



November 16, 2025 – Twenty-Third Sunday after Pentecost

AS WE GATHER

During holy week, some were talking about the temple, admiring its adornment and noble stones. Rather than join them in their admiration, Jesus uses this as an opportunity to teach about things to come. He speaks of the destruction of the temple (Luke 21:5-19), the destruction of Jerusalem (Luke 21:20-24), and the end of the world when He will return (Luke 21:25-28). While much of this text is historically specific to the destruction of the temple and Jerusalem in the first century, we certainly still find application for us today. Most importantly is the last verse of our text: “Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near” (Luke 21:28). Do not let wars, earthquakes, famines, pestilences, terrors, or the end of the world alarm you. Rather, straighten up: Your redemption is drawing near.

WELCOME

HYMN *LSB 348, “The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns”*

INVOCATION AND OPENING SENTENCES *Luke 21:27-28; Psalm 46:2*

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: The King is coming.

People: **We will not fear, though the earth gives way.**

Pastor: The King is coming.

People: **He will come on the clouds.**

Pastor: The King is coming.

People: **Straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: As we await our coming King, we pause.

People: **We remember our sinfulness.**

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

People: **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

KYRIE

Pastor: Lord, have mercy.

People: **Christ, have mercy.**

Pastor: Lord, have mercy.

All: **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE *Glory to God in the Highest (Music and words in hymnal, LSB 204).*

- All:**
1. To God on high be glory and peace to all the earth; Goodwill from God in heaven proclaimed at Jesus' birth! We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name, we sing – our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.
 2. To You, O sole begotten, the Father's Son, we pray; O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away. Have mercy on us, Jesus; receive our heartfelt cry, where You in pow'r are seated at God's right hand on high.
 3. For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord. Forever and forever, be worshipped and adored; You with the Holy Spirit alone are Lord Most High, in God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. O Lord, almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Rule and govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that we may live and abide forever in Your Son, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Malachi 4:1–6*

¹ "For behold, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble. The day that is coming shall set them ablaze, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. ² But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. ³ And you shall tread down the wicked, for they will be ashes under the soles of your feet, on the day when I act, says the LORD of hosts. ⁴ "Remember the law of my servant Moses, the statutes and rules that I commanded him at Horeb for all Israel. ⁵ "Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the LORD comes. ⁶ And he will turn the hearts of fathers to their children and the hearts of children to their fathers, lest I come and strike the land with a decree of utter destruction."

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM *Psalm 98*

Pastor: Oh sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things! His right hand and his holy arm have worked salvation for him.

People: **The LORD has made known his salvation; he has revealed his righteousness in the sight of the nations.**

Pastor: He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

People: **Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!**

Pastor: Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody!

People: **With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD!**

Pastor: Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who dwell in it!

People: **Let the rivers clap their hands; let the hills sing for joy together before the LORD, for he comes to judge the earth.**

Pastor: He will judge the world with righteousness,

People: **and the peoples with equity.**

EPISTLE READING *1 Thessalonians 3:1-13*

¹ Therefore when we could bear it no longer, we were willing to be left behind at Athens alone, ² and we sent Timothy, our brother and God's coworker in the gospel of Christ, to establish and exhort you in your faith, ³ that no one be moved by these afflictions. For you yourselves know that we are destined for this. ⁴ For when we were with you, we kept telling you beforehand that we were to suffer affliction, just as it has come to pass, and just as you know. ⁵ For this reason, when I could bear it no longer, I sent to learn about your faith, for fear that somehow the tempter had tempted you and our labor would be in vain. ⁶ But now that Timothy has come to us from you, and has brought us the good news of your faith and love and reported that you always remember us kindly and long to see us, as we long to see you— ⁷ for this reason, brothers, in all our distress and affliction we have been comforted about you through your faith. ⁸ For now we live, if you are standing fast in the Lord. ⁹ For what thanksgiving can we return to God for you, for all the joy that we feel for your sake before our God, ¹⁰ as we pray most earnestly night and day that we may see you face to face and supply what is lacking in your faith? ¹¹ Now may our God and Father himself, and our Lord Jesus, direct our way to you, ¹² and may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, as we do for you, ¹³ so that he may establish your hearts blameless in holiness before our God and Father, at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

VERSE

All: **Alleluia. When these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near. Alleluia.**

GOSPEL READING *Luke 21:5-28*

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke the twenty-first chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

⁵ And while some were speaking of the temple, how it was adorned with noble stones and offerings, [Jesus] said, ⁶ "As for these things that you see, the days will come when there will not be left here one stone upon another that will not be thrown down." ⁷ And they asked him, "Teacher, when will these things be, and what will be the sign when these things are about to take place?" ⁸ And he said, "See that you are not led astray. For many will come in my name, saying, 'I am he!' and, 'The time is at

hand!’ Do not go after them. ⁹ And when you hear of wars and tumults, do not be terrified, for these things must first take place, but the end will not be at once.” ¹⁰ Then he said to them, “Nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom. ¹¹ There will be great earthquakes, and in various places famines and pestilences. And there will be terrors and great signs from heaven. ¹² But before all this they will lay their hands on you and persecute you, delivering you up to the synagogues and prisons, and you will be brought before kings and governors for my name’s sake. ¹³ This will be your opportunity to bear witness. ¹⁴ Settle it therefore in your minds not to meditate beforehand how to answer, ¹⁵ for I will give you a mouth and wisdom, which none of your adversaries will be able to withstand or contradict. ¹⁶ You will be delivered up even by parents and brothers and relatives and friends, and some of you they will put to death. ¹⁷ You will be hated by all for my name’s sake. ¹⁸ But not a hair of your head will perish. ¹⁹ By your endurance you will gain your lives. ²⁰ “But when you see Jerusalem surrounded by armies, then know that its desolation has come near. ²¹ Then let those who are in Judea flee to the mountains, and let those who are inside the city depart, and let not those who are out in the country enter it, ²² for these are days of vengeance, to fulfill all that is written. ²³ Alas for women who are pregnant and for those who are nursing infants in those days! For there will be great distress upon the earth and wrath against this people. ²⁴ They will fall by the edge of the sword and be led captive among all nations, and Jerusalem will be trampled underfoot by the Gentiles, until the times of the Gentiles are fulfilled. ²⁵ “And there will be signs in sun and moon and stars, and on the earth distress of nations in perplexity because of the roaring of the sea and the waves, ²⁶ people fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world. For the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ And then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, straighten up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HYMN OF THE DAY *LSB 645, “Built on the Rock”*

SERMON *“Your redemption is drawing near.”*

CREED *Nicene Creed*

People: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: Lord, in Your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, and confident that You will hear and answer us.

People: Amen.

THE COMMUNION CONFESSION

Pastor: The Lord's Supper is God's gift for Christians who are properly taught. In communion, we want people to receive Christ's body and blood for their good. This means that as you come to the Lord's Table you affirm with each communicant that Jesus is your Savior and Lord; and with Lutheran Christians you confess:

People: I recognize and confess that I am a sinner. I repent of my sins and ask God's forgiveness. I believe that Jesus Christ is my only Lord and Savior from sin, Satan, and death. I believe that the risen Christ is truly present in the Sacrament and, that under the form of bread and wine, I receive His true body and blood for the forgiveness of my sin and the strengthening of my faith and life.

(Augsburg Confession-Article X)

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary ... evermore praising You and saying:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY *(Music and words in hymnal, LSB 208)*

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored; Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name. Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord; Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Blessed are You ... and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

All: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, 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 WORDS OF OUR LORD

Pastor: Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

THE PEACE OF THE LORD

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: **Amen.**

LAMB OF GOD *(Music and words in hymnal, LSB 210)*

All: 1. **O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.**

2. **O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away; Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, and grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

LSB 629, "What Is This Bread"

LSB 919, "Abide, O Dearest Jesus"

LSB 735, "Have No Fear, Little Flock"

SONG OF SIMEON *(Music and words in hymnal, LSB 211)*

All: 1. **O Lord, now let Your servant depart in heav'nly peace, for I have seen the glory of Your redeeming grace: A light to lead the Gentiles unto Your holy hill, the glory of Your people, Your chosen Israel.**

2. **All glory to the Father, all glory to the Son, all glory to the Spirit, forever Three in One; for as in the beginning, is now, shall ever be, God's triune name resounding through all eternity.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

Pastor: Let us pray. ... one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

BLESSING

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN *LSB 733, "O God, Our Help in Ages Past"*

CLOSING

Pastor: Go in peace and serve your neighbor.

People: **Thanks be to God!**

ANNOUNCEMENTS for Week of November 16, 2025

Grace Lutheran Church 1120 S. Park Ave. Aurora, MO

Church: 417-678-3603 Pastor Daniel Heitshusen

Cell: 832-727-3135 daniel.heitshusen@gmail.com Pastor's Day Off; Friday

Family for the Week: Jim & Betty Gordon
Grace, Aurora - served by Rev. Daniel Heitshusen

Prayers of Peace and Comfort:

Prayers of Thanksgiving

Prayers for Health and Healing:

Complete Prayer List:

Temporary

Jeannie Bennett – (relative of Teri Ediger – health and healing)
Pat Bricco – (friend of Grace – health and healing)
Treaa Bussey – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
Joyce Campbell – (friend of Wanda Thompson–health and healing)
Jason Ernest – (Emily Ernest's father – health and healing from surgery)
Bonny Gray – (sister of Cynthia Swoye r[Wolf]–health and healing)
Pastor Hagen – (health and healing)
Zana Haley and baby Veda – (Cathy Munden's granddaughter)
Ervin Jung – (cousin of Kathy Holle – health and healing)

Jeeper Meyer – (health and healing from cancer)
Bill Parsons – (Joanne Michel's brother – health and healing)
Suzanne Parsons – (friend of Sue Doss – health and healing)
Joe Pennington – (brother-in-law of Bill Michel – health and healing)
Billy Schmells – (friend of Cheryl Lile – health and healing)
LC Stalcup – (relative of Gladys Bauer – health and healing)
Tim Tucek – (relative of Gladys Bauer – peace and comfort)
Dayton Wheeler – (grandson of Wanda Thompson – surgery)
Jacquelyn Zimmer – (friend of Edee Chambers – health and healing)

Long Term

Doug Bernard – (Cathy Munden's cousin – health and healing)
Jill Bode – (niece of Rachel Sanford – health & healing, cancer)
Kathy Browne – (friend of Kathy Holle – health and healing)
Mary Ann Campbell – (friend of Harold Lampe – peace and comfort)
Jackie Clark – (Micki Gettman's friend – healing from a broken-hip)
Dorthea Dennis – (health and healing)
Steve Doss – (friend of Harold Lampe – health & healing)
Glenda Enlow – (health and healing)
Lois Gaddy – (friend of Gwen Lampe – health and healing)
Gary Gardner – (health and healing)

Betty Gordon – (health and healing)
Pastor Gary Griffin – (health & healing from cancer)
Robbie Krueger – (friend of Kathy Holle)
Marybeth Lamp – (friend of Pam Bowling – health and healing)
Mitzie Lorenz – (friend of Harold Lampe – peace and comfort)
Pat Michel – (Bill Michel's sister-In-Law – health & healing)
Margaret Seburn – (cousin of Joanne Michel – health and healing)
Ruth Stoddard – (health & healing)
Larry Swart – (friend of Bill Munden – health and healing from cancer)
June Winger – (Sharon Barlow's mother – health & healing)

THIS WEEK

Sunday	November 16th	9:00 am - Happy Half Hour 9:30 am - Fellowship 10:00 am – Service with Communion Outreach Meeting after church
Monday	November 17th	Braille – 9:00 am and 1:00 pm
Wednesday	November 19th	Bible Study - 5:30 pm
Thursday	November 20th	Elders Meeting - 9:30 am Council Meeting - 11:00 am Confirmation Class – 5:30 pm
Friday	November 21st	Pastor's Day Off
Saturday	November 22nd	Bauer Family Reunion

Sunday **November 23rd** **9:00 am - Happy Half Hour**
9:30 am - Fellowship
10:00 am – Service
Voters' Meeting

Monday **November 24th** **Braille – 9:00 am and 1:00 pm**

Birthdays: Bill Thompson-Nov.17th; Diane Thompson-Nov.18th; Jennifer Lampe-Nov. 19th;
Ruth Stoddard-Nov.21st

Anniversaries: Charlie & Edith Chambers-Nov21st

November

Greeters

16-Cathy Munden & Teri Ediger
23-Rob & Marlo Springer

30-Charlie & Edith Chambers

Usher

16-Bill Michel
23-David Lampe
26-Charlie Chambers
30-Doug Goodman



Outreach meeting: Outreach meeting is TODAY immediately following the service. We will follow up on SNAP benefits and discuss the Christmas parade.

Voter's Meeting: Voter's Meeting is NEXT SUNDAY immediately following the service. This is a great time for us to come together as God's people for the sake of good order as we discuss the business of the church in service of the mission of Christ. Come and join us!

We are collecting for “Dawggie Bags” food collection. The collection box is in the Narthex. If you have questions, please ask Pam Bowling.

Use Your Tax Dollars to Support Lutheran Education

Taxpayers to the state of Missouri—both individuals and businesses—have the unique opportunity to direct up to 50% of their state taxes to Lutheran Education. The tax credit program, MO Scholars, allows the Missouri District to scholarships for qualifying students attending LCMS schools throughout the state (including Freistaconvert tax dollars into tt!!). Reserving these tax credits is easy and can be completed online in a matter of minutes. Head to <https://mo.lcms.org/mo-scholars/> to learn more about MO Scholars and get the process started. Questions can be directed to Leah Sieveking at 314-590-6211 or leah.sieveking@mo.lcms.org. Thank you for your participation in MO Scholars through the Missouri District!

A new year will be coming soon with new 2026 offering envelopes. If anyone would like envelopes for 2026 that doesn't currently have them, please let Linda Myers or Pastor know. Also, anyone that does not want envelopes, please let us know (a regular envelope with your name also works). For anyone that wishes to donate by credit card, information can be found on our web site <https://gracelutheranaurora.com/give.php>.