Pentecost

About the Cover

The great day of judgment cannot be treated as if it is a day that will be delayed. Whether the end of this earthly life or the return of the Lord comes first, we ought to be sober-minded in waiting for its arrival (1 Thessalonians 5:6). However, we who believe in Christ need not be afraid. For in Christ, the day of judgment has already come at His cross, where He made full atonement for our sins. So, we look only to Him. "Behold, now is the favorable time; behold, now is the day of salvation" (2 Corinthians 6:2).

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 1:7–16

7 Be silent before the Lord GOD!
For the day of the LORD is near;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice
and consecrated his guests.
8 And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—
"I will punish the officials and the king's sons
and all who array themselves in foreign
attire.
9 On that day I will punish
everyone who leaps over the threshold,
and those who fill their master's house
with violence and fraud.
10 "On that day," declares the LORD,
"a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate,
a wail from the Second Quarter,
a loud crash from the hills.
11 Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar!
For all the traders are no more;
all who weigh out silver are cut off.
12 At that time I will search Jerusalem with
lamps,
and I will punish the men
who are complacent,
those who say in their hearts,
'The LORD will not do good,
nor will he do ill.'
13 Their goods 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 mighty man cries aloud there.
15 A day of wrath is that day,
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.

Epistle: 1 Thessalonians 5:1–11

1 Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. 2 For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3 While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. 4 But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. 5 For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. 6 So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. 7 For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. 8 But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9 For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10 who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. 11 Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

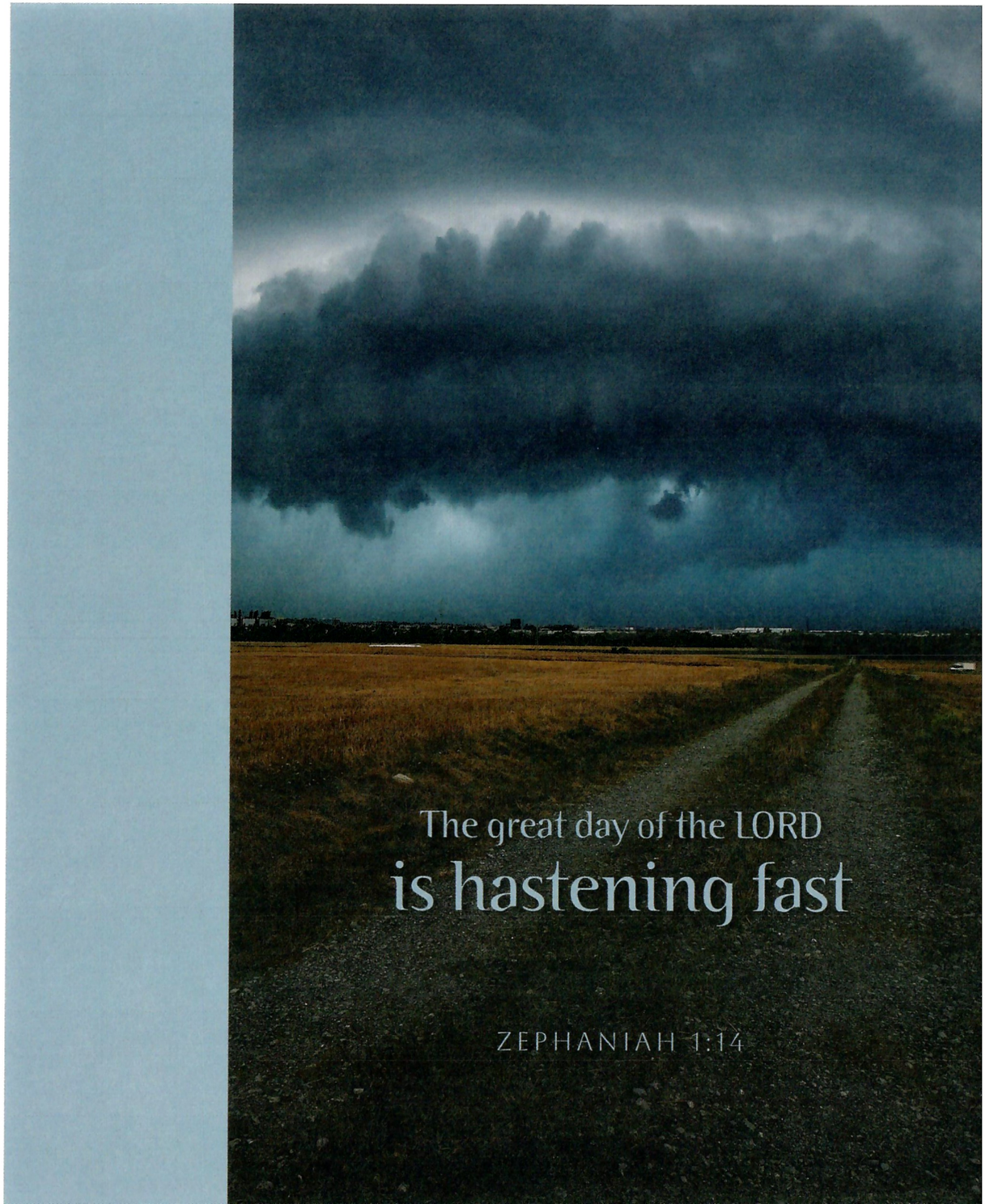
Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:14–30

14 [Jesus said:] "It will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. 15 To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16 He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. 17 So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. 18 But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. 19 Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. 20 And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' 21 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 22 And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' 23 His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' 24 He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, 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 answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? 27 Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. 28 So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. 29 For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. 30 And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Scripture: ESV®
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Cover verse: Zephaniah 1:14 Cover image: © Shutterstock.com (Proper 28) November 15, 2026

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THE TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
November 15, 2026
St. Luke Lutheran Church

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Welcome to Our Visitors

We pray all will be spiritually enriched by your visit to this "House of God." Here Christ breaks the silence that surrounds mortal man in his sin and death. Here in Christ Jesus, we hear the voice of the Eternal One, and hear the voice of the Father, and that He loves us, that He forgives us and that in the resurrection of Christ, He has made us His Children and has given us victory over death itself.

THE ORDER OF MORNING WORSHIP

Liturgy – Divine Service III Pages 184-202

Ringing of the Bells, Welcome, and Announcements

Opening Hymn LSB#786 Lord of All Good

Invocation

Confession – Absolution Pages 184-185 (right side)

The Introit:

P: Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!

C: Enter not into judgment with your servant, for no one living is righteous before you.

P: I remember the days of old; I meditate on all that you have done; I ponder the work of your hands.

C: I stretch out my hands to you; my soul thirsts for you like a parched land.

P: Teach me to do your will, for you are my God! Let your good Spirit lead me on level ground!

C: For your name's sake, O Lord, preserve my life! In your righteousness bring my soul out of trouble!

C: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

P: Hear my prayer, O Lord; give ear to my pleas for mercy! In your faithfulness answer me, in your righteousness!

The Kyrie Page 186
The Gloria in Excelsis Pages 187-189
The Salutation and Collect of the Day Page 189

The Old Testament Reading: Zephaniah 1:7-16 (see back of bulletin)
P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**
The Gradual: (spoken by the Pastor)

The Epistle Reading: 1Thessalonians 5:1-11 (see back of bulletin)
P: This is the Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**
The Triple Alleluia Page 156

The Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:14-30

The Apostle's Creed Page 192

The Children's Message

The Hymn of the Day LSB#788 Forgive Us, Lord, for Shallow Thankfulness

The Sermon Be Silent for the Day of the Lord is Near Zephaniah 1:7-16

The Offertory Pages 192-193
The Offering

The Prayer of the Church Response:
P: Lord, in Your mercy, **C: Hear our Prayer.**
The Lord's Prayer
The Benediction Page 202

Closing Hymn LSB#921 On What Has Now Been Sown

Holy Communion will be celebrated Next Sunday.

Saturday Evening Service, this Saturday November 21 Holy Communion

Thanksgiving Day Service, Thursday November 26 10:00am