

Ten O'Clock
Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

November 19, 2023

Reader: Rosy Gonzalez

God is Still Speaking ...

"If we are ever in doubt about what to do, it is a good rule to ask ourselves what we shall wish on the morrow that we had done." - John Lubbock

PRELUDE "All Good Gifts" J. Purifoy

* SOLEMN DECLARATION AND SUNG AMEN

* CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor: People of God, let us attune our spirits to the One in whom we dwell.

People: **God's Love surrounds us as we are called to be children of light.**

Pastor: Our faithfulness makes us aware of God's abundance.

People: **We want to invest the talents God has given us.**

Pastor: Let us live confidently in the hope of salvation.

People: **May our worship encourage each of us this day.**

* HYMN #436 (Green Hymnal) "Freely, Freely"

* CALL TO CONFESSION

* PRAYER OF CONFESSION

All-knowing God, we are reluctant to face your judgement. We know we have not fully invested the talents you have entrusted to us. We hide them and hoard them, retreating into a false sense of security. We live in the darkness of self-protection rather than in the light of loving, faithful service. We seek to escape your wrath by shrinking from life rather than investing ourselves in the tasks to which you call us. Have mercy on us, O God, and help us live into fullness of faith.

Silent confession...

* KYRIE ELEISON

*Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.*

* WORDS OF GRACE AND MERCY

God has not destined us for wrath but for obtaining salvation through Jesus Christ. So let us build up one another in hope, as we seek to live as God's children of light. **Thanks be to God! Amen!**

SPECIAL MUSIC "My Shepherd Will Supply My Need" Larry Sue
Bell Choir

CHILDREN'S SERMON

THE SCRIPTURES (insert)
New Testament 1 Thessalonians 5: 1 - 11
*Gospel Matthew 25: 14 - 30

* THE GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

* PROCLAIMING OUR FAITH - THE APOSTLE'S CREED

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ his only begotten Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into Hades; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

PRAYER RESPONSE

"Hear Our Prayer"

*Hear our prayer, O Lord. hear our prayer, O Lord.
Hear our prayer, O Lord, and grant us thy peace.*

SERMON

Rev. David A. Jones

OUR OFFERING AND OFFERTORY

"Grateful Praise"

P. Taylor

* THE DOXOLOGY

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise Him, all creatures
here below. Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host. Praise Father, Son
and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION AND LORD'S PRAYER (using debts & debtors)

* BENEDICTION AND THREEFOLD AMEN

* HYMN #424 (Green Hymnal)

"The Servant Song"

* SILENT MEDITATION

POSTLUDE "Praise To The Lord"

J. Neander/C. Winkworth
E. Gesanbuch/W.S. Bennett

*Please stand as you are able

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Rev. David A. Jones, Pastor

— THEREFORE — ENCOURAGE
one another — AND — BUILD
one another up
as indeed you do. — 1 THESSALONIANS 5:11 —

1 Thessalonians 5: 1 – 11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

Matthew 25: 14 – 30

Jesus said, "For it is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his servants and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But

the one who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole, and hid his master's money.

After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 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.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' 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.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy servant; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.'

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 seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy servant! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? 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. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. 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. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'



ST. MARK'S PRAYER LIST

Andy Shearer

Deb Weise

Ken and Charlotte Wengert

Lynn Balmer

David Ansalvish (Cindy Johnson's Brother)

Rod Nissley (Deb Ellis' son)

David Minnich (Friend of Deb Ellis)

Earl Whorley

Stephanie Wagner (Faye Fox's niece)

Jeffrey Clouser

Trudy Berkheimer

John Blanda (Lynn Balmer's brother-in-law)

Ed Olden

Jeff Funck (Becky Colban's cousin)

John Schieber (Lill's son)

Nancy Wolfe

Marie DiFava

Members from our church family who are shut-in or home bound

The People of Ukraine

The Victims of War in Israel and Palestine

ST. MARK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS Schedule for November 19, 2023

Sunday Choir Practice – 8:30 AM
Koffee Klatsch – 9:30-10AM and 11-11:30 AM
Worship Service – 10:00 AM
Nominating Committee – After church – (Conference Room)
Fellowship and Hospitality Meeting – After church (Fellowship Hall)
Candy Pick Up

Monday Onward Christian Soldiers Meeting – 6:30 PM (Conference Room)

Wednesday Bible Study – 10 AM
Thanksgiving Eve Service – 7:30 PM

Thursday Thanksgiving Dinner – 4 PM (Fellowship Hall)

The flowers on the Communion Table are presented by Becky Colban in memory of her parents, Mr. & Mrs. Russell Scholl, Sr.

The bulletins are presented by Mr. & Mrs. Paul Peiffer in honor of their 64th wedding anniversary on November 14th.

Poinsettia Orders – Taking orders today, November 19 & 26. \$8.00 per plant. Any questions please see Judy Blouch in narthex.

Matching Offering – We have achieved our goal. We have collected \$3,685.00. Thank you for supporting this.

Angel Tree – Take a slip with a person's name on and purchase a gift. Gifts need to be back by December 17th. Project is sponsored by the Good Samaritan Committee.

Agape Christmas Boxes – All the boxes are picked up. Boxes need to be back by December 17th. Thank you to everyone that bought gifts for the children.

Thanksgiving Eve Service – will be held on Wednesday, November 22, 2023 at 7:30 PM. If any member needs a ride for the evening service, please contact the church office.

Christmas Family Gala – Sunday, December 17, 2023 immediately after worship service. See sign up sheets in narthex. We will need casseroles, side dishes and Christmas cookies.

Texas Roadhouse Gift Cards – for sale in \$25, \$50 and \$100 gift cards. See sign up sheet in narthex.

SAVE THE DATES:

December 3, 2023 – Kid's Team – Craft and Game Day – After church
December 13, 2023 – Blue Christmas – 7 PM – Facebook Live (Online only)

Conference Call information:
Dial (215) 383-1625 Enter conference code: 569284
Press* when asked for your attendee pin