

# TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

November 19, 2023

10:30 A.M.

**PRE-SERVICE MUSIC**

**RINGING OF THE BELL**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**+ WE PREPARE OUR HEARTS +**

**INVOCATION**

**OPENING SONGS**

*"Sing to the Lord, Sing Joyfully"*

*St. Paul's K-2 Students*

*"For the Beauty of the Earth"*

*St. Paul's Students/Congregation*

*For the beauty of the earth,  
For the glory of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth  
Over and around us lies:*

*Christ, our Lord, to You we raise  
This our hymn of grateful praise.*

**For the wonder of each hour  
Of the day and of the night,  
Hill and vale and tree and flow'r,  
Sun and moon and stars of light: (Refrain)**

(Refrain)

**Christ, our Lord, to You we raise  
This our hymn of grateful praise.**

**For Yourself, best gift divine  
To the world so freely giv'n;  
Agent of God's grand design,  
Peace on earth and joy in heav'n: (Refrain)**

*Text: Public do*

**CONFESSION OF SINS**

**FORGIVENESS OF SINS**

## **SONG OF PRAISE**

“Sing to the King”

**Sing to the King Who is coming to reign.  
Glory to Jesus, the Lamb that was slain.  
Life and salvation His empire shall bring,  
and joy to the nations, when Jesus is King.**

**Come, let us sing a song,  
a song declaring that we belong to Jesus;  
He is all we need.  
Lift up a heart of praise.  
Sing now with voices raised to Jesus;  
Sing to the King.**

**For His returning we watch and we pray;  
We will be ready the dawn of that day.  
We'll join in singing with all the redeemed,  
'Cause Satan is vanquished and Jesus is King.**

**Come, let us sing a song,  
a song declaring that we belong to Jesus;  
He is all we need.  
Lift up a heart of praise.  
Sing now with voices raised to Jesus;  
Sing to the King.**

“Sing To The King” Words & Music by Billy Foote & Charles Silvester Horne  
© 2003 worshiptogether.com songs | sixsteps Music (Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing)  
(Admin. by EMI Christian Music Publishing) All rights Reserved. Used by Permission CCLI #1152511

## **+ WE HEAR GOD’S WORD +**

### **OLD TESTAMENT READING**

Zephaniah 1:7-16  
(Page 1463 in the Pew Bible)

Be silent before the Sovereign Lord, for the day of the Lord is near. The Lord has prepared a sacrifice; he has consecrated those he has invited. On the day of the Lord’s sacrifice I will punish the princes and the king’s sons and all those clad in foreign clothes. On that day I will punish all who avoid stepping on the threshold, who fill the temple of their gods with violence and deceit. “On that day,” declares the Lord, “a cry will go up from the Fish Gate, wailing from the New Quarter, and a loud crash from the hills. Wail, you who live in the market district ; all your merchants will be wiped out, all who trade with silver will be ruined. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps and punish those who are complacent, who are like wine left

on its dregs, who think, 'The Lord will do nothing, either good or bad.' Their wealth will be plundered, their houses demolished. They will build houses but not live in them; they will plant vineyards but not drink the wine. "The great day of the Lord is near - near and coming quickly. Listen! The cry on the day of the Lord will be bitter, the shouting of the warrior there. That day will be a day of wrath, a day of distress and anguish, a day of trouble and ruin, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and blackness, a day of trumpet and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the corner towers.

## **NEW TESTAMENT READING**

1 Thessalonians 5:1-11  
(Page 1840 in the Pew Bible)

Now, brothers, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. But you, brothers, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. You are all sons of the light and sons of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness. So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be alert and self-controlled. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be self-controlled, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

## **GOOD NEWS OF JESUS**

Matthew 25:14-30  
(Page 1541 in the Pew Bible)

"Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his property to them. To one he gave five talents of money, to another two talents, and to another one talent, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. The man who had received the five talents went at once and put his money to work and gained five more. So also, the one with the two talents gained two more. But the man who had received the one talent went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. "After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. The man who had received the five talents brought the other five. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with five talents. See, I have gained five more.' "His master replied, 'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' "The man with the two talents also came. 'Master,' he said, 'you entrusted me with two talents; see, I have gained two more.' "His master replied,

'Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!' "Then the man who had received the one talent came. 'Master,' he said, 'I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. So I was afraid and went out and hid your talent in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.' "His master replied, 'You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest. "Take the talent from him and give it to the one who has the ten talents. For everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what he has will be taken from him. And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'

## **PROFESSION OF FAITH-APOSTLES' CREED**

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

**And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **CHILDREN'S MESSAGE**

Dani Landholm

### **SONG**

“Whom Shall I Fear? (God of Angel Armies)”

**You hear me when I call.  
You are my morning song.  
Though darkness fills the night, it cannot hide the light.  
Whom shall I fear?**

**You crush the enemy underneath my feet.  
You are my sword and shield,  
Though troubles linger still.  
Whom shall I fear?**

(Chorus)

**I know who goes before me, I know who stands behind.  
The God of angel armies is always by my side.  
The One who reigns forever, He is a friend of mine.  
The God of angel armies is always by my side.**

**My strength is in Your name, for You alone can save.  
You will deliver me, Yours is the victory.  
Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear? (Chorus)**

**And nothing formed against me shall stand.  
You hold the whole world in Your hands.  
I'm holding on to Your promises.  
You are faithful, You are faithful.**

**And nothing formed against me shall stand.  
You hold the whole world in Your hands.  
I'm holding on to Your promises.  
You are faithful, You are faithful,  
You are faithful. (Chorus twice)**

**The God of angel armies is always by my side.**

© 2012 S.D.G. Publishing, Chris Tomlin; Ed Cash; Scott Cash  
CCLI Song # 6440288; CCLI License # 1152511

**MESSAGE**

“God’s Faithful Servant”

Matthew 25:14-30

**+ WE RESPOND TO GOD’S WORD +**

**SONG OF RESPONSE**

“Goodness Of God”

**I love You, Lord.  
Oh, Your mercy never fails me.  
All my days  
I've been held in Your hands.  
From the moment that I wake up  
Until I lay my head,  
I will sing of the goodness of God.**

(Chorus)

**All my life You have been faithful.  
All my life You have been so, so good.  
With every breath that I am able  
I will sing of the goodness of God.**

**I love Your voice.  
You have led me through the fire.  
In darkest night,  
You are close like no other.  
I've known You as a father,  
I've known You as a friend.  
I have lived in the goodness of God.**

(Chorus)

**All my life You have been faithful.  
All my life You have been so, so good.  
With every breath that I am able  
I will sing of the goodness of God.**

(Bridge)

**Your goodness is running after,  
It's running after me.  
Your goodness is running after,  
It's running after me.  
With my life laid down,  
I'm surrendered now;  
I give You everything.  
Your goodness is running after,  
It's running after me. (Repeat bridge)**

**All my life You have been faithful.  
All my life You have been so, so good.  
With ev'ry breath that I am able  
I will sing of the goodness of God.  
I will sing of the goodness of God.**

CCLI Song # 7117726 Ben Fielding | Brian Johnson | Ed Cash | Jason Ingram | Jenn Johnson © 2018 Capitol CMG Paragon (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) SHOUT! Music Publishing Australia (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing) Fellow Ships Music & So Essential Tunes (Admin. by Essential Music Publishing LLC) Bethel Music Publishing CCLI License # 1152511

## **GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

### **PRAYERS OF GOD'S PEOPLE**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**+ WE LEAVE GOD'S HOUSE +**

#### **BLESSING**

## **SENDING**

**P:** Empowered by God, let us go and do the work He has given us to do. Our mission is...

**C:** **To make known the love of Christ!**

## **CLOSING SONG**

“God Is For Us”

**We won't fear the battle,  
We won't fear the night.  
We will walk the Valley with You by our side.  
You will go before us,  
You will lead the way.  
We have found a refuge, only You can save.**

(Chorus)

**Sing with joy now; our God is for us.  
The Father's love is a strong and mighty fortress.  
Raise your voice now, no love is greater.  
Who can stand against us if our God is for us?**

**Even when I stumble,  
Even when I fall,  
Even when I turn back, still Your love is sure.  
You will not abandon,  
You will not forsake.  
You will cheer me onward with never ending grace. (Chorus)**

**Neither height nor depth can separate us.  
Hell and death will not defeat us.  
He who gave His Son to free us  
Holds me in His love. (Repeat)**

**Sing with joy now; our God is for us.  
The Father's love is a strong and mighty fortress.  
Raise your voice now, no love is greater.  
Who can stand against us if our God is for us?**

CCLI Song # 7121853 James Ferguson | James Tealy | Jesse Reeves | Jonny Robinson | Michael Farren | Rich Thompson | Tiarne Tranter © 2018 CityAight Music (Admin. by Integrity Music) Farren Love And War Publishing (Admin. by Integrity Music) Integrity's Alleluia! Music (Admin. by Integrity Music) BEC Worship (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) My Eleiht Songs (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.) WriterWrong Music (Admin. by Music Services, Inc.)  
For use solely with the SongSelect® [Terms of Use](https://www.ccli.com/terms-of-use). All rights reserved. [www.ccli.com](https://www.ccli.com) CCLI License # 1152511