

Introit



A Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may | lay her young,*
at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King | and my God.

C How lovely is your | dwelling place,*
O | LORD of hosts!

Behold our shield, | O God;*
look on the face of your a- | nointed!

For a day in your courts is better than a thousand | elsewhere.*
I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God than
dwell in the tents of | wickedness.

For the LORD God is a sun and shield; the LORD bestows favor and |
honor.*

No good thing does he withhold from those who walk up- |
rightly.

O | LORD of hosts,*
blessèd is the one who | trusts in you!

Glorify be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen..

A Even the sparrow finds a home, and the swallow a nest for herself,
where she may | lay her young,*
at your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King | and my God..

Psalm 84:1, 9–12; antiphon: v. 3)

Collect of the Day

Lord God, heavenly Father, send forth Your Son to lead home His bride,
the Church, that with all the company of the redeemed we may finally
enter into His eternal wedding feast; through the same Jesus Christ, our
Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now
and forever.

Old Testament – Amos 5:18–24

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,

¹⁹as 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.

²⁰Is not the day of the Lord darkness, and not light,
and gloom with no brightness in it?

²¹"I hate, I despise your feasts,
and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

²²Even 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.

²³Take away from me the noise of your songs;
to the melody of your harps I will not listen.

²⁴But let justice roll down like waters,
and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

Gradual

A These are the ones coming out of the great tribu- | lation.*
They have washed their robes and made them white in the
blood | of the Lamb.
Blessèd are those whose strength is | in you,*
in whose heart are the highways to | Zion.

Epistle – 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

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. ¹⁴For
since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus,
God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵For 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. ¹⁶For 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. ¹⁷Then 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.
¹⁸Therefore encourage one another with these words.

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The Holy Gospel – Matthew 25:1–13

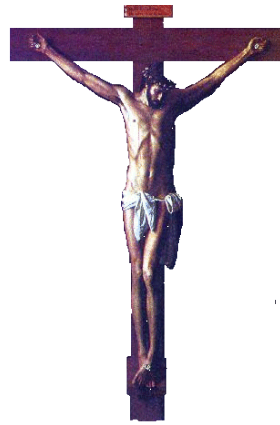


[Jesus said:] “The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. ²Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. ³For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, ⁴but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. ⁵As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. ⁶But at midnight there was a cry, ‘Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ ⁷Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. ⁸And the foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ ⁹But the wise answered, saying, ‘Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.’ ¹⁰And 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. ¹¹Afterward the

other virgins came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ ¹²But he answered, ‘Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.’ ¹³Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

Better is ONE day in
your courts than
thousands elsewhere;

PSALM 84:10



Soli Deo Gloria

Divine Shepherd Lutheran Church

The Lutheran Church - Missouri Synod

A Biblical, Confessional and Traditional congregation in the Chicago region committed to ministering to sinners with the forgiving presence of Jesus Christ.

Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

November 12, 2023

The Divine Service of Holy Communion

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A WELCOME IN JESUS' NAME to all who gather in the Lord's House today. You have joined with the seen and unseen host of God, around the throne of the Lamb, to be served by the Triune God through the preaching of His Word and the administration of the Holy Sacraments. Apart from these Means of Grace there are no Christians and there is no Church! Therefore the entire Liturgy places God at center stage as He acts towards His people through the Word and Sacraments to bring His gifts of life and salvation. That is why the Liturgy is called "Divine Service" - it is God's Service to His people! This service reaches its fulfillment in the Lord's Supper or Sacrament of the Altar.

Dear Visitors and Friends:

The congregations of the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of "Closed Communion." **If you desire to receive the Lord's Supper and are not a communicant member of Divine Shepherd, or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning.** Rather, we would invite you to speak with Pastor Zimmer about Holy Communion and about becoming a communicant member of this congregation. It is the sincere prayer of this congregation that our careful practice of the administration of the Lord's Supper will not be a hindrance to our fellowship with you but instead that it would lead you to appreciate the high regard we have for Christ and His Word concerning this precious gift. **We do invite those who are not a member of the LCMS to come to the altar for a blessing. If you would like a blessing, as you kneel at the altar, please cross your arms so that your right hand is on your left shoulder and left hand is on your right shoulder. God bless you for Your understanding.**