

**Order of Worship
for
The Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
November 12, 2023**

Today's Worship Theme

"BE PREPARED!"

Matthew 25:1-13

Parable of the Ten Bridesmaids

The bridegroom has filled our lamps with oil. The light will never burn out. When we are caught off guard and the unexpected shows up at our doorstep, we do not have to worry that we will not be prepared. We are ready. Jesus has filled our lamps with oil. Even though the five wise bridesmaids did not believe it, there will always be enough. The oil that Jesus provides will never run out. Nothing can separate us from the love of God.

**CALL TO WORSHIP
"Blessed Assurance"
ELW 638**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*On this Sunday we gather for worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.*

Amen!

*The peace of the Lord be with you always!
And also with you!*

HYMN OF PRAISE
“Now the Feast of Celebration”
ELW 167

PRAYER

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

SONG

“Cry of My Heart”

READINGS

Amos 5:18-24

**The first reading is from the prophet Amos,
chapter five, verse eighteen through twenty-four.**

Amos writes:

¹⁸ Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light, ¹⁹ as if someone fled from a lion and was met by a bear or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall and was bitten by a snake. ²⁰ Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it? ²¹ I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. ²² Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them, and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. ²³ Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. ²⁴ But let justice roll down like water and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

1st Thessalonians 4:13-18

The second reading is from Paul's first epistle to the Thessalonians, chapter four, verse thirteen through eighteen.

Paul writes:

But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will be with the Lord forever. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:1-13

The Gospel according to Matthew, chapter twenty-five, verses one through thirteen.

Matthew writes:

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten young women took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ² Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³ When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴ but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵ As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. ⁶ But at midnight there was a shout, 'Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' ⁷ Then all those young women got up and trimmed their lamps. ⁸ The foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' ⁹ But the wise replied, 'No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.' ¹⁰ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet, and the door was shut. ¹¹ Later the other young women came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' ¹² But he replied, 'Truly I tell you, I do not know you.' ¹³ Keep awake, therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

MESSAGE

"SO Be Prepared"

Rev. Steve Albertin

"Be Prepared" is good advice, but does not always work. "Stuff happens," life can go wrong and we are caught off-guard.

In the parable of today's Gospel, the same thing happens. The bridegroom does not come on time. Five of ten bridesmaids were not prepared for this change in plans. They miss out on the wedding.

Jesus tells us to be prepared for the moment when we must give an accounting of our lives to God. That is scary given the state of our lives.

However, there is another way to hear this parable. It changes everything.

Jesus, the Bridegroom, also came with a shout to forgive sinners and those who were not prepared.

He has filled our lamps with oil. There will always be enough.

Therefore, we are free to live unafraid of what will happen to us, generously giving away our lives to others in faithful stewardship of all that God has given us.

HOLY BAPTISM

Today, we welcome Charlie Ryan Beck through the Sacrament of Holy Baptism!

In baptism our gracious heavenly Father frees us from sin and death by joining us to the death and resurrection of our Lord Jesus Christ. We are born children of a fallen humanity; by water and the Holy Spirit we are reborn children of God and made members of the church, the body of Christ. Living with Christ and in the communion of saints, we grow in faith, love, and obedience to the will of God.

Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have Charlie baptized into Christ?

As you bring Charlie to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:

*to live with him among God's faithful people,
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in their hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture them in faith and prayer,
so that your children may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.*

Do you promise to help Charlie grow in the Christian faith and life?

Sponsors, do you promise to nurture Charlie in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

People of God, do you promise to support Charlie and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

We do.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church.

Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God?

Do you renounce the powers of this world that rebel against God?

Do you renounce the ways of sin that draw you from God?

(Congregation stands and faces the baptismal font)

Do you believe in God the Father?

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

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
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,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**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.**

THANKSGIVING AT THE FONT

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessed are you, O God, maker and ruler of all things. Your voice thundered over the waters at creation. You water the mountains and send springs into the valleys to refresh and satisfy all living things.

Through the waters of the flood you carried those in the ark to safety. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery to freedom. In the wilderness you nourished them with water from the rock, and you brought them across the river Jordan to the promised land.

By the baptism of his death and resurrection, your Son Jesus has carried us to safety and freedom. The floods shall not overwhelm us, and the deep shall not swallow us up, for Christ has brought us over to the land of promise. He sends us to make disciples, baptizing in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Pour out your Holy Spirit; wash away sin in this cleansing water; clothe the baptized with Christ; and claim your daughters and sons, no longer slave and free, no longer male and female, but one with all the baptized in Christ Jesus, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

(The Congregation may be seated)

BAPTISM

*Charlie, I baptize you in the name of the Father,
and of the Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.*

Amen.

(Baptismal Party moves to the altar while the congregation sings the first two verses of "I Was There To Hear Your Borning Cry")

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life.

*Sustain Charlie with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.
Amen.*

*Charlie, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.
Amen.*

WELCOME THE NEWLY BAPTIZED

**Let your light so shine before others
that they may see your good works
and glorify your Father in heaven.
Let us welcome the newly baptized.**

**We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share:
join us in giving thanks and praise to God
and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.**

Introduction of the Newly Baptized

(Baptismal Party returns to their seats as the congregation sings the last two verses of "I Was There To Hear Your Borning Cry")

OFFERING

Your offerings are more than just money to keep the lights turned on. Your gifts help to sustain and expand all of our ministries here at King of Glory, including those which provide direct assistance to those in our community who are in need. We are grateful for all of the gifts we receive, and we strive to be good stewards of the resources you provide to us.

**If you wish to give online, you can [use our app](#)
Or, go to our website at <https://kogcarmel.org/give>**

OFFERTORY HYMN “We Are an Offering” ELW 692

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

During this time, we pray for all those who need God’s blessings, and praise Him for the blessings He has bestowed upon us.

During the prayers, there will be a time of silence, when we offer our personal prayers to God.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

We prepare to receive the sacraments of Holy Communion, by remembering the words and actions of Jesus during the Last Supper.

All baptized Christians who seek the blessings of Christ's true body and blood in the bread and wine of Holy Communion are welcome at his table. There, they receive him and the new life he offers.

Those who eat and drink at his table commit themselves to the care and redemption of all that God has made.

If you are not baptized, contact Pastor Albertin to learn how you can receive the great gift God has for you in baptism.

Today you are welcome to join us at Christ’s table.

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.

*It is indeed right to give You our thanks and praise, O God...
Therefore, with our hearts lifted high, we offer You thanks and praise, mixed with
the eternal blessings offered even now by Your angels and archangels, as we join
them in that praise of You today!*

**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.**

*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, broken
for you. Eat this, and remember Me."*

*After supper, He took the cup, gave thanks and gave it to all to drink, saying, "This
cup is the New Covenant, written in My blood, shed for you and for all people for
the forgiveness of all sin. Drink this, and remember Me."*

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father in heaven
hallowed be Your name,
Your kingdom come,
Your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power
and the glory are Yours
now and forever.
Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

***For those worshipping in-house,
we invite you to come forward if you wish.
If you prefer to take communion at your seat,
you may do so.***

***For those joining us online,
if you are able,
we invite you to take communion where you are,
using any kind of bread and either wine or grape juice
so that you may receive the body and blood of our Lord and Savior,
Jesus the Christ.***

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

***Now, may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, keep you in His grace and
peace, now and forever. Amen!***

SONG
“I Stand in Awe”

BENEDICTION

*May the Lord bless you and keep you; May the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; May the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you God’s peace; in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.*

SONG
“Heaven Is in My Heart”

Minister: Rev. Steve Albertin
Pianist & Sounds of Glory Director: David Moscrip

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