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**25th Sunday after Pentecost**

“Day of wrath, O day of mourning! See fulfilled the prophet’s warning, heav’n and earth in ashes burning. To the rest Thou didst prepare me on Thy cross; O Christ, upbear me! Spare, O God, in mercy spare me!” *TLH 607:1,19*

**AS WE GATHER**

This Sunday and next we will consider how we should live between now and the Last Day. Our preparation for it is not a matter of simply believing correctly, for that would make our faith to be a good work. Rather, we are living in the end times, and by grace the Lord has already consecrated His guests. A Gospel-centered life means letting the Good News affect how we live in love today. Paul says we should “encourage one another and build one another up” (1 Thessalonians 5:11). We are very much like the servants in the Gospel, using the treasure our master has entrusted to us. We dare not keep our talents hidden, for they belong to God and should be invested! The Good News—that our Savior will return on that Day—is reason enough to take risks, investing our faith in loving the people around us.

**PSALM** 90

**+ CONFESSION and ABSOLUTION +**

(*LSB*, Divine Service, Setting Five, pg. 213)

**+ SERVICE OF THE WORD +**

**HYMN** *“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”* (*LSB* 338)

**COLLECT OF THE DAY** *(bulletin insert)*

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** Zephaniah 1:7-16 *(bulletin insert)*

**GRADUAL** *(bulletin insert, below Collect of the Day)*

**EPISTLE** 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11 *(bulletin insert)*

**HOLY GOSPEL** Matthew 25:14-30 *(bulletin insert)*

# NICENE CREED *(LSB*,back inside cover)

**HYMN** *“The Day Is Surely Drawing Near”* (*LSB* 508, vs. 1-5)

**SERMON *“Entrusted”***

**PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** (*LSB*, pg. 215-216)

**RETURNING OF OUR FIRST FRUITS**

**+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +**

**Divine Service and the Close Fellowship of Holy Communion**

*Our Lord speaks and we listen. His Word bestows what it says. Faith that is born from what is heard acknowledges the gifts received with eager thankfulness and praise. The gifts include the Holy Supper in which we receive His true body and blood to eat and drink. Those welcome to the table acknowledge the real presence of the body and blood of Christ, confess their own sinfulness, and in true faith wish to receive the forgiveness and strength promised through this Holy Sacrament, as* ***instructed*** *… and* ***in unity of faith*** *… with God’s people here in this congregation. It is our sincerest desire that you join in the intimacy of this fellowship. However,* ***if you are not, yet, an instructed and confirmed member-in-good-standing of a congregation of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod, please visit with the pastor about such a fellowship before communing****. If you wish to come forward for a blessing, you are welcome to join us at the rail to receive such. Please cross your arms in front of you to indicate that desire.*

**PREFACE** (*LSB*, pg. 216)

**LORD’S PRAYER, SUNG** (*LSB*,front inside cover)

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

**DISTRIBUTION**

*“Your Table I Approach”* (*LSB* 628)

*“The Day Is Surely Drawing Near”* (*LSB* 508, vs. 6-7)

**POST-COMMUNION LITURGY** (*LSB*, pg. 218)

**HYMN** *“Christ the Eternal Lord”* (*LSB* 829)

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 **All are welcome …**

 **… Christ is honored.**