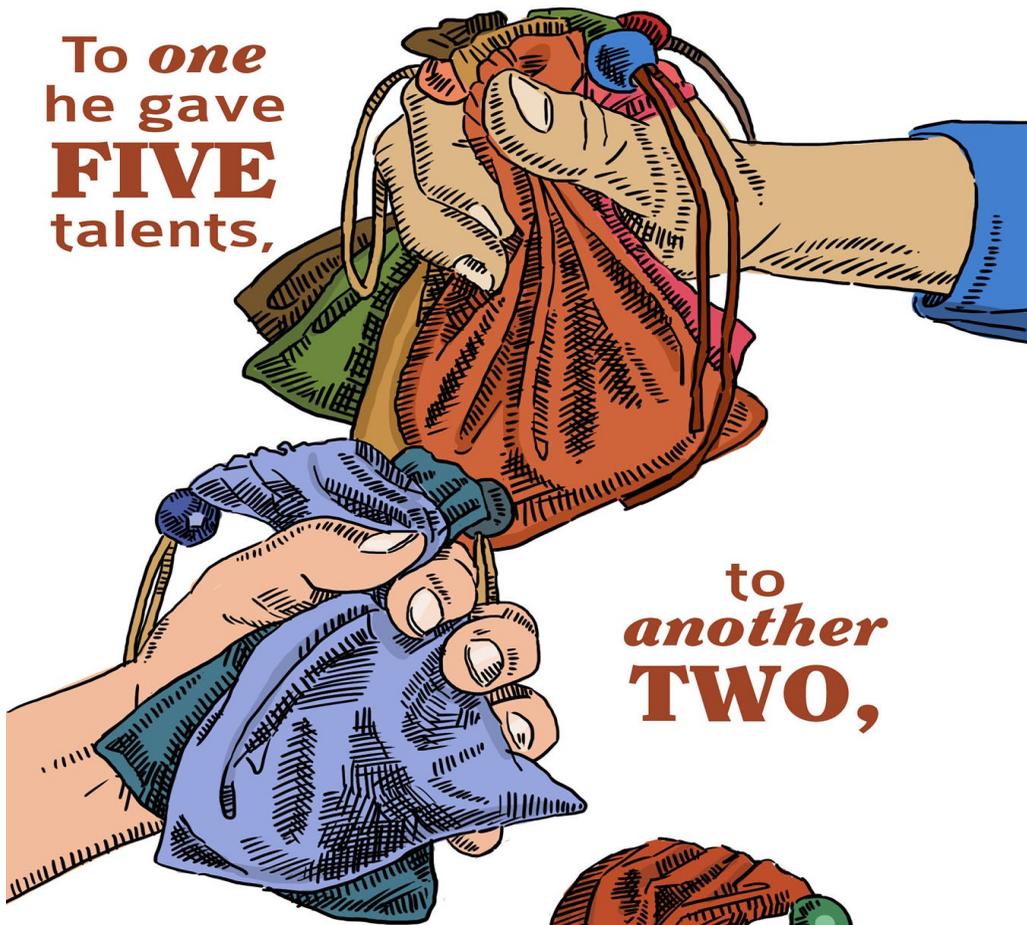


St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School
624 Jennings St. Sioux City, Iowa 51101
Church: (712)252-0338 School: (712) 258-6325
www.siouxcitystpauls.org

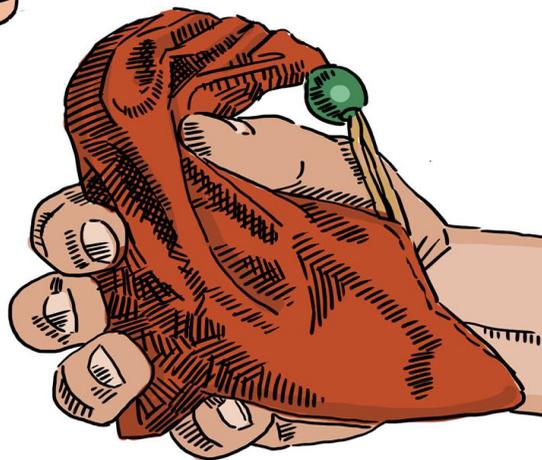
To *one*
he gave
FIVE
talents,



to
another
TWO,

to *another*
ONE,
to each
according to
his ability.

Matthew 25:15



6 p.m. Sat., Nov. 14, & 8:15 a.m. Sun., Nov. 15, 2020



St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- a Family to Whom You Belong -

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

THE TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

(6 p.m. Sat., November 14, & 8:15 a.m. Sun., November 15, 2020)

Servants of God's House Today:

Pastor: Rev. Kenny Hsu **Guest Pastor:** Rev. Paul Flo

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

Ushers: Tim Draube Team

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

Elders: 6 p.m. Sat., Randy Johnson; 8:15 a.m. Sun. Ron Cason & Robert Greene

Readers: 6 p.m. Sat., Marlis Hilden; 8:15 a.m. Sun., Dallas Schulz

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 read today about three servants. All three received a good and gracious gift from their master. Two were good and faithful. One was evil and faithless. Two reflected the goodness and faithfulness of their master. One refused to act like his master and was punished for his insolence. Consider Jesus, our good and faithful Master, and all that He has done for us and our salvation. As we follow Him, we reflect His goodness and faithfulness.

HOLY COMMUNION The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod believes the Biblical teaching that in communion we receive not the symbolic but the true body and blood of Jesus Christ with the bread and wine for the forgiveness of sins. If you are a baptized Christian who has been instructed in the same Biblical teaching, and if you agree with the announcement on our communion card and the confession of our faith, please join us to receive the gifts that Jesus Christ has prepared for us in communion. If you have any questions or uncertainties, please feel free to make an appointment to talk with the pastor during the week before communing with us.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

DIVINE SERVICE FOUR

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

The Ringing of the Bells

The Wave of Fellowship

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

The Invocation

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

C: Amen.

Opening Sentences

P: Lord, You have been our dwelling place in all generations.

C: You have been our good and faithful Master.

P: You have poured out blessings upon us.

C: You have given us all we need to support this body and life.

P: We meditate on all that You have done.

C: We ponder the work of Your hands.

P: On account of Your name, O Lord, preserve our lives.

C: In Your righteousness, bring us out of trouble.

Confession and Absolution

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

C: who made heaven and earth.

P: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C: But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

P: Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

C: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

P: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Service of the Word

The Kyrie “Lord, Have Mercy” (*Sung*)

P: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

P: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

C: Lord, have mercy; Christ, have mercy; Lord, have mercy.

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

Page 204

**To God on high be glory And peace to all the earth;
Goodwill from God in heaven Proclaimed at Jesus' birth!
We praise and bless You, Father; Your holy name we sing—
Our thanks for Your great glory, Lord God, our heav'nly King.**

**To You, O sole-begotten, The Father's Son, we pray;
O Lamb of God, our Savior, You take our sins away.
Have mercy on us, Jesus; Receive our heartfelt cry,
Where You in pow'r are seated At God's right hand on high—**

**For You alone are holy; You only are the Lord.
Forever and forever, Be worshiped and adored;
You with the Holy Spirit Alone are Lord Most High,
In God the Father's glory. "Amen!" our glad reply.**

The Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Heavenly Father, You are our good and faithful Master. Thank You for the abundance of blessings You have poured into our lives. Strengthen us by Your mighty power, that we might serve You well and faithfully; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The Old Testament Reading Zephaniah 1:7–16 NIV (The Day of the Lord is near.)

⁷Be silent before the Sovereign Lord, for the day of the Lord is near. The Lord has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated those he has invited. ⁸“On the day of the Lord’s sacrifice I will punish the officials and the king’s sons and all those clad in foreign clothes. ⁹On that day I will punish all who avoid stepping on the threshold, who fill the temple of their gods with violence and deceit. ¹⁰“On that day,” declares the Lord, “a cry will go up from the Fish Gate, wailing from the New

Quarter, and a loud crash from the hills.

¹¹Wail, you who live in the market district; all your merchants will be wiped out, all who trade with silver will be destroyed. ¹²At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps and punish those who are complacent, who are like wine left on its dregs, who think, 'The Lord will do nothing, either good or bad.' ¹³Their wealth will be plundered, their houses demolished. Though they build houses, they will not live in them; though they plant

vineyards, they will not drink the wine."

¹⁴The great day of the Lord is near—near and coming quickly. The cry on the day of the Lord is bitter; the Mighty Warrior shouts his battle cry. ¹⁵That day will be a day of wrath— a day of distress and anguish, a day of trouble and ruin, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness— ¹⁶a day of trumpet and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the corner towers.

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 5:1–11 NIV (Let us live as children of the light.)

¹Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ²for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

⁴But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. ⁶So then, let us not be like

others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. ⁷For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet.

⁹For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Stand as you are able)

The Alleluia and Verse (Sung)

Page 205

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia. These things are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

(Please remain standing for the Gospel and the Creed)

The Holy Gospel Matthew 25:14–30 NIV (The parable of the talents)

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

C: Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁴ “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. ¹⁵ To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. ¹⁶ The man who had received five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. ¹⁷ So also, the one with two talents gained two more. ¹⁸ But the man who had received one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money.

¹⁹ “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. ²⁰ The man who had received five talents brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.’

²¹ “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²² “The man with two talents also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.’

²³ “His master replied, ‘Well done, good

and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master’s happiness!’

²⁴ “Then the man who had received one talent came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. ²⁵ So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

²⁶ “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? ²⁷ Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.’

²⁸ “So take the talent from him and give it to the one who has ten talents. ²⁹ For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. ³⁰ And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to You, O Christ.

The Nicene Creed

(Please be seated)

Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day “The Day Is Surely Drawing Near”

LSB 508 vs. 1,2,5,6

Sermon

“Backwards Planning”

Text: 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

Guest Pastor: Rev. Paul Flo

The Prayer of the Church

P: Dear heavenly Father, You have placed us in various vocations for the sake of Your people. Strengthen us when we face challenges and trials that would tempt us to abandon Your Church. Forgive us when we go astray. Bring back all those who have wandered from the faith. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Give ear to our pleas for mercy.

P: Lord, raise up good and faithful servants in the governments of the world, that citizens of all nations might be treated with fairness and justice. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Give ear to our pleas for mercy.

P: Lord, the day of Jesus' return is drawing near. Give us patience and faith as we await His return. Embolden us to serve our neighbors and never grow weary of doing good. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Give ear to our pleas for mercy.

P: Lord, disease and devastation have infected so much of Your creation, but we know Your healing is always close at hand. Be with all those who suffer now through illnesses, today we especially remember Ron Will, Kim Sparr and Joyce Segebart. Heal them according to Your will. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Give ear to our pleas for mercy.

P: Lord, by the resurrection of Your Son, death has been destroyed. Yet each human being still faces earthly death. We bring before You all those who are mourning the death of loved ones, today we especially remember the Harwood family as they mourn for the loss of Lavonne. Comfort them with the hope of the resurrection to eternal life. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Give ear to our pleas for mercy.

P: For those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries that they remain faithful to your Word including: Lane Christiansen, Rigger Ferris, Kelsie Monk, Heath Blanford, Jason Sulzbach, Amber Wilkinson, Michael Mertens, Joe Popken, and Paxtyn Wagner. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Give ear to our pleas for mercy.

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.

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 and Communion Card** in the box at the back of the church.

Matthew 5:16—In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.

Offertory Hymn “Lord of All Good” LSB 786

(Stand as you are able)

Service of the Sacrament

Preface Page 208

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus Holy, Holy, Holy (*Sung*) Page 208

**Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth adored;
Heav'n and earth with full acclaim shout the glory of Your name.
Sing hosanna in the highest, sing hosanna to the Lord;
Truly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Lord's Prayer

Words of our Lord

Pax Domini

P: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C: Amen.

Agnus Dei Lamb of God (*Sung*) Page 210

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, Have mercy on us, Lord, we pray.

O Jesus Christ, true Lamb of God, You take the sin of the world away;

Have mercy on us, Jesus Christ, And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Reading of the Communion Announcement Card

(Please be seated)

The Distribution Hymns

“Fruitful Trees, the Spirit’s Sowing” LSB 691

“Great Is Thy Faithfulness” LSB 809

(Stand as you are able)

The Post Communion Collect

P: We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benedicamus & Benediction

Page 212

P: Let us bless the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

C: Amen.

The Closing Hymn “Lord, Keep Us Steadfast in Your Word”

LSB 655

Silent Prayer

Postlude

+ + + + +

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St. Paul's Lutheran Church

(Missouri Synod)

Worship Services: Traditional (6 p.m. Saturday & 8:15 a.m. Sunday)
Contemporary Service (10:45 a.m. Sunday)

Sunday School: Sun. 9:30 a.m. (Opening in the sanctuary)

Youth & Adult Bible Classes Sun. 9:30 a.m. (Fellowship Hall, Youth Room & Pastor's Office)

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“His master replied,
‘Well done, good and faithful servant!
You have been faithful with a few things;
I will put you in charge of many things.
Come and share your master’s happiness!’

Matthew 25:21