

**Since we belong
to the day,
let us be sober,
having put on
the breastplate
of faith and love.**

1 Thessalonians 5:8



Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost
November 19, 2023 • 10:30AM

St. Paul's Lutheran Church

205 St. Paul's Church Road, Salisbury, NC

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Acolyte: Clara Canup • Crucifer: Alexander Canup

Lector: Wayne Taylor • Cantor: Andrew Baker

Communion Assistants: Gina Barringer,

D. W. Honbarger, Terri Powlas

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “Christ, Be Our Light”

David Lasky

The Ten Commandments *Please stand.*

The Lord is God, our God, and has brought us out of bondage to sin and death, commanding us to observe our conduct before him and our neighbor.

¹You shall have no other gods before me.

**²You shall not take the name
of the Lord your God in vain;
for the Lord will not hold guiltless
those who take his name in vain.**

**³Remember the Sabbath day
to keep it holy.**

**⁴Honor your father
and your mother,
that your days may be long
in the land which the Lord
your God is giving you.**

⁵You shall not kill.

⁶You shall not commit adultery.

⁷You shall not steal.

**⁸You shall not bear false witness
against your neighbor.**

**⁹You shall not covet
your neighbor’s house.**

**¹⁰You shall not covet your neighbor’s wife,
his workers, his livestock,
or anything that is your neighbor’s.**

Confession and Absolution

Greeting and Kyrie Eleison

74

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.



Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.



Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us.

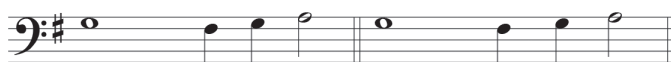


Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Gloria in Excelsis

75

Leader:

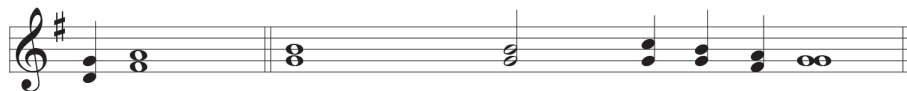


Glory be to God on high!

Congregation:



And on earth peace, good will toward all. We praise you, we bless you,



we worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory,



O Lord God, heaven - ly King, God the Father Al - mighty.

O Lord, the only begotten Son, Je - sus Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God,
 Son of the Father: You take away the sin of the world, have mercy
 on us. You take away the sin of the world, re - ceive our prayer.
 You sit at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy on us.
 For you are holy; you on - ly are the Lord; You only, O Christ, with the
 Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

Salutation and Prayer of the Day

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Leader: The Lord be with you. *Congregation:* And with your spirit

Lord God, rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit, that while keeping the end of all things in mind, we may be stirred up to holiness in this life and come to be with you forever in that life to come. Grant this, we pray, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Please be seated.

A - men.

First Lesson: Zephaniah 1:7-16

⁷Be silent before the LORD God! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. ⁸And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice — "I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. ⁹On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. ¹⁰On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills.

¹¹Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.' ¹³Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them." ¹⁴The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. ¹⁵A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, ¹⁶a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

The word of the Lord.

Psalm 90:1-12

¹LORD, you have | been our refuge
from one generation | to another.

²**Before the mountains were brought forth, or the
land and the | earth were born,
from age to age | you are God.**

³You turn us back to the | dust and say,
"Go back, O | child of earth."

⁴**For a thousand years in your sight are like
yesterday when | it is past
and like a watch | in the night.**

⁵You sweep us away | like a dream;
 we fade away suddenly | like the grass.
⁶**In the morning it is | green and flourishes;
 in the evening it is dried | up and withered.**
⁷For we consume away in | your displeasure;
 we are afraid because of your wrathful | indignation.
⁸**Our iniquities you have | set before you,
 and our secret sins in the light | of your countenance.**
⁹When you are angry, all our | days are gone;
 we bring our years to an end | like a sigh.
¹⁰**The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps
 in strength | even eighty;
 yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow,
 for they pass away quickly and | we are gone.**
¹¹Who regards the power | of your wrath?
 who rightly fears your | indignation?
¹²**So teach us to num- | ber our days
 that we may apply our | hearts to wisdom.**

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

¹Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. ²For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, “There is peace and security,” then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. ⁴But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. ⁵For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. ⁶So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. ⁹For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, ¹⁰who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.

¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

The word of the Lord.

Offering: Scan the QR code to the right to be taken directly to the giving page on your phone or tablet.



Anthem: “He Set Me Free”

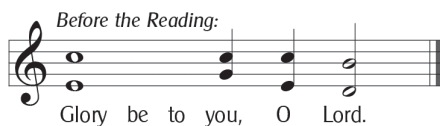
Men’s Choir

Gospel Acclamation *Please stand for the Gospel.*

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The Holy Gospel is written in the 25th chapter of Matthew.



Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

¹⁴[Jesus said to the disciples,]“For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. ¹⁵To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. ¹⁷So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. ¹⁸But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master’s money.

¹⁹Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful

servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’²² And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, ‘Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.’²³ His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.’²⁴ He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed,²⁵ so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.’

²⁶But his master answered him, ‘You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents.

²⁹For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. ³⁰And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.



Apostles Creed

81

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord.

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.
On the third day he rose again.
He ascended into heaven,
 and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again 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

Children's Chat

Sermon: "Dressed in Faith and Love"

Hymn: "You Are My King (Amazing Love)"

Verse

I'm forgiven
Because You were forsaken
I'm accepted
You were condemned
I'm alive and well
Your Spirit is within me
Because You died
And rose again

Chorus

Amazing love
How can it be
That You my King
Would die for me
Amazing love
I know it's true
It's my joy to honor You
In all I do I honor You

Ending

You are my King

You are my King

Jesus You are my King

Jesus You are my King

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Prayers of the Church

Following each prayer:

Lord in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray,
trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen

Exhortation

85

Preface and Sanctus

86-88

Leader *Congregation*



The Lord be with you. And with your spir - it.

Leader



Lift up your hearts.

Congregation



We lift them to the Lord.



It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God—through Jesus Christ, your dear Son, our Lord and Savior, who ascending above the heavens and sitting at your right hand, poured out the Holy Spirit upon the chosen disciples as he had promised, causing the whole earth to rejoice.

Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you, and saying:



The Lord's Prayer

90

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray.

Our Father, who art in heaven,

¹**hallowed be thy name,**

²**thy kingdom come,**

³**thy will be done,**

on earth as it is in heaven.

⁴**Give us this day our daily bread;**

⁵**and forgive us our trespasses,**

as we forgive those who trespass against us;

⁶**and lead us not into temptation,**

⁷**but deliver us from evil.**

For thine is the kingdom,

and the power, and the glory,

forever and ever. Amen

Words of Institution

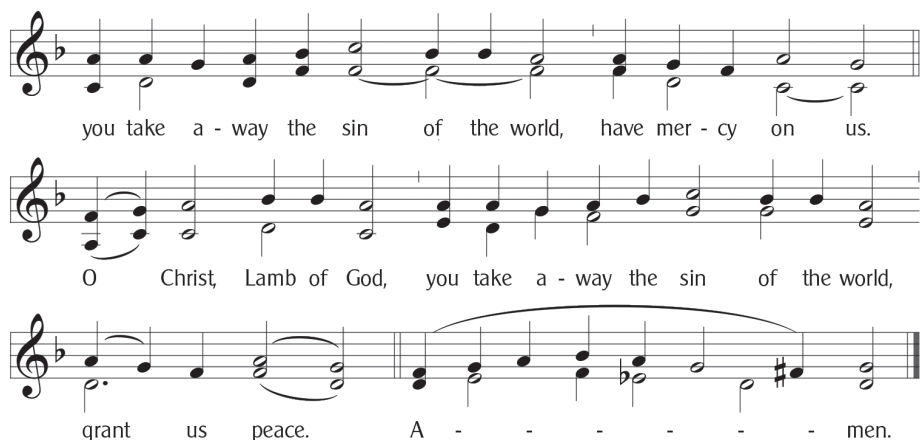
Our Lord Jesus, on the night in which he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you; do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: Take, and drink of it, all of you. This cup is the new testament in my blood, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.

Agnus Dei

91

O Christ, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin
of the world, have mer - cy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God,



Distribution of Communion

92

Remain seated after the distribution.

May the body and precious blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in true faith to everlasting life.

Thanksgiving

We thank and praise you, almighty and loving Father, for feeding us with the body and blood of your beloved son, Jesus Christ. Having received this holy Sacrament with our mouths, may our faith in you apprehend and enjoy your grace, the forgiveness of sins, unity with Christ and his Church, and everlasting life. Send your Holy Spirit to remind us of these promises throughout the week, and keep us in the same Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

Nunc Dimittis

92

**Lord, now let your servant de- | part in | peace,
ac- | cording to | your | word.**

**For my eyes have | seen your sal- | vation,
which you have prepared before the | face of | all | people:**

**A light to | lighten the | Gentiles
and the | glory of your | people | Israel.**

Glory | be to the | Father,
 and to the | Son, and to the | Holy | Spirit,
 As it | was in the be- | ginning,
 is now, and ever shall be, | world without | end. | A- | men

Benedicamus

93

Leader: Congregation:

The Lord be with you. And with your spirit.

Bless the Lord. Thanks be to God.

Postlude: "Marche Romaine"

Charles Gounod

We remain seated, worshiping silently during the postlude, standing at the end of the postlude to face the processional cross, now at the rear of the sanctuary.

Benediction

93

The Lord bless you and keep you.
 The Lord make his face to shine upon you
 and be gracious unto you.
 The Lord lift his countenance upon you, and give you peace.

Congregation:

A - men.

*The flower arrangement on the rail is placed
 in memory of Ruth and Duke Eller
 by Harold and Louise Eller and Kay Eller Moody.*

*Congratulations to Garrett and Lisa Powlas on the birth of
 a son, Theodore Ronin Powlas. Theodore was born Sunday,
 November 12, 2023. The rose bud on the altar is in his honor.*

*Jessica Lyerly and Kevin Brooks
were married here yesterday, November 18, 2023.
Congratulations and best wishes to you both.*

Recent Prayer Needs

- Carolyn Cress – Autumn Care, room 622
- Johnny Jenkins (property brother) – Health concerns
- Michelle Linker – Recovering at home from surgery
- Mike Morris – Health concerns
- George Reese – Recovering at home from surgery
- April Simmons – Health concerns

Please see the monthly Epistle for a complete list of prayer needs for members, homebound, family, and friends.

Binns-Counts Christmas—Today is the last day to donate children's toys and gifts. If you wish to donate money instead of shopping, you may do so in the church offering, noting on the envelope *Binns-Counts*.

Help Girl Scout troop 743 (St. Paul's Troop) honor local heros. Please sponsor a wreath today to be placed on a veterans grave at the Salisbury National Cemetery Annex. Each wreath is \$17. All money needs to be to Nicole Amos by November 27th, or scan the QR code to donate.



Christmas Concert Participants—Check-in/walk-through is **today at 2pm**. All volunteers should attend this walk through so we can gauge progress and work on any issues.

Sunday, November 19

- Kid's Christmas practice during Sunday School, 9:30am
- Faith Lutheran Church, Thanksgiving meal, Noon – 1pm
- Concert Check-in/walk through in the sanctuary, 2pm
- Autumn Care worship service, 2pm
- Cemetery Committee meeting, Conference Room, 4pm
- Men's Choir practice, 4pm
- Handbell Choir practice, 5pm
- Vespers at the Parsonage—fellowship at 6pm; prayer at 6:30pm

Monday, November 20

- Newsletter articles due today
- Council meeting, 6:30pm

Tuesday, November 21

- Friendship Club, 10:30am
- Staff meeting, 5pm
- Adult Confirmation Class, 6pm

Wednesday, November 22

- Adult Choir practice, 6:30pm
- Thanksgiving Eve service, 7pm

Thursday, November 23

- Thanksgiving day, church office closed

Friday, November 24

- Church office closed for Thanksgiving holiday

Sunday, November 26

- Kid's Christmas practice during Sunday School, 9:30am
- Concert rehearsals, in the sanctuary, 1pm–5pm (see next page)
- Men's Choir practice, 4pm
- Handbell Choir practice, 5pm
- Vespers at the Parsonage—fellowship at 6pm; prayer at 6:30pm

Make a Joyful Noise for Christmas!

Would you like to spread some Christmas cheer by singing Christmas Carols? The Outreach Committee will be sponsoring a **Christmas Caroling** event on **Sunday, December 3rd**, after church. The committee will provide sub sandwiches, chips, drink and dessert before we go caroling.

We will accompany Pastor Ryman to Autumn Care for the service, then “Deck the Halls” with more carols. If we could get enough to sign up to go, we would like to take another group to the shut-ins. We know there are a lot of people working on the church concert that day, but if you do not have a part, think about singing with the Outreach Committee.

In order to plan for the meal, please sign up on the friendship register. If you have any questions, please call Susan Bernhardt, 704-637-0155, or email srbernhardt@carolina.rr.com.

2023 Blood Drive—Thanks to all who registered to donate at our November Blood Drive. 38 persons registered, and 7 were deferred. The total credit to our church was 34 units. We did not reach our goal of 35 units this time, but the average for our four drives was 37 units, for a total of 148 units collected in 2023.

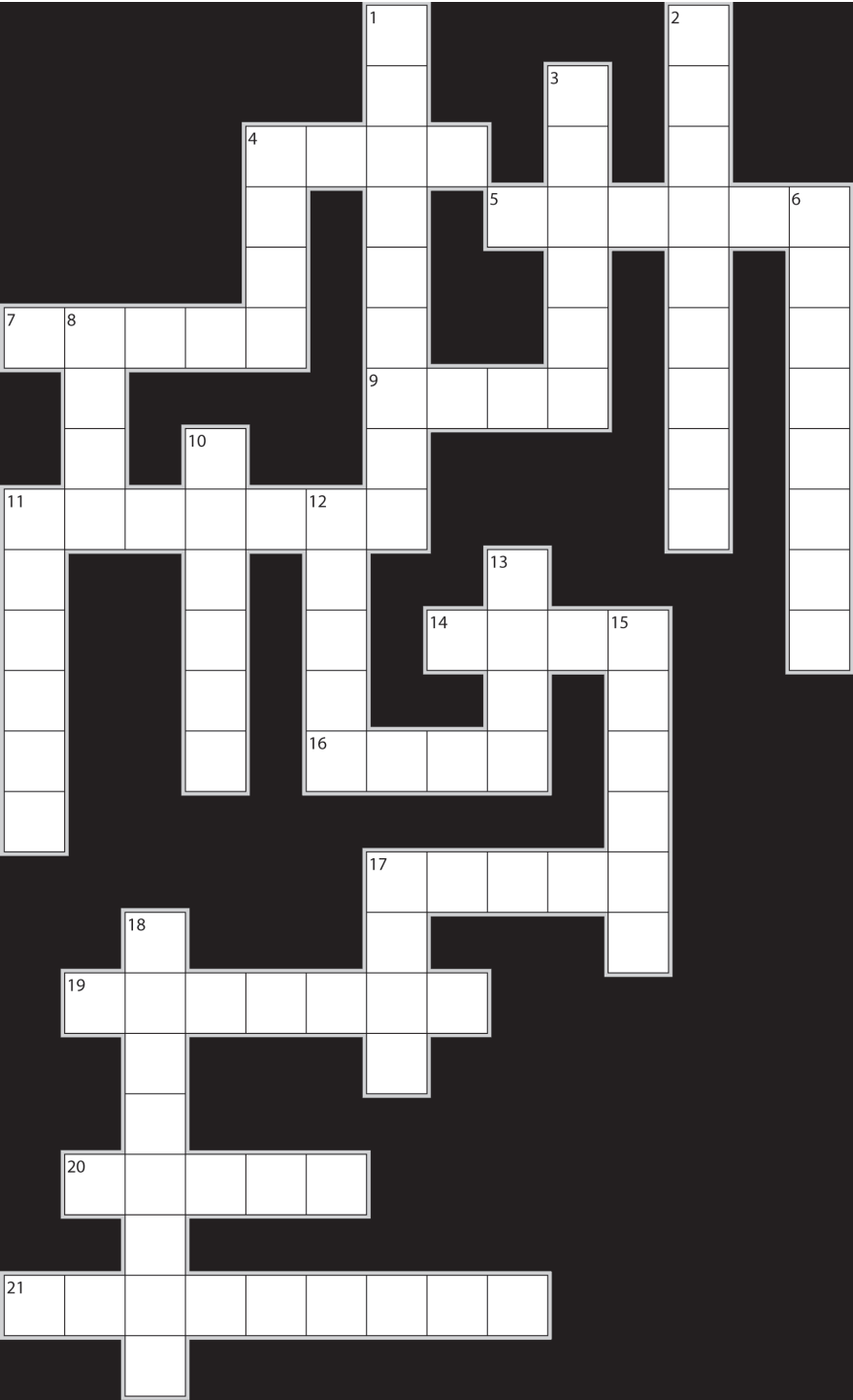
Stewardship

General Fund Offering (11/12).....	\$8,320
Other Offering (11/12)	\$1,446
Sunday School Attendance (11/12)	88
Worship Attendance (11/12)	198
Children’s Mission (4th quarter–Lutheran Military Veterans)	
\$173 last Sunday; quarter so far: \$964.50	

Gospel Challenge

Read the gospels between Thanksgiving and Christmas.

- ☐ November 23, 2023 — Matthew 1:1–5:48
- ☐ November 24, 2023 — Matthew 6:1–9:34
- ☐ November 25, 2023 — Matthew 10:1–11:30
- ☐ November 26, 2023 — Matthew 12:1–13:58
- ☐ November 27, 2023 — Matthew 14:1–16:28
- ☐ November 28, 2023 — Matthew 17:1–19:30
- ☐ November 29, 2023 — Matthew 20:1–22:46
- ☐ November 30, 2023 — Matthew 23:1–24:51
- ☐ December 1, 2023 — Matthew 25:1–26:75
- ☐ December 2, 2023 — Matthew 27:1–28:20
- ☐ December 3, 2023 — Mark 1:1–3:35
- ☐ December 4, 2023 — Mark 4:1–6:56
- ☐ December 5, 2023 — Mark 7:1–9:50
- ☐ December 6, 2023 — Mark 10:1–11:33
- ☐ December 7, 2023 — Mark 12:1–14:11
- ☐ December 8, 2023 — Mark 14:12–16:20
- ☐ December 9, 2023 — Luke 1:1–2:52
- ☐ December 10, 2023 — Luke 3:1–5:39
- ☐ December 11, 2023 — Luke 6:1–7:50
- ☐ December 12, 2023 — Luke 8:1–9:62
- ☐ December 13, 2023 — Luke 10:1–12:59
- ☐ December 14, 2023 — Luke 13:1–15:32
- ☐ December 15, 2023 — Luke 16:1–18:43
- ☐ December 16, 2023 — Luke 19:1–21:38
- ☐ December 17, 2023 — Luke 22:1–71
- ☐ December 18, 2023 — Luke 23:1–24:53
- ☐ December 19, 2023 — John 1:1–4:54
- ☐ December 20, 2023 — John 5:1–6:71
- ☐ December 21, 2023 — John 7:1–8:59
- ☐ December 22, 2023 — John 9:1–11:57
- ☐ December 23, 2023 — John 12:1–14:31
- ☐ December 24, 2023 — John 15:1–18:40
- ☐ December 25, 2023 — John 19:1–21:25



Twenty-fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Find the answers in today's four Scripture lessons.

It may help with the Psalm if you use the English Standard Version instead of the old Psalter in the bulletin.

ACROSS

4. What Gate was the cry heard from in Zephaniah?
5. The servant with the one talent placed it there.
7. We are not of the darkness so we should keep...
9. God returns man to this element.
11. The years of our life
14. Put on the breastplate of faith and...
16. Put on the helmet of...
17. We are children of...
19. The slothful servant should have invested with them.
20. The day of the Lord will come like this.
21. God was God before these were brought forth.

DOWN

1. A thousand years are like this to God.
2. The Lord will search it with lamps.
3. He died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him.
4. The man going on a journey gave one servant one talent, another two, and a third how many?
6. The Lord has been this for his people throughout the generations.
8. They may plant vineyards but they won't drink this.
10. There was a wail from which Quarter?
11. When the day of the Lord is near, be...
12. In the outer darkness there will be weeping and gnashing of...
13. Everyone who has, this will be given to them.
15. The years of our life if we are given strength.
17. Who prepared the sacrifice in the Old Testament reading?
18. The one with the most talents had been...

The Day of the Lord

Find the 33 bold words from 1 Thessalonians 5:2–10.

F E F K S A L V A T I O N K Q
S D P A N D M J E D L I H C Y
S A I A I O J L C Y L N M T Y
E Y H E C T W A A V C I I J E
N A P M D S H B E T T R G L O
K F E I H T E O P W U H T H W
R P U L R J Z R O C E R G N T
A U O T E A E M E A A D H I D
D R I S B P A S K T A L L G N
D E U N O N O N S R T O O H P
M S A C S U U H K E V R V T B
C H I L D R E N I U V D E N Z
H G S U D D E N P E E L S L Z
G B R E A S T P L A T E Z R A
C H R I S T T E M L E H U E H

You **know** full well that the **day** of the **Lord** will come like a **thief** in the **night**. While they are saying, “**Peace** and **security**,” then **sudden ruin** will come upon them like **labor** to a **woman** with **child**. They will not **escape**. But you, brothers, are not in **darkness**, that the day should **startle** you like a thief. For you are all **children of light**, and children of the day. We are not of the **night** or of **darkness**. So let us not **sleep** like the rest, but let be **alert** and **sober**. For those who sleep, sleep in the night; and those who are **drunk** are inebriated in the night. But let us, since we are of the day, be sober, putting on the **breastplate of faith** and **love**, and for a **helmet**, the **hope of salvation**. For God did not appoint us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our **Lord Jesus Christ**, who **died** for us so that whether we are awake or asleep, we would live together with him.



St. Paul's Lutheran Church

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ (LCMC)

OUR MISSION

A family of faith sharing the gospel and love of Christ

Phone: 704-633-0922

Email: secretary@stpaulslutheran.church

Website: StPaulsLutheran.Church

Facebook: www.facebook.com/StPaulsLCMC

OFFICE HOURS

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

Friday 8:30 a.m. – 12 Noon

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Alison Moore, Girl Scout Coordinator, 704-467-9191

Next Sunday's Lessons: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24; Psalm 95:1-7a; 1 Corinthians 15:20-28; Matthew 25:31-46

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