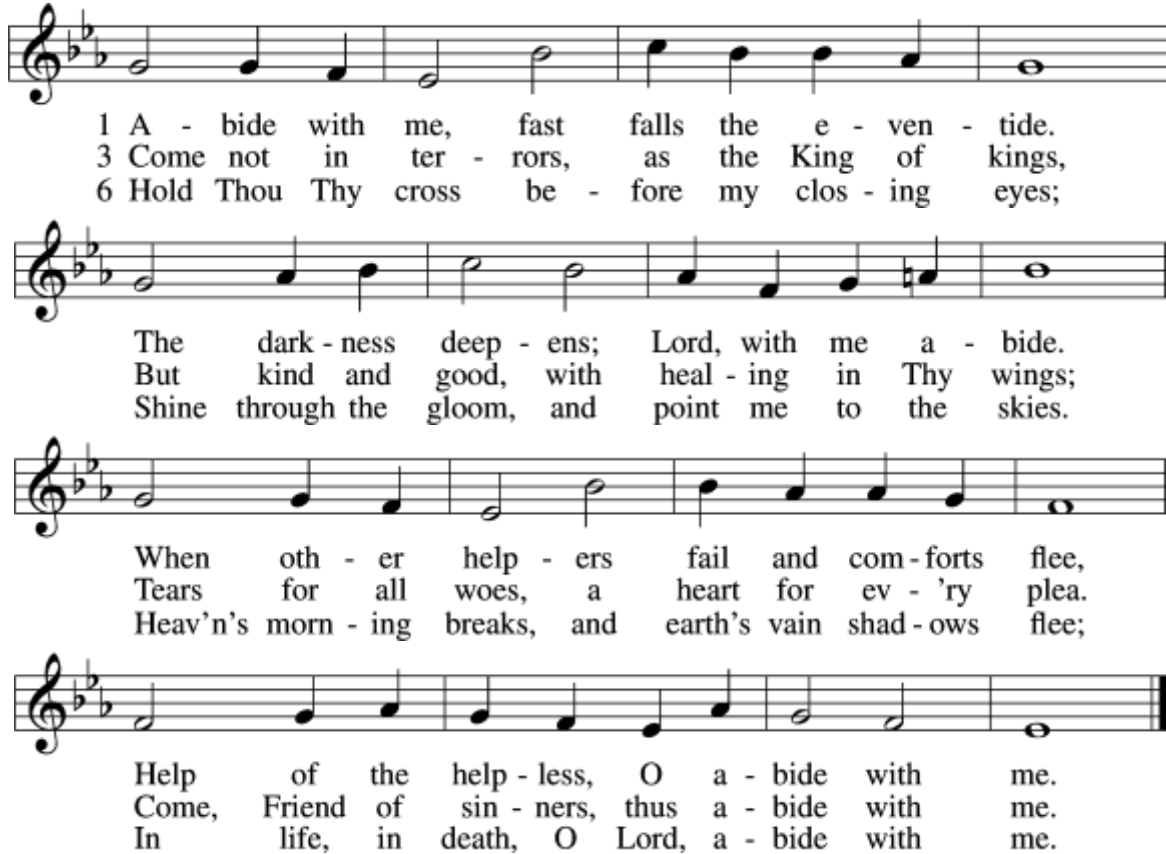


Pastor's Bible Study

November 12, 2025

Twenty-third Sunday after Pentecost – Proper 28

Hymn 878 “Abide with Me”



1 A - bid e with me, fast falls the e - ven - tide.
3 Come not in ter - rors, as the King of kings,
6 Hold Thou Thy cross be - fore my clos - ing eyes;

The dark - ness deep - ens; Lord, with me a - bid e.
But kind and good, with heal - ing in Thy wings;
Shine through the gloom, and point me to the skies.

When oth - er help - ers fail and com - forts flee,
Tears for all woes, a heart for ev - 'ry plea.
Heav'n's morn - ing breaks, and earth's vain shad - ows flee;

Help of the help - less, O a - bid e with me.
Come, Friend of sin - ners, thus a - bid e with me.
In life, in death, O Lord, a - bid e with me.

Read Malachi 4:1-6

1. Read Malachi 3:1. What is described in this verse?
2. What events are described in Malachi 4:1-6, and what details are disclosed about how it will happen?
3. In verse five, God says, “Behold, I will send you Elijah the prophet before the great and awesome day of the Lord comes.” Who is this and what is his purpose?
4. Aside from John the Baptist about whom Jesus says, “But I tell you Elijah has already come” (Matthew 17:12), when does Elijah “come” in the Gospels?

5. How does this appearance of Elijah change the meaning of Malachi 4:5-6? Read Luke 9:30-31.
6. What is the significance of fathers and children “turning their hearts” toward each other?

Read Luke 21:5-28

7. This reading from Luke is complex. The NIV simply lumps the entire section under the heading “Signs of the End of the Age” and, while this section certainly includes these “signs,” it also includes other prophecies as well. Read Luke 21:5-9 again. What is Jesus specifically describing in this section?
8. What “signs” are mentioned in verse 10-11 and what do they indicate?
9. How are the prophecies in verses 12-19 fulfilled? See Acts 4:5-12, Acts 25:1-12 and Revelation 2:10.
10. In verses 20-24, Jesus describes the destruction of Jerusalem; a prophecy which came to pass in _____. About this event the Roman historian Josephus wrote that, “more than a million died and 97,000 were carried away captive” (TLSB, 1761) giving support to Jesus’ dire words of warning.
11. Finally, in verses 25-28, Jesus turns His attention to the end of the world. What signs will occur before the end?
12. How is Christ’s return described?
13. What is the appropriate response of the believer to these signs?

Devotional Thought (The Lutheran Study Bible)

The last Old Testament book concludes with the Lord’s announcement that Judgment Day is coming. For those who refuse to repent and believe the Gospel, it means utter destruction. But for those who fear His name, this will be a day of rejoicing. John the Baptist called the people of his day to repentance and faith in the coming Savior. How great a message for us to hear! (TLSB, 1550).

Closing Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, Son of Righteousness, let the light of your healing grace shine on me, that I may fear, love and trust in You always. Amen.