

# WHAT WE HAVE TO LOOK FORWARD TO:

NEW AND IMPROVED EARTH



The Twenty-fourth Week after Pentecost SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2023



# We're so glad you're here.



At Church of the Savior, our vision is to grow in "Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life." We hope you sense God's presence and our warm welcome. We'd love to meet you in the foyer after the service.

--Fr. Kevin and Mtr. Karen

**About Our Worship:** We use an Anglican liturgy. Liturgy simply means that everyone gets to participate, so please join in as you feel comfortable.

**Children's Worship:** Nursery is available for children 6 months through 4 years. Children's Worship rooms are available for children Kindergarten through 2nd Grade, and 3rd to 5th Grade. You may choose to keep children with your family, and coloring pages will be available to all.

**Assisted Listening or Noise Cancelling Headphones**: Pick up a loop in the livestream booth (the door to the right of the fireplace in the Fireside Room). An usher can guide you there. Noise cancelling headphones are available at the info table for those who might be sensitive to noise.

Today is the twenty-fourth week after Pentecost, and during this season of Ordinary Time we are looking at key people and practices of the Anglican Church. Today we ask: why do we read so much scripture in the liturgy? Each week, we include four readings in our liturgy: a psalm, one reading from the Old Testament, another from a New Testament epistle, and a gospel reading. When the Book of Common Prayer was first written the majority of people were illiterate, so it was crucially important for them to hear the words of scripture. But even in our far more literate modern society, it is important to start our worship by hearing God speak to us through the words of scripture as we prepare to meet the Word (Jesus) in the Eucharist.

Want to Stay in Touch? Let us know how at FriendsOf The Savior.org/visitor

Please enjoy a few moments of silence during the prelude to prepare for worship.

# THE WORD OF GOD

# **PROCESSIONAL**

You may stand.

# A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

A mighty fortress is our God, A bulwark never failing; Our helper He amid the flood of mortal ills prevailing. For still our ancient foe doth seek to work us woehis craft and pow'r are great, and armed with cruel hate, On earth is not his equal.

And tho' this world, with devils filled, should threaten to undo us, we will not fear, for God hath willed His truth to triumph thru us. The prince of darkness grim, we tremble not for himhis rage we can endure, For lo, his doom is sure: One little word shall fell him.

That word above all earthly pow'rs, no thanks to them, abideth;
The Spirit and the gifts are ours through Him who with us sideth.
Let goods and kindred go, this mortal life also.
The body they may kill;
God's truth abideth still.
His kingdom is forever.

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

All: And blessed be his Kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

All: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

# Holy Is the Lord

We stand and lift up our hands, for the joy of the Lord is our strength. We bow down and worship Him now. How great, how awesome is He.

And together we sing, Ev'ryone sing.

Holy is the Lord God Almighty. The earth is filled with His glory. Holy is the Lord God Almighty. The earth is filled with His glory. The earth is filled with His glory.

It is rising up all around. It's the anthem of the Lord's renown. It's rising up all around. It's the anthem of the Lord's renown. Children from kindergarten through 5th grade are invited to follow the acolyte to Children's Worship during the next song.

# **GLORIA**



# THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

O God, whose blessed Son came into the world that he might destroy the works of the devil and make us children of God and heirs of eternal life: Grant that, having this hope, we may purify ourselves as he is pure; that, when he comes again with power and great glory, we may be made like him in his eternal and glorious kingdom; where he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Please be seated.

# THE FIRST READING

**REVELATION 21:1-5, 22-27** 

<sup>1</sup> Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the old heaven and the old earth had disappeared. And the sea was also gone. <sup>2</sup> And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down from God out of heaven like a bride beautifully dressed for her husband.

<sup>3</sup> I heard a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them. <sup>4</sup> He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever."

<sup>5</sup> And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!" And then he said to me, "Write this down, for what I tell you is trustworthy and true."

<sup>22</sup> I saw no temple in the city, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. <sup>23</sup> And the city has no need of sun or moon, for the glory of God illuminates the city, and the Lamb is its light. <sup>24</sup> The nations will walk in its light, and the kings of the world will enter the city in all their glory. <sup>25</sup> Its gates will never be closed at the end of day because there is no night there. <sup>26</sup> And all the nations will bring their glory and honor into the city. <sup>27</sup> Nothing evil will be allowed to enter, nor anyone who practices shameful idolatry and dishonesty—but only those whose names are written in the Lamb's Book of Life.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. All: Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM PSALM 96: 7-13

<sup>7</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, you families of the peoples; \* ascribe to the LORD honor and power.

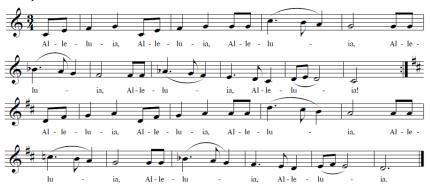
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the honor due his Name; \* bring offerings and come into his courts.
- <sup>9</sup> Worship the LORD in the beauty of holiness; \* let the whole earth tremble before him.
- Tell it out among the nations: "The LORD is King! \* he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."
- <sup>11</sup> Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; \* let the field be joyful and all that is therein.
- <sup>12</sup> Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy before the LORD when he comes, \* when he comes to judge the earth.
- <sup>13</sup> He will judge the world with righteousness \* and the peoples with his truth.

<sup>18</sup> Yet what we suffer now is nothing compared to the glory he will reveal to us later. <sup>19</sup> For all creation is waiting eagerly for that future day when God will reveal who his children really are. <sup>20</sup> Against its will, all creation was subjected to God's curse. But with eager hope, <sup>21</sup> the creation looks forward to the day when it will join God's children in glorious freedom from death and decay. <sup>22</sup> For we know that all creation has been groaning as in the pains of childbirth right up to the present time. <sup>23</sup> And we believers also groan, even though we have the Holy Spirit within us as a foretaste of future glory, for we long for our bodies to be released from sin and suffering. We, too, wait with eager hope for the day when God will give us our full rights as his adopted children, including the new bodies he has promised us. <sup>24</sup> We were given this hope when we were saved. (If we already have something, we don't need to hope for it. <sup>25</sup> But if we look forward to something we don't yet have, we must wait patiently and confidently.)

<sup>26</sup> And the Holy Spirit helps us in our weakness. For example, we don't know what God wants us to pray for. But the Holy Spirit prays for us with groanings that cannot be expressed in words. <sup>27</sup> And the Father who knows all hearts knows what the Spirit is saying, for the Spirit pleads for us believers in harmony with God's own will. <sup>28</sup> And we know that God causes everything to work together for the good of those who love God and are called according to his purpose for them.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.
All: Thanks be to God.

You may stand.



THE GOSPEL

**LUKE 18:1-8** 

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. All: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

<sup>1</sup> One day Jesus told his disciples a story to show that they should always pray and never give up. <sup>2</sup> "There was a judge in a certain city," he said, "who neither feared God nor cared about people. <sup>3</sup> A widow of that city came to him repeatedly, saying, 'Give me justice in this dispute with my enemy. <sup>4</sup> The judge ignored her for a while, but finally he said to himself, 'I don't fear God or care about people, <sup>5</sup> but this woman is driving me crazy. I'm going to see that she gets justice, because she is wearing me out with her constant requests!'"

<sup>6</sup> Then the Lord said, "Learn a lesson from this unjust judge. <sup>7</sup> Even he rendered a just decision in the end. So don't you think God will surely give justice to his chosen people who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? <sup>8</sup> I tell you, he will grant justice to them quickly! But when the Son of Man returns, how many will he find on the earth who have faith?"

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.
All: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

### **ALLELUIA**

Please be seated.

# THE SERMON



New and Improved Earth

Kevin Miller Rector

We take a few minutes of silence to reflect, pray, and listen for what God may be saying.

### THE NICENE CREED

You may stand.

Celebrant: Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

All: We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Intercessor: Lord, in your mercy,

All: Hear our prayer.

*The celebrant concludes the Prayers of the People.* 

# THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Please sit or kneel for a time of silence.

All: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Celebrant: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

# THE PEACE

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

All: And also with you.

At this time, parents should pick up their children from the nursery and Children's Worship.

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The Psalm was taken from The Book of Common Prayer, public domain.

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

Celebrant: Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

# THE OFFERTORY

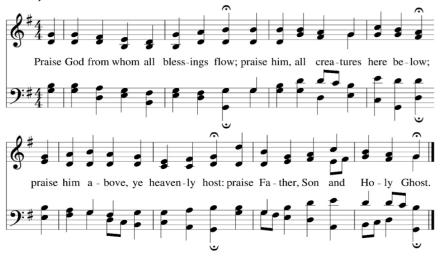
# The Kingdom of God

John saw the heav'n and earth made new, The first had passed away, The Holy city coming down, The new Jerusalem.

And God Himself shall dwell with us, And wipe away all tears, There is no sorrow, pain or death, Throughout the coming years.

"Behold, I make all things anew," These faithful words are true, To him who overcometh sin, On earth with God shall rule.

In beautiful Jerusalem, God's glory gives it light, All kings and nations walk in it, "For there shall be no night." You may stand.



# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

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

All: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. For by water and the Holy Spirit you have made us a new people in Jesus Christ our Lord, to show forth your glory in all the world.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

### Sanctus



Celebrant: Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Celebrant: Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:



Celebrant: We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him.

Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

Celebrant: All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ:

All: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. Amen.

Celebrant: And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to sing



# THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Celebrant: The gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in

remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in

your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Please join us for Communion: all who are baptized and seeking to follow Jesus are welcome. If that doesn't describe you, simply say "Blessing," or cross your arms, and the minister distributing bread will pray a short prayer for God's favor on your life. The first tray contains wine; the second contains grape juice. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. If you would like to receive prayer, a prayer minister is available in the foyer.

# **COMMUNION SONGS**

# Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Savior, like a shepherd lead us, Much we need thy tender care; In Thy pleasant pastures feed us, For our use thy folds prepare: Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, thine we are; Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Thou hast bought us, thine we are.

Thou hast promised to receive us, Poor and sinful though we be; Thou hast mercy to relieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free: Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to Thee; Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus, Early let us turn to Thee.

# My Jesus I Love Thee

My Jesus, I love Thee; I know Thou art mine. For Thee all the follies of sin I resign. My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou: If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me, and purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree. I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow: If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.

In mansions of glory and endless delight, I'll ever adore Thee in heaven so bright; I'll sing with the glittering crown on my brow: If ever I loved Thee my Jesus, 'tis now.

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# God So Loved

Come all you weary,
Come all you thirsty.
Come to the well that never runs dry.
Drink of the water,
Come and thirst no more.

Come all you sinners, Come find His mercy. Come to the table; He will satisfy. Taste of His goodness, Find what you're looking for.

For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us. Whoever believes in Him will live forever.

Bring all your failures, Bring your addictions. Come lay them down at the foot of the cross. Jesus is waiting there With open arms.

For God so loved the world that He gave us His one and only Son to save us. Whoever believes in Him will live forever. The pow'r of hell forever defeated. Now it is well, I'm walking in freedom. For God so loved, God so loved the world.

Praise God, praise God From whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, praise Him For the wonders of His love.

# We Will Feast in The House Of Zion

We will feast in the house of Zion. We will sing with our hearts restored. He has done great things, we will say together. We will feast and weep no more.

We will not be burned by the fire; He is the Lord, our God. We are not consumed by the flood; Upheld, protected, gathered up.

In the dark of night, before the dawn, My soul, be not afraid. For the promised morning, oh, how long? Oh, God of Jacob, be my strength.

Ev'ry vow we've broken and betrayed, You are the faithful one. And from the garden to the grave, Bind us together, bring shalom.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### THE BLESSING

Celebrant: The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

You may be seated.

# **RECESSIONAL**

# Celtic Benediction

May the peace of the Lord Christ go with you,

Wherever he may send you.

May he guide you through the wilderness,

Protect you through the storm.

May he bring you home rejoicing at the wonders he has shown you,

May he bring you home rejoicing once again into our doors.

# THE DISMISSAL

Deacon: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the

Spirit. Alleluia. Alleluia.

All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

# **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

# **Outreach Christmas Store**

We are once again excited to support the Outreach Christmas Store, a oneday event hosted by Outreach Community Ministries that allows local low-income families to purchase Christmas gifts at reduced cost. You can support the store in two ways:

- 1. Donate one (or more!) gifts either purchase from the list available on the Info Table and bring the gift to Savior by Saturday, December 2nd or order online from Amazon or Target and have gifts shipped directly to Outreach (gifts must arrive by Monday, December 4th).
- 2. Volunteer either at the store on December 9th or in a variety of other roles preparing for the store click here for the volunteer application.

# Save the Date: Gingerbread Nativities

After worship, December 16<sup>th</sup>, we will have our annual Gingerbread Nativities. Stay for fun for all ages. Which friend could you invite to join you?

### CHILDREN AND YOUTH

**Nursery & Children's Worship:** We provide Nursery for children 6 months through 4 years and two Children's Worship rooms. Kindergarten through 2nd Grade may attend Young Children in Worship, and 3rd to 5th Grade may attend Following Jesus.

**Youth:** Future dates: November 18; December 2.

### **CURRENT SERMON SERIES**

What We Have to Look Forward To

November 11, Kevin Miller, New and Improved Earth November 18, Kevin Miller, New and Improved Relationships November 25, Robert Gallagher, New and Improved Body

# FINANCIAL UPDATE

Thank you for supporting this ministry of "Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life."

This Year's Giving Goal: \$365,000 As of November 4:

Budgeted Giving Goal = \$312,650 Actual Giving = \$250,707 Over/(Under) = (\$61,943)

# **Donations to Church of the Savior:**

☑ Church of the Savior, PO Box 507, Wheaton, IL 60187

friendsofthesavior.org/giving

# **CLERGY**

Kevin Miller Karen Miller Brad Lindsay Sandy Oyler kevin@friendsofthesavior.org karen@friendsofthesavior.org deaconbrad@friendsofthesavior.org deacon@friendsofthesavior.org

# **ASSISTING CLERGY**

Bill Richardson, Co-Founding Pastor, Retired Linda Richardson, Co-Founding Pastor, Retired

# MINISTRY TEAM LEADERS

Altar & Acolytes Audio Visual Team Care Coordination College Ministry Intercessory Prayer Meals Ministry Prayer and Communion Prayers of the People Scripture Readers Setup Welcome Team Sandy Oyler Erik Peterson kevin@friendsofthesavior.org Sarah Lindsay sheri.l.abel@gmail.com Cara Peterson Marj Mead Deb Nickerson Hope Grant Angel Gonzalez Gayle Koehler

To ask about a ministry or volunteer to get involved, please talk with its leader (emails are found at friendsofthesavior.org/serve) or with Pastor Sarah Lindsay (sarah@friendsofthesavior.org).

# STAFF

Rector: Kevin Miller
Associate Rector: Karen Miller
Pastor of Family Ministries: Mary Gonzalez
Pastor of Music and Worship: John Rakes
Pastor of Adult Formation: Sarah Lindsay
Director of Communications: Caprice Miller
Bookkeeper: Jean Ann Parker
Family Ministries Admin: Sydney DePasquale

kevin@friendsofthesavior.org karen@friendsofthesavior.org mary@friendsofthesavior.org john@friendsofthesavior.org sarah@friendsofthesavior.org caprice@friendsofthesavior.org jeanann@friendsofthesavior.org sydney@friendsofthesavior.org

### VESTRY

Christine Sloat: Senior Warden Synthia Cathcart: Junior Warden Karen Bailey: Church Clerk Karen Miller Kevin Miller Deb Nickerson Sandy Oyler Rick Page Alan Savage christine.kindberg@gmail.com arnold.cathcart@gmail.com



Journeying Together: Loving God, Loving Others, Loving Life