ASCENSION LUTHERAN CHURCH

THE LUTHERAN CHURCH—MISSOURI SYNOD
LITTLETON, COLORADO
November 8, 2026
10:30 a.m. Sunday



TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

THE LION ROARS

AS WE GATHER

It is easy to assume that tomorrow will be little or no different from today. However, the day is coming when life as we know it will end. The final Sundays of the Church Year remind us that our comfortable routines will be interrupted by the God who cares enough to interrupt them. His justice will grab our attention like a lion (Amos 5:19). He will silence all false and empty worship with justice that rolls in like roaring waters (Amos 5:24). Jesus also calls for our attention as we wait for that day: “Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour” (Matthew 25:13). As we wait for that day, Paul reminds us that our waiting is filled with hope (1 Thessalonians 4:13–14). Jesus died and rose again, and that forever changes our waiting.

✠ PREPARATION ✠

Gathering Songs “Holy Spirit” Bryan Torwalt & Katie Torwalt
Francesca Battistelli

CCLI Song # 6087919 Bryan Torwalt | Katie Torwalt © 2011 Capitol CMG Genesis; Jesus Culture Music For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com
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COME, NOW IS THE TIME TO WORSHIP Brian Doerksen

CHORUS
Come, now is the time to worship
Come, now is the time to give your heart
Come, just as you are to worship
Come, just as you are before your God
Come

One day every tongue will confess You are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains
For those who gladly seek You now

(CHORUS)

One day every tongue will confess You are God
One day every knee will bow
Still the greatest treasure remains
For those who gladly seek You now **(3X)**

(CHORUS)

Come, come

CCLI Song # 2430948 Brian Doerksen © 1998 Vineyard Songs (UK/Eire) CCLI License # 11489815

Pastoral Greeting

Opening Song **CORNERSTONE** Mote, etal.

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly trust in Jesus' Name

CHORUS
Christ alone, Cornerstone
Weak made strong in the Savior's love
Through the storm, He is Lord
Lord of all

When darkness seems to hide His face
I rest on His unchanging grace

In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil
My anchor holds within the veil!

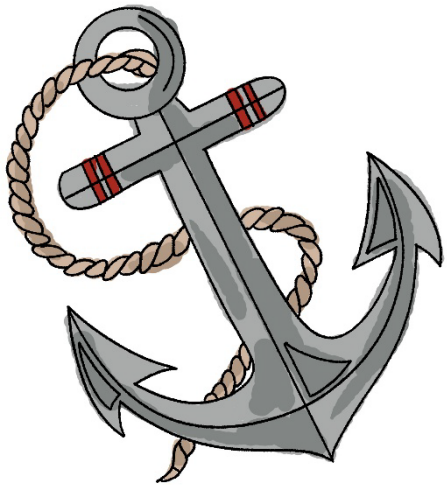
(CHORUS)

He is Lord. Lord of all

(CHORUS)

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless, stand before the throne

(CHORUS)



CCLI Song # 6158927 Edward Mote, Eric Liljero, Jonas Myrin, Reuben Morgan, & William Batchelder Bradbury © 2011 Hillsong MP Songs; Hillsong Music Publishing Australia; Hillsong Music Publishing UK CCLI License # 11489815

Invocation

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

Exhortation *LSB* 151

Pastor: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
People: But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Confession and Absolution *LSB* 151

Pastor: Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
People: Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

✠ WORD ✠

Old Testament Reading: Amos 5:18-24
(The day of the Lord will bring justice and righteousness that silences all false and shallow worship.)

Woe to you who desire the day of the Lord!
Why would you have the day of the Lord?
It is darkness, and not light,

as if a man fled from a lion,
and a bear met him,
or went into the house and leaned his hand against the wall,
and a serpent bit him.
Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?
"I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.
Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings,
I will not accept them;
and the peace offerings of your fattened animals,
I will not look upon them.
Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.
But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
(We grieve with hope and await the day when Christ will awaken all who are asleep.)

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

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

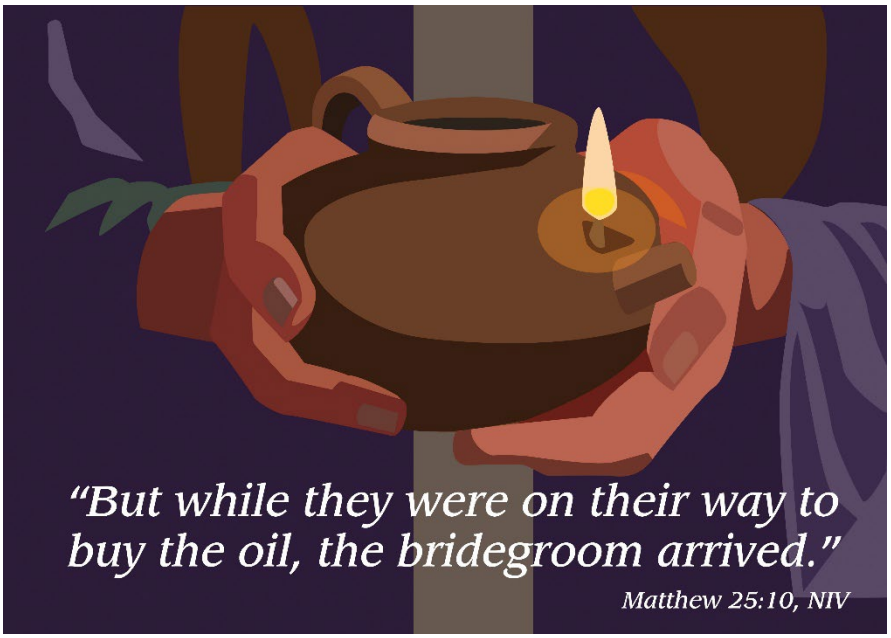
Please rise for the Holy Gospel.

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.
People: Glory to You, O Lord.

Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:1-13
(Watch for the Bridegroom, who will return at any moment.)

"Then the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. For

when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' And while they were going to buy, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went in with him to the marriage feast, and the door was shut. Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.



Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Children's Message Pastor Larson

Song of the Day **EVEN SO COME** Tomlin / Ingram / Cates

All of creation, all of the Earth
Make straight a highway; a path for the Lord
Jesus is coming soon

Call back the sinner, wake up the saint
Let every nation shout of Your fame
Jesus is coming soon

CHORUS
Like a bride waiting for her groom
We'll be a Church ready for You
Every heart longing for our King, we sing

Even so come, Lord Jesus, come

There will be justice all will be new
Your name forever faithful and true
Jesus is coming soon

(CHORUS)
Like a bride waiting for her groom
We'll be a Church ready for You
Every heart longing for our King, we sing

Even so come, Lord Jesus, come

So we wait... we wait for You
God, we wait... You're coming soon **(3X)**

(CHORUS 2X)

Even so come, Lord Jesus, come **(5X)**

CCLI Song # 7036288 Chris Tomlin | Jason Ingram | Jess Cates © 2015 S. D. G. Publishing; Twelve Lions Music; Worship Together Music; Open Hands Music; So Essential Tunes; Chrissamsongs Inc; Go Mia Music; Vistaville Music CCLI License # 11489815

Sermon "Uninformed" Pastor John Larson
Text: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Nicene Creed *(found in the back of the hymnal)*

Prayer of the Church

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy…
People: Hear our prayer.

Sharing of the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
People: And also with you.

You may now greet one another in the name of the Lord using...**Peace be with you!**

Offering *(collected in back)*

✠ HOLY COMMUNION AT ASCENSION ✠

The Lord, our Host, invites to his Supper those who are baptized into the Christian faith, confess him as Savior, have been instructed and have examined themselves, truly repent of sins, believe the Risen Lord is present in the sacrament with his true body and blood, and resolve to live faithfully and obediently. For those with an intolerance to alcohol, the center ring of the tray contains grape juice. Gluten free wafers are available to those with wheat allergies. Children who have not been instructed, yet desire a blessing, are invited to come forward with arms crossed. When receiving the bread and wine, the communicant may respond with "Amen!", a word of affirmation and belief.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

Preface
Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.
Pastor: Lift up your hearts.
People: We lift them to the Lord.
Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

Words of Institution

Lord's Prayer *Matthew 6:9-13*

People: Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom and the power
and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION MUSIC

Song **HOW CAN IT BE?** Ingram / Johnson / Mabury

I am guilty
Ashamed of what I've done, what I've become
These hands are dirty
I dare not lift them up to the Holy One

CHORUS
You plead my cause, You right my wrongs
You break my chains; You overcome
You gave Your life to give me mine
You say that I am free
How can it be? Yeah
How can it be? Yeah



I've been hiding
Afraid I've let You down, inside I doubt
That You could love me
But in Your eyes there's only grace now

(CHORUS)

Though I fall, You can make me new
From this death, I will rise with You
Oh, the grace reaching out for me
How can it be?
How can it be?

You plead my cause, You right my wrongs
You break my chains; You overcome
You gave Your life to give me mine
You say that I am free...

(CHORUS)

CCLI Song # 7023294 Jason Ingram | Jeff Johnson | Paul Mabury © 2014 Songs of Mojo Three LLC; Hipgnosis Songs Essential; Oceans Away Music; So Essential Tunes CCLI License # 11489815

Song **HE KNOWS MY NAME** Walker

I have a Maker
He formed my heart
Before even time began
My life was in His hands

CHORUS
He knows my name
He knows my every thought
He sees each tear that falls
And He hears me when I call

I have a Father
He calls me His own
He'll never leave me
No matter where I go

(CHORUS 2X)

And He hears me when I call



CCLI Song # 2151368 Tommy Walker © 1996 Universal Music - Brentwood Benson Songs CCLI License # 11489815

General Communion Blessing

Benediction (Divine Service, Setting One)

Pastor: 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.
People: Amen

Closing Song **THE LION AND THE LAMB**

He's coming on the clouds
Kings and kingdoms will bow down
And every chain will break
As broken hearts declare His praise
For who can stop the Lord Almighty?

CHORUS
Our God is the Lion, the Lion of Judah
He's roaring with power and fighting our battles
And every knee will bow before Him
Our God is the Lamb, the Lamb that was slain
For the sins of the world. His blood breaks the chains
And every knee will bow before the Lion and the Lamb

Oh, every knee will bow before Him

So open up the gates
Make way before the King of kings
The God who comes to save
Is here to set the captives free
For who can stop the Lord Almighty?

(CHORUS)

Who can stop the Lord Almighty? **(15X)**

Who can stop the Lord?

(CHORUS)

CCLI Song # 7038281 Brenton Brown | Brian Johnson | Leeland Mooring © 2015 Meaux Mercy; Thankyou Music Ltd; The Devil Is A Liar! Publishing; Bethel Music Publishing CCLI License # 11489815

Congregational Concerns

Dismissal

Pastor: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Postlude **"Open Up the Heavens"** Meredith Andrews

CCLI Song # 6304702 Andi Rozier | James Macdonald | Jason Ingram | Meredith Andrews | Stuart Garrard © 2012 Curb Songs; Mesmerized Music; All Essential Music; HBC Worship Music; Open Hands Music; So Essential Tunes; Stugio Music Publishing For use solely with the SongSelect® Terms of Use. All rights reserved. www.ccli.com CCLI License # 1903595

SERVING IN WORSHIP

PREACHER / CELEBRANT	Pastor John Larson
MINISTER OF MUSIC AND WORSHIP	Rev. Michael Zehnder
ORGANIST / PIANIST	Diana Gaide
GLORIA DEI RINGERS / ASCENSION CHORALE DIRECTOR	Stephanie Roettjer
CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP LEADER	Cody Knapp
ELDERS	4:00 Jim Wert; 8:00 David Pearman; 10:30 Michael Lawrenz
ACOLYTES	8:00 Ellise Friend; 10:30 Parker Aldrich
LECTORS	4:00 Dick Castleman; 8:00 Lisa Wert; 10:30 Lisa O'Neal
COMMUNION SERVER	4:00 Dick Castleman; 10:30 Lisa O'Neal
ALTAR GUILD	Tanya Schmitt, Cathy Utecht, Charmaine Rohde



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