Liturgy of the Word, Rite Two
(A Service of Ante-Communion)

Twenty-fourth Sunday after Pentecost
November 15, 2020
Prelude

THE WORD OF GOD

Welcome & Announcements

Opening Words
Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Song of Praise
Gloria
Hymn S 280

Prayer of the Day
Celebrant: God be with you.
People: And also with you.
Celebrant: Let us pray.

(In unison) Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

First Reading: Zephaniah 1:7,12-18

Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is at hand;
the LORD has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests.
At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, “The LORD will not do good, nor will he do harm.”

Their wealth 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.
The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there.
That day will be a day of wrath, 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,
 a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
 and against the lofty battlements.
I will bring such distress upon people
 that they shall walk like the blind;
because they have sinned against
the LORD,

their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.
Neither their silver nor their gold
 will be able to save them
on the day of the LORD's wrath;
in the fire of his passion
the whole earth shall be consumed;
for a full, a terrible end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 90:1-8, (9-11), 12 (to be read responsively by whole verse)

1 Lord, you have been our refuge
 from one generation to another.

2 Before the mountains were brought
 forth, or the land and the earth
 were born, from age to age you
 are God.

3 You turn us back to the dust and say,
 "Go back, O child of earth."

4 For a thousand years in your sight
 are like yesterday when it is past
 and like a watch in the night.

5 You sweep us away like a dream;
 we fade away suddenly like the
 grass.

6 In the morning it is green and
 flourishes; in the evening it is
 dried up and withered.

7 For we consume away in your
 displeasure; we are afraid

10 The span of our life is seventy
 years,
 perhaps in strength even eighty;
yet the sum of them is but labor
and sorrow, or they pass away
quickly and we are gone.

11 Who regards the power of your
 wrath? who rightly fears your
indignation?

12 So teach us to number our days
 that we may apply our hearts to
 wisdom.

because of your wrathful
indignation.

8 Our iniquities you have set before
you, and our secret sins in the
light of your countenance.

9 [When you are angry, all our days are
gone; we bring our years to an
end like a sigh.

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wisdom.
Second Reading: 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.

The Word of the Lord.
People:  Thanks be to God.

Gospel Song  
We all are one in mission  WLP 778

Gospel:  Matthew 25:14-30

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People:  Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves 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 and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master’s money. After a long time the master of those slaves 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 slave; 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 slave; 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 slave! 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.’”

The Gospel of the Lord.

*People:* Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**The Sermon**

Rev. Guimond Pierre Louis

**The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come.

*Amen.*
Prayers of the People

**Leader:** In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

A brief silence.

For all people in their daily life and work;
**For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

**Leader:** For this community, the nation, and the world. For our President Donald, our Governor Ralph and all in authority that they may serve justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person.
**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

**Leader:** For the just and proper use of your creation;
**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

**Leader:** For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
**For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

**Leader:** For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and Susan, Jennifer and Porter our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;
**For all who serve God in his Church.**

**Leader:** For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
**For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

**Leader:** For the special needs and concerns of this congregation. We pray for ... Are there others? (Pause) Hear us, Lord;
**For your mercy is great.**

**Leader:** We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We pray for those celebrating birthdays; especially ... and those celebrating anniversaries.... Are there others? (Pause)
We will exalt you, O God our King;
**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

**Leader:** We pray for all who have died, including..., that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. Let us pray for those who have given their lives in service of our country including ...
Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
**Who put their trust in you.**
Concluding Collect
Assured by your promise to hear us, we lay our prayers before your throne of grace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Confession of Sin
Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.
Celebrant & People: Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Declaration of Absolution
Celebrant: At every moment, you are held in existence by the love of God; renewed by the Spirit within and among you; and made alive again in Christ. Receive this assurance in Jesus’ name: you are forgiven and freed to live for the healing of the world. Amen.

The Lord’s Prayer
Our Father, who art in heaven,
    hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Dismissal
Celebrant: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Postlude
November 15, 2020 Announcements & Events
Please go to weekly E-news for links and more information.

SPW Giving Day is Today! Turn in your pledge card after service until 1 PM
And pick up an Advent Wreath kit to decorate at home.

"Cocoa and Compline" is coming...Nov. 22nd
Join us for a new outdoor worship service! As the sun goes down on Sunday Nov. 22, we will have a brief family-friendly compline service from 5 – 5:30 pm. All are welcome. Bring a chair, blanket and something warm to drink for a lively, family-friendly service. Let Rev. Guimond know that you plan to attend! guimondpl8@gmail.com

**Praying in Community by Phone** Anchored in Christ through prayer, please join Rev. Guimond and Rev. Susan for a new, weekly teleconference to pray our weekly prayers of the people together every Tuesday Morning for 12 minutes of Prayer from 9:00 am to 9:12 am. Each name from the prayer list will be cited individually so that our personal and communal request may be made known to God. We look forward to being prayerfully connected with you. Please dial this number: 971-224-6601
And the access code is: 662648

It is Stewardship Season: Please fill out and return your pledge card or pledge Online (stperersinthewoods.org- Giving tab).

Honey from the Woods
We will be selling 4 oz jars of St. Peter's in the Woods honey for $10 each, following our outdoor service on Sunday. Or stop by the office during the week. All proceeds from the sale of the honey will go to expanding our Giving Garden, which provides fresh produce to local food pantries.

Sunday Coffee Hour Zoom @ 11 AM – Virtual fellowship hour
Join Rev. Susan and your church friends via Zoom this morning at 11. We can “see” each other, check in, share our news and support one another!