

11-12-23

Opening Hymn *Morning Has Broken* #8

- 1 Morning has broken like the first morning,
 blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
 Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
 Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

- 2 Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
 like the first dewfall on the first grass.
 Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
 sprung in completeness where his feet pass.

- 3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning
 born of the one light Eden saw play!
 Praise with elation, praise every morning,
 God's re-creation of the new day!

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

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

There is one Body and one Spirit;

There is one hope in God's call to us;

One Lord, one Faith, one Baptism;

One God and Father of all.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

Amen.

The Lessons

Introduction: The church in Thessalonica had many concerns. Last week, we heard about their worry that members of the congregation had died before the return of Christ. This week, we hear Paul responding to their concern that they will not be ready for Christ's return. Like a search light, Paul describes the return of Christ to be a light that guides the faithful and illuminates the deceitful behavior of others.

A reading from the First Letter to the Thessalonians 1 Thes 5:1-11

I don't need to write you about the time or date when all this will happen. You surely know that the Lord's return will be as a thief coming at night. People will think they are safe and secure. But destruction will suddenly strike them like the pains of a woman about to give birth. And they won't escape.

My dear friends, you don't live in darkness, and so that day won't surprise you like a thief. You belong to the light and

live in the day. We don't live in the night or belong to the dark. Others may sleep, but we should stay awake and be alert. People sleep during the night, and some even get drunk. But we belong to the day. So we must stay sober and let our faith and love be like a suit of armor. Our firm hope that we will be saved is our helmet.

God doesn't intend to punish us, but wants us to be saved by our Lord Jesus Christ. Christ died for us, so we could live with him, whether we are alive or dead when he comes. This is why you must encourage and help each other, just as you are already doing.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Gradual Hymn O Christ the Word Incarnate #632
O Christ, the Word Incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth, unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky;
we praise thee for the radiance that from the scripture's
page, a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to
Matthew.

Glory to you Lord Christ. Matthew 25:14-30

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who

had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then 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.' His 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.' And 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.' His 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.' Then 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; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But 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? Then you ought to have invested my money

with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent 4 from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For 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. As 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, Lord Christ.**

Gradual Hymn O Christ the Word Incarnate #632

The Church from our dear Master received the word divine,
and still that light is lifted o’er all the earth to shine. It is the
chart and compass that o’er life’s surging sea, mid mists and
rocks and quicksands, still guides, O Christ, to thee.

The Sermon

Solo Amazing Grace

The Prayers of the People

Let us pray for the Church, the world, and one another.

silence

Heavenly Father, Father, thank you for entrusting to us the
treasures of your Kingdom and the gifts of your Holy Spirit.

Give us grace to be faithful stewards of your gifts. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Bless all houses of prayer on this island and especially bring your Spirit upon us at our Interfaith Thanksgiving Service to give thanks with one voice and in one Spirit. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Give teachable minds and willing hearts to the leaders of the nations. Remind them that they must give you an account of their stewardship of power, authority, and talents. Give to each of us the gifts of kindness, humility, and generosity, so that all our lives may be touched by happiness and brightened by hope. Especially we pray: bring your peace to Ukraine, Israel and Palestine. *Silence*

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Let all who seek your help in their times of trial find peace from all that troubles them; especially Downs IV, Holden, Anne, Victoria, Anne Louise, Kim, Michael, Barbara, Lorraine and Pam Toft. For those going through cancer treatments, especially, Margaret, Downs III, Victoria, Alex, Connie, Douglas, Frank, Gerta, Lauren, Heather, Jennifer, TJ, Jim, Stephanie and Cara. Visit and comfort all who are under the care of skilled nursing, especially Timothy, Barbara, Kim and Lou. Be near to all who are in hospice care especially Jean.

Silence

Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we ask that you hold all those who have

died trusting in your promises. And as you have called us to ventures of which we cannot see the ending, by paths as yet untrodden, through perils unknown, we pray: Give us faith to go out with good courage, not knowing where we go, but only that your hand is leading us and your love supporting us, until you bring us home, through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Silence* Lord, in your mercy **Hear our prayer.**

We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins. **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.**

Presentation and Examination of the Candidates for Baptism

Celebrant The Candidate for Holy Baptism will now be presented.

I present Archena, Scott and Landon to receive the Sacrament of Baptism.

Celebrant Do you desire to be baptized?

Candidates **I do**

Celebrant Do you renounce Satan and all the spiritual forces of wickedness that rebel against God?

Candidates **I renounce them.**

Celebrant Do you renounce the evil powers of this world which corrupt and destroy the creatures of God?

Candidates **I renounce them.**

Celebrant Do you renounce all sinful desires that draw you from the love of God?

Candidates **I renounce them.**

Celebrant Do you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as your Savior?

Candidates **I do.**

Celebrant Do you put your whole trust in his grace and love?

Candidates **I do.**

Celebrant Do you promise to follow and obey him as your Lord?

Candidates **I do.**

Celebrant Will you who witness these vows do all in your power to support Archena, Scott and Landon in their life in Christ?

People **We will.**

Celebrant Let us join with Archena, Scott and Landon, who are being bound to Christ and renew our own baptismal covenant.

The Renewal of Baptismal Vows

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Father?

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

Celebrant Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God? *People*

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 to the dead. 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.

Celebrant Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

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

Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship, in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

I will, with God's help.

Will you persevere in resisting evil, and, whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

I will, with God's help.

Will you proclaim by word and example the Good News of God in Christ?

I will, with God's help.

Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons, loving your neighbor as yourself?

I will, with God's help.

Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

I will, with God's help.

Prayers for the Candidates

Celebrant Let us now pray for Archena, Scott and Landon who are to receive the Sacrament of new birth.

Leader Deliver them, O Lord, from the way of sin and death.

People **Lord, hear our prayer.**

Open their hearts to your grace and truth.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Fill them with your holy and lifegiving Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Keep them in the faith and communion of your holy Church.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Teach them to love others in the power of the Spirit.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Send them into the world in witness to your love.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Bring them to the fullness of your peace and glory.

Lord, hear our prayer.

Celebrant Grant, O Lord, that all who are baptized into the death of Jesus Christ your Son may live in the power of his

resurrection and look for him to come again in glory; who lives and reigns now and forever. Amen.

Reflection Hymn *Jesus Loves Me* David Stasney

The Blessing of the Water

We thank you, Almighty God, for the gift of water. Over it the Holy Spirit moved in the beginning of creation. Through it you led the children of Israel out of their bondage in Egypt into the land of promise. In it your Son Jesus received the baptism of John and was anointed by the Holy Spirit as the Messiah, the Christ, to lead us, through his death and resurrection, from the bondage of sin into everlasting life.

We thank you, Father, for the water of Baptism. In it we are buried with Christ in his death. By it we share in his resurrection. Through it we are reborn by the Holy Spirit. Therefore in joyful obedience to your Son, we bring into his fellowship those who come to him in faith, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Now sanctify this water, we pray you, by the power of your Holy Spirit, that those who here are cleansed from sin and born again may continue for ever in the risen life of Jesus Christ our Savior. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Baptism

The Priest says the following words as water is poured over the candidates

N., I baptize you in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

N., you are sealed by the Holy Spirit in Baptism and marked as Christ's own forever. **Amen.**

Let us pray. Heavenly Father, we thank you that by water and the Holy Spirit you have bestowed upon Archena, Scott and Landon the forgiveness of sin, and have raised them to the new life of grace. Sustain them, O Lord, in your Holy Spirit. Give them an inquiring and discerning heart, the courage to will and to persevere, a spirit to know and to love you, and the gift of joy and wonder in all your works. **Amen.**

Celebrant Together, let us welcome these newly baptized saints.

People We receive you into the household of God. Confess the faith of Christ crucified, proclaim his resurrection, and share with us in his eternal priesthood.

The Peace of the Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Greetings, Announcements and Introductions

Offertory Anthem Canticle for Thanksgiving

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

The Holy Eucharist

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 God thanks and praise.

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to

fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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.”

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving, **We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Bring us to your Table for solace and strength; for pardon and for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. **AMEN.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say, **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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Solo Children's Prayer

Communion Hymn *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* #290

Come, ye thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home; all is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin. God our Maker doth provide for our wants to be supplied; come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, fruit unto his praise to yield; wheat and tares together sown unto joy or sorrow grown; first the blade and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear; Grant, O harvest Lord, that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home; from his field shall in that day all offenses purge away, give his angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast; but the fruitful ears to store in his garner evermore. Even so, Lord, quickly come, to thy final harvest home; gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin, there, forever purified, in thy presence to abide; come, with all thine angels, come, raise the glorious harvest home.

Prayer After Communion

Let us pray. **Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

The Blessing

Closing Hymn *Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies* #7

Christ, whose glory fills the skies, Christ, the true, the only Light, Sun of Righteousness, arise! Triumph o'er the shades of night: Dayspring from on high, be near; Daystar, in my heart appear.

Dark and cheerless is the morn unaccompanied by thee; joyless is the day's return, till thy mercy's beams I see, till they inward light impart, glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

Visit then this soul of mine! Pierce the gloom of sin and grief! Fill me, radiancy divine; scatter all my unbelief; more and more thyself display, shining to the perfect day.

The Dismissal

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia

Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia