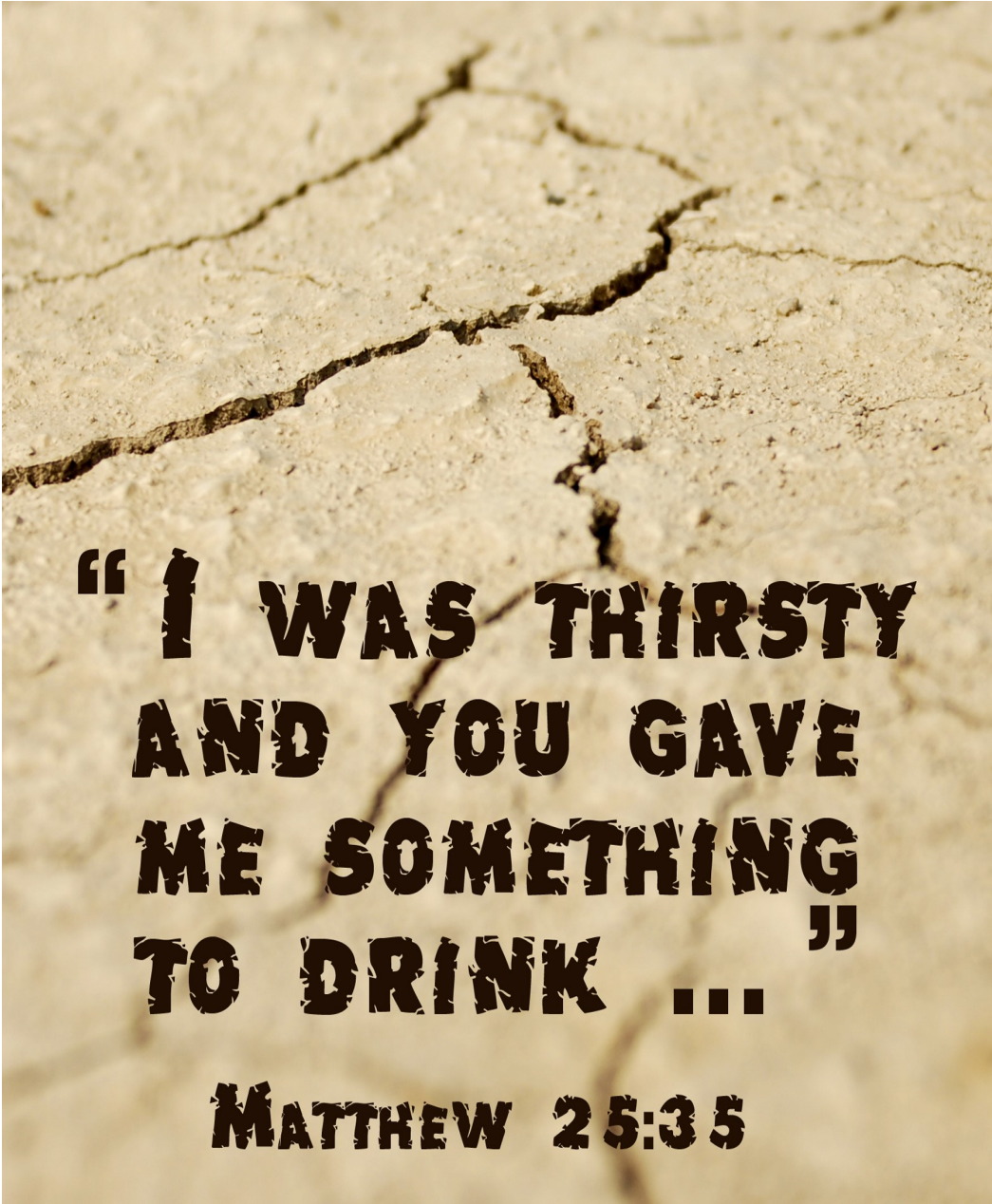


St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School
624 Jennings St. Sioux City, Iowa 51101
Church: (712)252-0338 School: (712) 258-6325
www.siouxcitystpauls.org



**“ I WAS THIRSTY
AND YOU GAVE
ME SOMETHING
TO DRINK ... ”**

MATTHEW 25:35

6 p.m. Sat., Nov. 21, & 8:15 a.m. Sun., Nov. 22, 2020
Sermon: Sheep VS. Goats Matthew 25:31–46



St. Paul's Lutheran Church & School

- a Family to Whom You Belong -

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

THE LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

(6 p.m. Sat., Nov. 21 & 8:15 a.m. Sun., Nov. 22, 2020)

Servants of God's House

Pastor: Rev. Kenny Hsu

Organists: 6 p.m. Sat., Joyce Seymour; 8:15 a.m. Sun., Doris Hill

Ushers: Nick Gunn Team

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

Readers: 6 p.m. Sat., Charlotte Grothaus ;
8:15 a.m. Sun. Susie Joines or Douglas Van Cura

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 pause to consider our brothers and sisters in Christ, especially those who have been ignored or mistreated. We are reminded today that Christ has chosen us to be His people, to be heirs with Him of salvation. Such grace gladdens our hearts and emboldens us to help our brothers and sisters in need.

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP Heavenly Father, You care for all people regardless of their wealth or heritage, and You have made us heirs of Your salvation. Strengthen us, that we care for the poor, weak, and lonely, and that all our neighbors may know Your gracious love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Worship Service

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

The Ringing of the Bells

Hymn of Invocation

"The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns"

LSB 348

(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 Wave of Fellowship

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 *Psalms 95:1-3a, 6-7*

P: Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;

C: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

P: Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving!

C: For the LORD is a great God.

P: Oh come, let us worship and bow down.

C: For He is our God,

P: and we are the people of His pasture,

C: and the sheep of His hand.

Confession and Absolution

P: Indeed, our heavenly Father has called us to be His people. He has led us to green pastures and still waters. Yet, there have been times when we have treated our fellow sheep with disdain, when we have wandered away from our Shepherd. But our Good Shepherd does not abandon us, and we confess our sins before Him and one another.

(Silence for reflection)

P: Heavenly Father,

C: we confess that we have wandered away from You. We confess that we have acted shamefully toward our brothers and sisters in Christ. We have sinned in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have failed by our inactivity. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, O Lord, that we might follow You to the green pastures and still waters of everlasting life.

P: Our heavenly Father has heard Your confession and sent His only Son, Jesus, to be our Good Shepherd. Jesus searches for each one of His sheep. He brings back those who have strayed. He binds up the injured. He even lays down His life for the sheep. By Christ's death and resurrection, God 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. We are sought by our Shepherd. We are forgiven in Christ.

Introit *Psalm 39:4–5, 7–8, 12a; antiphon: 2 Peter 3:13*

P: In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth,

C: the home of righteousness.

P: O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days;

C: let me know how fleeting I am!

P: Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,

C: and my lifetime is as nothing before you.

P: And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?

C: My hope is in you.

P: Deliver me from all my transgressions.

C: Do not make me the scorn of the fool!

P: Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; hold not your peace at my tears!

C: For I am a sojourner with you, a guest, like all my fathers.

ALL: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth,

C: the home of righteousness.

The Salutation and Collect of the Day

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Let us pray.

C: Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The First Reading Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24 (NIV) (God will search for His sheep.)

¹¹ “For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. ¹² As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land.

and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

¹⁴ I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. ¹⁶ I will search for the lost

²⁰ “Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says to them: See, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹ Because you shove with flank and shoulder, butting all the weak sheep with your horns until you have driven them away, ²² I will save my flock, and they will no longer be plundered. I will judge between one sheep and another. ²³ I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd. ²⁴ I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the LORD have spoken.

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 Corinthians 15:20–28 (NIV)
(The last enemy to be destroyed is death.)

²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. ²³ But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. ²⁴ Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power.

²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷ For he “has put everything under his feet.” Now when it says that “everything” has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. ²⁸ When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

(Stand as you are able)

The Alleluia *Revelation 22:13*

C: Alleluia. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end. Alleluia.

(Please remain standing for the Gospel and the Creed)

The Holy Gospel Matthew 25:31–46 (NIV) (The separation of the sheep and the goats)

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

C: Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

³⁴ “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the

creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

³⁷ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing

clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

⁴⁰ “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’ ⁴¹ “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels.

⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and

you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’

⁴⁴ “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

⁴⁵ “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

⁴⁶ “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to You, O Christ.

The Apostles’ Creed

(Please be seated)

The Children’s Message

Hymn of the Day

Hark, the Voice of Jesus Crying

LSB 826

Sermon

“Sheep Vs. Goats” Matthew 25:31–46

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.

Leviticus 27:30—Every tithe of the land, whether of the seed of the land or of the fruit of te trees, is the Lord’s; it is holy to the Lord.

Offertory Hymn

Christ the Eternal Lord

LSB 829 vs.1,3,5

(stand as you are able)

The Prayer of the Church

P: Dear heavenly Father, You promise to seek the lost. We pray for all those who have wandered away from Your Church. We pray that You would strengthen us to reach out to them, to receive them with open arms and open hearts when they return home. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Give ear to our cry.

P: Lord, You promise to strengthen the weak. Send Your strength and courage to all those who need it, including Becky Granstrom and family during this tough time after losing their business in a fire, and to the aging, the lonely, the tired, and the

vulnerable. Protect and defend them from the wolves of this world. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Give ear to our cry.

P: Lord, You promise to feed Your sheep with good pasture. Raise up faithful servants and shepherds to share the nourishment of Your Word and Sacraments with all Your sheep. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Give ear to our cry.

P: Lord, You promise to rescue Your flock from all enemies. Guard and keep us from the enemies of sin, death, and Satan. Lead us away from temptation and always closer to the arms of our Good Shepherd. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Give ear to our cry.

P: Lord, You promise to bind up the injured. Bring Your healing to all those who suffer now through injury, illness, and oppression, *especially* Betty Moser, Goal Bales, Connie Spahn, Kim Sparr, Ron Will and Tubby Mitchell. Heal them according to Your good and gracious will. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Give ear to our cry.

P: Lord, by Your Word You have told us that the last enemy to be destroyed is death. As we await the return of Jesus and the resurrection of the dead, we still grieve and mourn when the enemy of death strikes our friends and family. Be near all those who are mourning the death of loved ones, especially the families of Tom Brown, Sandy Andersen and Sharon Taylor whose cousin Denny Beckler passed away on November 11th in Missouri and Debbie Modlin's sister-in-law, Sharon, who has also passed away. Comfort them with the hope of the resurrection to eternal life. Hear our prayer, O Lord.

C: Give ear to our cry.

P: For those celebrating their baptismal anniversaries that they remain faithful to your Word including; Marty Figge, Lyla Holland, Jennifer Popken, Lauren Budzinski, Chris Meek, Rylee Wagner, Joyce Haines, Brandon Figge, Steve Lyons, Taylor Meek, Meghan Orr, Zuria Ramirez, EC Van Cura, and Caitlyn Haller. Lord in Your mercy.

C: Give ear to our cry.

P: Into Your hands, heavenly Father, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Benediction

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.

The Closing Hymn Herald, Sound the Note of Judgment

LSB 511

Silent Prayer and Postlude

“*Sheep* vs. *Goats*”

Date: 11/22/20

Text: Matthew 25:31-46

Verse for Meditation

“Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.” Matthew 25:40

Points to Ponder

1. Can you tell sheep from goats?

2. What does God want us to do while waiting for His return?
 - Matthew 25:1-13
 - ◇ The Parable of the Ten Virgins – Are you ready?

 - Matthew 25:14-30
 - ◇ The Parable of the Talents – Are you using your talents?

 - Matthew 25: 31-46
 - ◇ The Final Judgement

3. How does God tell sheep from goats?
 - ◇ v34 – Inherit the kingdom

 - ◇ v41 – Eternal fire

4. Not just Sunday Morning only Christians...