

November 15, 2026 | 8:30 a.m.

25th Sunday After Pentecost (Lectionary 33, Year A)

Our Savior's Lutheran Church
1800 21st Avenue
Greeley, Colorado 80631
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Introduction: Our readings during November speak of the end times. Zephaniah proclaims that the coming day of the Lord will be filled with wrath and distress. Jesus tells the parable of the talents, calling us to use our gifts, while we still have time, for the greater and common good. In a world filled with violence and despair, we gather around signs of hope—word, water, bread, and wine—eager to welcome the good news of Christ's coming among us.

• GATHERING •

Welcome and Prelude • "Mine Eyes Have Seen the Glory" (arr. by Mark Hayes)

* Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our dwelling place for all generations,
whose compassion never slumbers.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God
and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess that we have trusted in our preparation
instead of your invitation.
We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved.
We trust the voice of our shame and fear,
which keeps us from entering fully
into relationship with you and others.
We are not awake to the coming of your reign.
Rouse us and rescue us,
that we may enter into your joy.
Amen.

Inherit the riches of God's grace.
☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy.
You are forgiven.
Blessed are you.
Amen.

** Indicates to stand as you're able*

* Greeting and Prayer of the Day

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.
And also with you.

Let us pray. Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

* Gathering Hymn • ELW 632: "O God, Our Help in Ages Past" (Verse 3: Lower Voices | Verse 4: Higher Voices)

• WORD •

1st Reading

Zephaniah 1:7, 12-18 — Reader: Steven Hendricks

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. 12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.' 13 Their wealth shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them. 14 The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. 15 That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness, 16 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. 17 I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the LORD, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. 18 Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the LORD's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm

Psalm 90:1-8, 12 *(Read responsively with leader)* — Reader: Warren Mitchell

1 Lord, through all the generations you have been our home!
2 Before the mountains were born, before you gave birth to the earth and the world, from beginning to end, you are God.
3 You turn people back to dust, saying, "Return to dust, you mortals!"
4 For you, a thousand years are as a passing day, as brief as a few night hours.
5 You sweep people away like dreams that disappear. They are like grass that springs up in the morning.
6 In the morning it blooms and flourishes, but by evening it is dry and withered.
7 We wither beneath your anger; we are overwhelmed by your fury.
8 You spread out our sins before you— our secret sins—and you see them all.
12 Teach us to realize the brevity of life, so that we may grow in wisdom.

* Gospel

Matthew 25:14-30

Response after the announcement: "**Glory to you, O Lord!**"

Jesus said to the disciples: 14 "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; 15 to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. At once 16 the one who had received the five talents went off and traded with them and made five more talents. 17 In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. 18 But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 After a long time

the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. [20] Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' [21] His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' [22] And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' [23] His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things; I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' [24] Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow and gathering where you did not scatter, [25] so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' [26] But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow and gather where I did not scatter? [27] Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. [28] So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. [29] For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance, but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. [30] As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' "

Response after the reading: **"Praise to you, O Christ!"**

Children's Message

Sermon

"Dream Big" — Pastor Deb Abbott

Silence for reflection.

* Hymn of the Day • ELW 695: "As Saints of Old"

* Apostles' Creed

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

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 again to judge the living and the dead.

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. Amen.

Prayers of the People

After each petition: God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

* Peace:

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

In Our Prayers:

Healing and strength for: Midge Parkos, Gary Evans (Vicki Franek's brother-in-law), Gib Herget, Marilyn Peters, Henry Rosin, Ellis Isakson (Kelly Winter's father), Don Holdridge

Sympathy and comfort for the family of: Letha Hummels

Making a Difference Moment: Greeley Area Habitat for Humanity Cookie Walk *(Speaker: Dana Anderson)*

• MEAL •

* Offering Prayer

Eternal God, **our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

You may give your offering by scanning the QR code or by using the blue boxes in the east and north lobbies. Thank you for your generosity.

* The Great Thanksgiving

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.**

* Words of Institution

* The Lord's Prayer

Holy Communion

Welcome to God's table, where all are invited to receive communion. Come forward by the center aisle and return to your seat by the side aisles. For those who wish, white grape juice is available in the center cups. Gluten-free wafers are available upon request. Adults and children who are not communing may come forward for a blessing

Communion Hymns • ELW 466: "In the Singing" | ELW 715: "Christ Be Our Light"

Blessing and Prayer after Communion

• SENDING •

* Blessing:

Response: **Amen.**

*** Sending Hymn** • ELW 705: "God of Grace and God of Glory" (Verses 1, 2, 4)

Announcements and Dismissal • *Response:* "**Thanks be to God!"**

Postlude • "Postlude on St. Anne" (arr. by Charles Callahan)

Thank you, Warren and JoAnn Mitchell, for sponsoring today's complimentary coffee, donuts and pastries in celebration of their 66th anniversary!

Assisting in Worship:

Pastor:	Rev. Deb Abbott	Sound Technician:	Grey Conderman
Music Director:	Cody Thomas	Camera Operator:	Josh Matthews
Ushers:	Len and Bev Westerkamp	Projection:	Junior Vanderploeg
Communion Assistants:	Cindy Ververs, Gene Plampin, Greg Winter	Altar Guild:	Beth Meagher, Mary Grauerholz

Scripture readings next Sunday: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24, Psalm 95:1-7a, Ephesians 1:15-23, Matthew 25:31-46