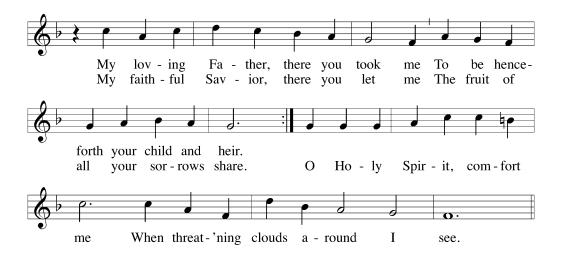
Very truly I tell you, no one can enter the kingdom of God unless they are born of water and the Spirit.

John 3:5-6

Flesh gives birth to flesh, but the Spirit gives birth to spirit.

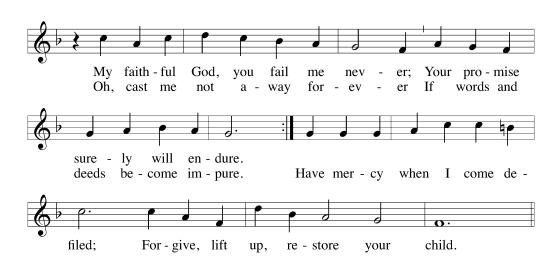
Surely I was sinful at birth, sinful from the time my mother conceived me. But you were washed, you were sanctified, you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus Christ and by the Spirit of our God.

Psalm 51:5 1 Corinthians 6:11



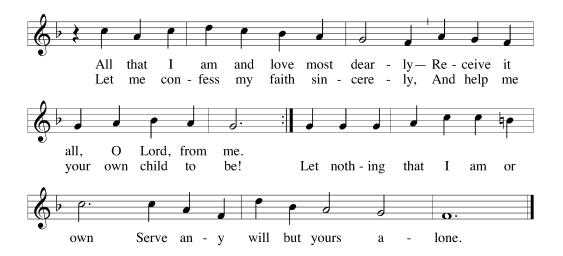
As baptized children of God, we confess our sins.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.



God saved us through the washing of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit and united us to the death and resurrection of Jesus. Every day God forgives your sins, removes your guilt, and strengthens you to defeat Satan's power. His promise is for you and your children, and he will never forsake you. Your sins are forgiven. You are clothed with Christ. You are at peace with God now and forever.

Amen.



### The Word

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.



#### Prayer of the Day

Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and to the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith and present us at last holy and blameless before you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

First Reading Malachi 4:1-6

"Surely the day is coming; it will burn like a furnace. All the arrogant and every evildoer will be stubble, and the day that is coming will set them on fire," says the LORD Almighty. "Not a root or a branch will be left to them. <sup>2</sup> But for you who revere my name, the sun of righteousness will rise with healing in its rays. And you will go out and frolic like well-fed calves. <sup>3</sup> Then you will trample on the wicked; they will be ashes under the soles of your feet on the day when I act," says the LORD Almighty.

<sup>4</sup> "Remember the law of my servant Moses, the decrees and laws I gave him at Horeb for all Israel.

<sup>5</sup> "See, I will send the prophet Elijah to you before that great and dreadful day of the LORD comes. <sup>6</sup> He will turn the hearts of the parents to their children, and the hearts of the children to their parents; or else I will come and strike the land with total destruction."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day

O God, Our Help in Ages Past (Psalm 90) | 820



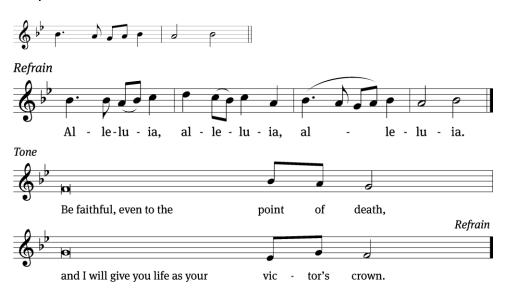
<sup>5</sup> All this is evidence that God's judgment is right, and as a result you will be counted worthy of the kingdom of God, for which you are suffering. <sup>6</sup> God is just: He will pay back trouble to those who trouble you <sup>7</sup> and give relief to you who are troubled, and to us as well. This will happen when the Lord Jesus is revealed from heaven in blazing fire with his powerful angels. <sup>8</sup> He will punish those who do not know God and do not obey the gospel of our Lord Jesus. <sup>9</sup> They will be punished with everlasting destruction and shut out from the presence of the Lord and from the glory of his might <sup>10</sup> on the day he comes to be glorified in his holy people and to be marveled at among all those who have believed. This includes you, because you believed our testimony to you.

The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

Stand

#### **Gospel Acclamation**



Gospel Luke 21:5-19

<sup>5</sup>Some of his disciples were remarking about how the temple was adorned with beautiful stones and with gifts dedicated to God. But Jesus said, <sup>6</sup>"As for what you see here, the time will come when not one stone will be left on another; every one of them will be thrown down."

<sup>7</sup> "Teacher," they asked, "when will these things happen? And what will be the sign that they are about to take place?"

<sup>8</sup> He replied: "Watch out that you are not deceived. For many will come in my name, claiming, 'I am he,' and, 'The time is near.' Do not follow them. <sup>9</sup> When you hear of wars and uprisings, do not be frightened. These things must happen first, but the end will not come right away."

<sup>10</sup> Then he said to them: "Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. <sup>11</sup> There will be great earthquakes, famines and pestilences in various places, and fearful events and great signs from heaven.

<sup>12</sup> "But before all this, they will seize you and persecute you. They will hand you over to synagogues and put you in prison, and you will be brought before kings and governors, and all on account of my name. <sup>13</sup> And so you will bear testimony to me. <sup>14</sup> But make up your mind not to worry beforehand how you will defend yourselves. <sup>15</sup> For I will give you words and wisdom that none of your adversaries will be able to resist or contradict. <sup>16</sup> You will be betrayed even by parents, brothers and sisters, relatives and friends, and they will put some of you to death. <sup>17</sup> Everyone will hate you because of me. <sup>18</sup> But not a hair of your head will perish. <sup>19</sup> Stand firm, and you will win life."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day

The King Will Come at Age's End | 489

Sermon 2 Thessalonians 1:5-10

The Just Judge's Judgment

Stand

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Be seated

Anthem (8:00)

Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia | 466

*Grades 3-4 sing stanzas 1-3. The congregation joins to sing stanzas 4-5.* 

#### **Prayer of the Church**

Psalm 98:2

Lord Jesus Christ, judge of all the earth, we marvel at your glory and might and eagerly await your second coming.

Lord, make your salvation known. Reveal your righteousness to the nations.

Keep vain and foolish thoughts from our minds so that we are not distracted from the true treasure of your gospel, but that we stand firm until we receive the crown of life from you. Lord, make your salvation known. Reveal your righteousness to the nations.

You are the Lord and judge of the nations. Let the ends of the earth see your salvation that people everywhere may know you as King of kings and Lord of lords.

Lord, make your salvation known. Reveal your righteousness to the nations.

Around us we see the birth pangs of the last days: war, famine, earthquakes, false prophets and spiritual apathy. With these, remind us that your coming is nearer now than when we first believed.

Lord, make your salvation known. Reveal your righteousness to the nations.

You always have mercy on those who suffer. In your wisdom and power, make suffering work for your good purpose until that day when you deliver your people from all evil and take us home to yourself.

Lord, make your salvation known. Reveal your righteousness to the nations.

Lord Jesus, you have revealed to us that heaven and earth will pass away and that we all must appear before your judgment throne. Keep us in your Word and graciously defend us in all temptations that we may trust fully in your grace as we joyfully await your appearing in glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. **Amen.** 

Offering 2 Corinthians 9:7

Offerings given in thanks to the Lord are brought to the Lord's altar. We ask all worshipers to fill out a "Welcome to Worship" card (found in the hymnal racks) and place it in the offering plates at the sanctuary doors following the service.

Hymn

The Day Is Surely Drawing Near | 488

Stand

### **Closing Collect**

Lord Almighty, you have set the day and the hour for the end of this world and of this present age. Keep your gospel in our hearts and minds that we may remain steadfast in your Word and holding on to your promise until the end; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever **Amen.** 

Lord's Prayer Pater Noster

Matthew 6:9-13

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Be seated

**Closing Hymn** 

The Church's One Foundation | 855

