

**St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School**  
624 Jennings St. Sioux City, Iowa 51101  
Church: (712)252-0338 School: (712) 258-6325  
[www.siouxcitystpauls.org](http://www.siouxcitystpauls.org)



For when the **foolish** took their lamps,  
they **took no oil** with them,  
but the **wise** took  
**flasks of oil** with their lamps.

Matthew 25:3-4

6 p.m. Sat., Nov. 7, & 8:15 a.m. Sun., Nov. 8, 2020

Sermon: "The Now And The Not Yet!" Matthew 25:1-13



# St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- a Family to Whom You Belong -

Our Mission is to: **Make More & Better Disciples**

## THE TWENTY THIRD SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(6 p.m. Sat., Nov. 7 & 8:15 a.m. Sun., Nov. 8, 2020)

### **Servants of God's House**

**Pastor:** Rev. Kenny Hsu

**Organists:** 6 p.m. Sat., Joyce Seymour; 8:15 a.m. Sun., Mabel Huldeen

**Ushers:** Doug Lehr Team

**Missionaries:** Rev. Shauen & Krista Trump, Rev. Tim & Lisa Beckendorf,  
Rev. Paul Flo, Rev. Charles Cortwright

**Readers:** 6 p.m. Sat., Ron Cason; 8:15 a.m. Sun. Don Olson

---

**WELCOME!** We are glad that you are here worshipping God with us. We pray for God's blessings to you and invite you to come back again soon.

**AS WE GATHER** We cannot enter the eternal marriage feast on our own, for we are all unprepared. But Christ has prepared us, filling us with His Word and Sacraments; our lamps of faith are full, with wicks trimmed. Jesus is with us now, even as we shall see Him at His physical return. We shall enter with Him and all those who have preceded us in faith. The sacrifices the Lord was refusing to receive from Israel in Amos's day have all been superseded by the all-atoning sacrifice of our Savior. We already have a foretaste of the feast to come; the door is open, and Christ has made us ready.

**PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP** Let us pray. Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His Bride, the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

### **DIVINE SERVICE THREE**

Page 184

(The congregation is invited to respond with the words written in **bold**.)

#### **The Ringing of the Bells**

#### **The Wave of Fellowship**

Hymn of Invocation "Lord, Whose Love through Humble Service"

LSB 848

(stand as you are able for the last verse)

(The sign of the cross + may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism.)

The Invocation *Matthew 28:19b; (18:20)*

**P:** In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen.**

Opening Sentences:

P: Make haste, O God, to deliver us!

**C: O Lord, make haste to help us!**

P: May all who seek the Lord rejoice and be glad in Him!

**C: May we say evermore, "God is great!"**

P: For Christ is coming soon.

**C: Soon, He will descend from the heavens.**

P: Soon, He will raise the dead.

**C: And we will always be with the Lord.**

P: He is our help and our deliverer.

**C: O Lord, do not delay!**

Confession and Absolution

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness. *Hebrews 10:22*

P: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

**C: who made heaven and earth.** *Psalm 124:8*

P: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

**C: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.** *Psalm 32:5*

(A moment of silence for reflection of God's word and self-examination)

P: O almighty God, merciful Father,

**C: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. *John 20:19-23*

**C: Amen.**

The Kyrie "Lord, Have Mercy" (*Sung*) *Mark 10:47*

Page 186

**Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.**

The Gloria in Excelsis- "Glory to God in the Highest" (*Sung*)

Page 187

P: Glory be to God on high,

**C: and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.**

**We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee.**

we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.  
 O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.  
 O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;  
 O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,  
 that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.  
 Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.  
 Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.  
 For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.  
 Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,  
 art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Salutation and Collect of the Day (Sung)

Page 189

P: The Lord be with you. 2 Timothy 4:22

**C: And with thy Spirit.**

P: Let us pray.

**C: O Lord, encourage us with Your presence in Your Word and Sacraments, that we be strengthened for service to You and our neighbors as we await the return of Jesus, through the same Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

The First Reading Amos 5:18–24 NIV (The day of the Lord is coming.)

<p><sup>18</sup>Woe to you who long for the day of the Lord! Why do you long for the day of the Lord? That day will be darkness, not light. <sup>19</sup>It will be as though a man fled from a lion only to meet a bear, as though he entered his house and rested his hand on the wall only to have a snake bite him.</p> <p><sup>20</sup>Will not the day of the Lord be darkness, not light— pitch-dark, without a ray of brightness? <sup>21</sup>“I hate, I despise your</p>	<p>religious festivals; your assemblies are a stench to me. <sup>22</sup>Even though you bring me burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them. Though you bring choice fellowship offerings, I will have no regard for them. <sup>23</sup>Away with the noise of your songs! I will not listen to the music of your harps. <sup>24</sup>But let justice roll on like a river, righteousness like a never-failing stream!</p>
--	--

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

The Gradual We praise God together in the words of the Gradual.  
 Revelation 7:14b; Psalm 84:5

**C: These are the ones coming out of the great tribulation. They have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. Blessed are those whose strength is in You, in whose heart are the highways to Zion.**

The Epistle Lesson 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18 NIV (We will always be with the Lord.)

<sup>13</sup> Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. <sup>14</sup> For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

<sup>15</sup> According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen

asleep. <sup>16</sup> For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first.

<sup>17</sup> After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever. <sup>18</sup> Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

(Stand as you are able)

The Verse *Matthew 25:13*

**C: Alleluia. Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour. Alleluia.**

(Please remain standing for the Gospel and the Creed)

The Holy Gospel Matthew 25:1–13 NIV (The parable of the ten virgins.)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.** (*Sung*)

<sup>1</sup>“At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup> Five of them were foolish and five were wise. <sup>3</sup> The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. <sup>4</sup> The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. <sup>5</sup> The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep. <sup>6</sup>“At midnight the cry rang out: ‘Here’s the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!’

<sup>7</sup>“Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup> The foolish ones

said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup> ‘No,’ they replied, ‘there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.’

<sup>10</sup>“But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>“Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’

<sup>12</sup>“But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’ <sup>13</sup>“Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise be to Thee, O Christ.** (*Sung*)

Page 191

The Apostles’ Creed

(Please be seated)

## The Children's Message

Hymn of the Day "Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying"

LSB 516

Sermon "The Now And The Not Yet" Matthew 25:1-13

### Offering of God's People to their Beloved Savior

We honor God with the gifts He has given to us.

**St. Paul's members** have pledged to support our ministry in their tithes and offerings.  
Please place your offerings in the box upfront.

**To our guest:** Thank you for joining us today and please do not feel that you are obligated to participate. We invite you to come back again.

Please put your **Welcome Card** in the box at the back of the church.

*Exodus 35:21—And they came, everyone whose heart stirred him, and everyone whose spirit moved him, and brought the Lord's contribution to be used for the tent of meeting, and for its service, and for the holy garments.*

Offertory Hymn "Lord of All Good"

LSB 786

(stand as you are able)

The Offertory (Sung) Psalm 51:10-12

Page 192

**Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

### The Prayer of the Church

P: Lord Jesus Christ, through You all things were made. You have entrusted us with the care of all creation. Embolden us to be good and faithful stewards of all that You have made until You return to dwell with us again. For until Your return, we pray,

**C: come quickly, Lord Jesus.**

P: Lord Jesus, in Your incarnation and birth You deigned to dwell among us, even as an infant. Bring comfort to all those who are living through the challenges of infertility and miscarriage. Bring them Your healing, and give them wisdom as they seek to do Your will. For until Your return, we pray,

**C: come quickly, Lord Jesus.**

P: Lord Jesus, in Your earthly life You suffered much at the hands of lawless men. Be with all those who suffer now through abuse, illness, or injustice, especially we remember Charlie Striegel and Kim Sparr. Heal them according to Your will. For until Your return, we pray,

**C: come quickly, Lord Jesus.**

P: Lord Jesus, You have sustained our nation in the past and continue to bless us. We recall how so many have given their lives for the cause of freedom. Men and women continue to sacrifice and serve in the armed forces. We remember the great courage and selfless service of so many throughout history who have answered the call to serve. We remember their honorable sacrifice for the freedom of others. Comfort the families who mourn the loss of loved ones. Comfort also those who suffer permanent injuries as a result of serving our nation in the military. We are grateful for the devotion and sacrifices of military families. Grant us the resources and willing hearts to support them. For until Your return, we pray,

**C: come quickly, Lord Jesus.**

P: Lord Jesus, be present in Your Church. Give us faithful pastors, teachers, musicians, administrators, and other church workers, that we walk together with You, bringing Your Gospel to all nations. For until Your return, we pray,

**C: come quickly, Lord Jesus.**

P: For those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries that they remain faithful to your Word including; Darlene Campbell, Carter Bertrand, Cole Bertrand, Kevin Bock III, Caleb Jager, Jayce Burke, Kylee Eickholt, Melissa Lyons, Tanaeya Worden, Doug Mc Bride, James Albright, Gabriel Gomez, Jaxen Felix, Sean Herfel, and Niki Knowles. For until Your return, we pray,

**C: come quickly, Lord Jesus.**

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

**C: Amen.**

### The Lord's Prayer

Benediction Numbers 6:24-26

Page 202

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and + give you peace.

**C: Amen, Amen, Amen.** (Sung)

### The Closing Hymn

“Rise, My Soul, to Watch and Pray”

LSB 663

### Silent Prayer

### Postlude

+ + + + +

\*ORDER OF SERVICE is reprinted from Lutheran Service Book, Copyright (c) 2006 Concordia Publishing House. Reprinted by permission

# "The Now And The Not Yet"

Date: 11/08/20

Text: Matthew 25:1-13

## Verse for Meditation

***"Therefore, keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour."***

*Matthew 25:13 (NIV)*

## Points to Ponder

1. **Let's do the math:**
  - for college
  - for career
  - for eternity
2. **In what church season are we now? What is the next season?**
3. **"Once saved, always saved"?**
4. **The Parable of the ten virgins:**
  - Bridegroom
  - Virgins
  - Lamps
  - Feast
5. ***The now and the not yet***
  - How do we face the distractions?
  - Our oil gets used up as our lamps shine forth.
  - How do we keep our lamps filled?