

East St. Olaf Lutheran Church

6200 County Road 3 SW - Byron, MN

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Communion

Sunday, November 19, 2017

Pastor Paul Thompson Organist: Pat Nelson



INTRODUCTION

Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Paul says it will come like a thief in the night and urges us to be awake and sober. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope – word, water, bread and wine – eager to welcome the good news of Christ’s coming among us.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of

your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,
we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG *Now Thank We All Our God (ELW 840)*

GREETING

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.

KYRIE (ELW p. 184)

*Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev’ry day.
For peace in the world, for the health of the church,
for the unity of all;
for this holy house, for all who worship and praise,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev’ry day.
That we may live out your impassioned response
to the hungry and the poor;
that we may live out truth and justice and grace,*

*let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.
For peace in our hearts, for peace in our homes,
for friends and family;
for life and for love, for our work and our play,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.
For your Spirit to guide; that you center our lives
in the water and the Word;
that you nourish our souls with your body and blood,
let us pray to the Lord, let us pray to the Lord
Kyrie eleison, on our world and on our way,
Kyrie eleison, ev'ry day.*

CANTICLE OF PRAISE (ELW p. 185)

*Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you,
we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.
Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord Jesus Christ,
only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.
Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father.
Amen. Amen. Amen.*

*Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Glory to God in the highest, the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

FIRST READING: Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18

A reading from Zephaniah.

Zephaniah (like the prophet Amos in last week's first reading) presents the day of the Lord as one of judgment and wrath. Descriptions of the last day in the New Testament include details taken from Old Testament accounts of the day of the Lord.

⁷Be silent before the Lord GOD!

For the day of the LORD is at hand;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice,
he has consecrated his guests.

¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps,
and I will punish the people
who rest complacently on their dregs,
those who say in their hearts,
"The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do harm."

¹³Their wealth 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 warrior cries aloud there.

¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath,
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.

¹⁷I will bring such distress upon people
that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against the LORD,
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.

¹⁸Neither their silver nor their gold
will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 90:1-8 [9-11] 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.**

¹²So teach us to number our days,
that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

The Second Lesson is from the 1st Thessalonians, the 5th chapter.

Though we do not know and cannot calculate the day of Christ's return, we live faithfully in the here and now as we anticipate the day when we will be given eternal salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ.

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

¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 188)

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia.

Alleluia, alleluia.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:14-30

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁴“For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; ¹⁵to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. ¹⁶The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. ¹⁷In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. ¹⁸But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. ¹⁹After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. ²⁰Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.’ ²¹His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²²And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, ‘Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.’ ²³His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’ ²⁴Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; ²⁵so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’ ²⁶But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? ²⁷Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. ²⁸So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. ²⁹For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. ³⁰As for this

worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY *Sing to the Lord of Harvest (ELW 694)*

CREED

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.
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,*
who with the Father and the Son
is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.**

*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Welcoming God's reign of righteousness and mercy, let us pray with people of every time and place.

We pray for the church. Enliven its witness in ecumenical ministries, feeding programs, and new ventures. Open our hearts to friendships that share faith, and open our mouths to share your good news. Today we pray especially for these synod churches: Christ Lutheran Church, Byron ~ St. Luke's Lutheran Church, Goodhue ~ Grace Lutheran Church, Waseca ~ St. Paul Lutheran Church, Conger ~ Amani Lutheran Church, Tanzania ~ and Pulguori Lutheran Parish, South Sudan. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for parks and open spaces, for clean air and clear water. Help us protect places where we are reminded of God's work in creation and find renewal. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who have been and are still today enslaved, trafficked, or oppressed. Make clear the needs of those who are silenced by suffering, that we may listen and bring an end to exploitation. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for those who cry out for healing, hope, or help, and for those for whom we have promised to pray especially... West Prayers: Loretta H., Boyd P., Francis B., Al E., Joanne L., Joann T., Gene H., Robert, Danny, Veronica, Philip, and Matt Miller. East Prayers: Duane R., Kelly A, Lauree R., Maryann, Heidi G., Dianne, Sharon, Cecelia, Dale, Vern, Kevin K., Bill, David, Patricia, Sally, Roland, Carol, John, and Harris. Bring relief to caregivers and surround those who are lonely with your powerful presence. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for this congregation and the talents and treasures each person brings. Bring new talents to blossom among us, as we encourage and build up one another. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Lord, our dwelling place in all generations, we remember with thanksgiving all who have died in you (*especially*). Teach us to count our days as gifts from you. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these prayers and the hopes and concerns of our hearts, O God, as we entrust into your loving care all for whom we pray, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Holy God, gracious and merciful, you bring forth food from the earth and nourish your whole creation. Turn our hearts toward those who hunger in any way, that all may know your care; and prepare us now to feast on the bread of life, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING: DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of
everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 190)

*Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of pow'r and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.*

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.
Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

COMMUNION

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.
Amen.

COMMUNION SONG (ELW p. 191)

*Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace, grant us peace, Lamb of God.*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN *Abide with Me* (ELW 629)

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.
**O God, our life, our strength, our food, we give you thanks for
sustaining us with the body and blood of your Son. By your
Holy Spirit, enliven us to be his body in the world, that more
and more we will give you praise and serve your earth and its
many peoples, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG

Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory: Battle Hymn of the Republic
(ELW 890)

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Copyright © 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg
Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS019935. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989,
Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of
America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

WELCOME TO THOSE VISITING



If you are visiting today, we're glad you chose to worship with us. Please sign our guestbook in the narthex. Times for early/late services rotate monthly between East & West St. Olaf.

NOVEMBER WORSHIP HOURS



EAST: Has early service at 9:00 am

EAST: 10:00 am Sunday School & TLC group

WEST: 10:00 am JAM Sunday School

WEST: Has late service at 11:00 am

THANK YOU TO THOSE SERVING US

EAST ALTAR GUILD: Anyone interested may join Altar Guild

November: Diane Severson & Bev Brandt

December 3: Deanna Bakken

December 10: Mary Ann Schulz

TODAY'S HIGHLIGHTED ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Bazaar Planned for East St. Olaf!

WELCA is planning a *Country Church Christmas Bazaar* to be held on December 9 at East St. Olaf from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm to help raise money for the stained glass window repair. *Please consider what you can donate, including wood crafts, baked goodies, Christmas decorations or ornaments, quilted treasures, and gift baskets.* We are planning to have a fun day with a soup and sandwich lunch. Contact Amy Jorgenson (507-273-6575), Dawn Evjen (507-477-2506), or Yvette Dulohery (507-317-3763) with any questions. More information will be forthcoming!

REMINDER: Deadline for December Newsletter Info

Just a reminder to submit all info: thank you notes, articles, or reports by NOON on November 22 (*for the December newsletter*).

Beautifying Our Sanctuary for Advent & Christmas



Everyone loves to see our church beautified with many Poinsettias during Advent and Christmas! If you'd like to donate a plant, we will recognize it in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Please inform one of the people listed below by Dec. 15 -please specify if given in-memory-of a lost loved one OR in-honor-of

someone special in your life: EAST may email GINA at both east.west@kmtel.com and certainty@kmtel.com OR leave a message for Gina on church office voicemail (365-8222)

Offerings & Attendance

(11/05) Attendance: 58. Current \$1,775, S.G. Windows \$850, Sunday School \$60, LDR Portico \$100.

(11/12) Current \$1,819, S.G. Windows \$200, and S.G. Windows in Memory of Veterans \$101.

Next Week's Readings: For November 26, 2017 ~ Christ the King Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24, Psalm 95:1-7a, Ephesians 1:15-23, and Matthew 25:31-46

HAPPENING TODAY & THIS WEEK

11/19	9:00 am	East worship & communion... and WELCA supplies cookies to Season's Hospice
	10:00 am	West JAM/East TLC & Sunday school
	11:00 am	West worship
Mon.	10:00-Noon	Pastor Paul at office
Tue.	10:00 am	East quilting and sack lunch
Wed.	10:00-Noon	Pastor Paul at office
	Noon	<u>Firm-deadline to submit newsletter info:</u> articles, reports, thank-you notes, etc.
	-----	NO class for Confirmation (<i>school break</i>)
Thur.	<u>OFFICE CLOSED - HAPPY THANKSGIVING!</u>	
Fri.	10:00-Noon	Pastor Paul at office
11/26	9:00 am	East worship
	10:00 am	West JAM/East TLC & Sunday school
	11:00 am	West worship and communion

COMING UP AT EAST & WEST

NOVEMBER

Nov. 28 (Tue.):

- NEWSLETTER VOLUNTEER DAY at the office (9:10-print, 9:30-fold, 10:00-collate)
- 10:00 am East quilting and sack lunch

Nov. 29 (Wed.): BOTH 7:00 pm Confirmation at West chapel

DECEMBER

NOTE: Pastor Paul will be on vacation Dec. 7th - Dec 12th, AND
Pastor Paul will be on vacation Sun., Dec. 31st.

NOTE: Gina is off-work from Dec. 25th - Jan. 1st.

Dec. 3 (Sun.):

- 9:00 am West worship & communion
- 10:00 West JAM / East TLC & Sunday school
- 11:00 am East worship & communion
- West Advent by Candlelight event

Dec. 5 (Tue.): 10:00 am East Circle 4 meeting AND Christmas Potluck with reading of Christmas story from the Bible

LIST OF LOCAL & SYNOD EVENTS

See bulletin boards for any posters about these events

Dec. 2 (Sat.): 9:00 am - 12:30 pm Field Crest Auxiliary Christmas Bazaar & Baked Goods/Craft Sale at Field Crest chapel.

Dec. 3 (Sun.) Norwegian Lutfisk & Meatball Buffet and Christmas Shoppe at Christ Lutheran Church at Preston, MN. SEE POSTER

TO REMEMBER IN PRAYER

East Prayers: Duane Rasmussen (*son-in-law of Rosie Schwanke*), Kelly Anderson (*friend of Peterson's daughter*), Lauree Rupperecht (*sister of Sue Lantz*), Maryann Schultz, Heidi Guenius (*cousin of Becky Brakke*), Dianne Kearns, Sharon Boelter, Cecelia Miller (*cousin of Yvette Dulohery*), Dale Boelter, Vern Exe (*Pete's father*), Kevin Kubly (*friend of Yvette Dulohery*), Bill Fritts, David Distad, Patricia Lee, Sally Iverson, Roland Rivera, Carol Severson, John Heydt (*Pat Nelson's brother*), and Harris Nelson (*Jerry Nelson's cousin*).

West Prayers: Loretta Himle, Boyd Pew, Francis Bungum, Al Eastlee, Joanne Larsen (*mother of Dan Larsen*), Joann Tiegen, Gene Hyland, Robert Beaver, Danny Linbo, Veronica Riniker (*mother of Donna Larsen*), and Philip Senjem. **Long Term Need for Prayers:** Matt Miller (*nephew of Carma Bjornson and Julie Boyum*).

CHURCH CONTACT INFORMATION

PASTOR Paul Thompson: (*Please call before driving to the office.*)

Phone: 507-273-8504 **Email:** pthomp821@gmail.com

Office hours: Monday, Wednesday & Friday
(10:00 am-Noon... OR by appointment)

SECRETARY Gina Moser: (*Please call before driving to the office.*)

Office: 507-365-8222 **Cell:** 507-951-4964

Emails: eastwest@kmtel.com AND certainty@kmtel.com

Please send all emails for Gina to both of her email addresses.

Office Hours: Tues. & Thursdays 10:00 am-Noon

OUR WEBSITES: eaststolaf.org OR weststolaf.org

OUR JANITORIAL SERVICE: Becky Wilbourne 507-923-5845

COUNCIL CONTACT INFORMATION:

East St. Olaf

President: Bruce Peterson: 254-1822

Gary Kearns: 365-8487, cell: 254-5285

Bryan DeCook: 208-1590

VISITS FOR OUR MEMBERS If you know of anyone who may like a call or visit from the pastor or another member, please contact an East deacon: Rhonda Leighty: 365-8047, Sonya Mansfield: 365-8663 or Amanda Pyfferoen: 208-0852.

HEALTH NOTE FOR THIS WEEK

November 13th-19th 23rd is the US Antibiotic Awareness Week, which the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) uses to bring awareness of the presence of antibiotic resistant bacteria. At least 2 million Americans die annually due to antibiotic resistant infections. The single most important factor identified in the development of antibiotic resistant bacteria is the inappropriate use of antibiotics, with up to 50% of the antibiotics prescribed either not optimally effective as prescribed or unneeded. **Prevention of bacterial infections is vital, with use of good hand washing, avoiding contaminants (such as covering coughs and sneezes or sharing beverages or food utensils), and good hygiene with protection of the skin which is our body's first line of defense.** So be careful cutting the turkey and have the soap and water (and Band-aids!) ready, just in case! Happy Thanksgiving!