

3. No more dying there,  
We are going to see the King!  
No more dying there,  
We are going to see the King!  
No more dying there,  
We are going to see the King!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
We're going to see the King!

*Text & Tune: Andrae Crouch, CCLI #918029*

#### MESSAGE OF THE DAY

*(Text: Matthew 25:1-13)  
The Rev. Bruce Stam*

*(Please stand)*

#### PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

##### 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 forever and ever. Amen**

#### BENEDICTION

*(Please sit)*

#### CLOSING SONG

*"Eternal Father, Strong to Save" LSB 717*

P. Go in peace and serve the Lord!  
C. Thanks be to God!

#### POSTLUDE

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## THE CONNECTION

November 12, 2023  
10:30am

\* \* \* **To GOD BE THE GLORY** \* \* \*

**Pastor** The Rev. Bruce Stam  
**Children's Message** Nancy Simonson  
**Music** Lisa Olson  
**Elder** Wayne Meyer  
**Worship Assistant** Larry Hagre  
**Lector** Vivian Hagre  
**Ushers** Bob Blume, Neal Weeg  
**Greeters** Sharon & Carol Vollbrecht,  
Vivian & Larry Hagre  
**Soundboard** Cameron & Nick Duskin

#### PRELUDE

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** *(please fill out Friendship Pads)*

**SUNDAY SCHOOL CHILDREN SING** "Big House"

**WORSHIP SONG** *"I've Got Peace like a River"*

1. I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river in my soul.  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river,  
I've got peace like a river in my soul.

2. I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain,  
I've got joy like a fountain in my soul.

3. I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean in my soul.  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean,  
I've got love like an ocean in my soul.

*Afro-American spiritual, Public domain*

*(Please stand)*

#### INVOCATION

P. In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of  
the Holy Spirit.  
C. Amen

## CONFESSION OF SINS AND FORGIVENESS

P. Almighty God, have mercy on us for Christ's sake.

**C. Almighty God, I am unworthy of You and Your grace and mercy. I have sinned against You in thought, word and deed. And I cannot free myself from this condition. Therefore, I take refuge in Your loving-kindness; and I ask for Your forgiveness. We ask for Your forgiveness.**

P. Almighty God, in His mercy, has given His Son to die for you and for His sake He forgives you. As a called and ordained servant of the Lord, and on His behalf, I say to you, "You are forgiven." In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C. Amen.**

*(Please sit)*

## FIRST READING *Amos 5:18-24*

<sup>18</sup>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,

<sup>19</sup>as 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.

<sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the LORD darkness, and not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

<sup>21</sup>"I hate, I despise your feasts,

and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies.

<sup>22</sup>Even 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.

<sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs;

to the melody of your harps I will not listen.

<sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters,

and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream."

L. Here ends the first reading.

## SECOND READING 1 *Thessalonians 4:13-18*

<sup>13</sup>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. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. <sup>15</sup>For 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. <sup>16</sup>For 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. <sup>17</sup>Then 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. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

L. Here ends the second reading.

*(Please stand)*

## GOSPEL READING *Matthew 25:1-13*

<sup>1</sup>[Jesus said:] "The kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>For when the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them, <sup>4</sup>but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. <sup>5</sup>As the bridegroom was delayed, they all became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a cry, 'Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.' <sup>7</sup>Then all those virgins rose and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>And the foolish said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.' <sup>9</sup>But the wise answered, saying, 'Since there will not be enough for us and for you, go rather to the dealers and buy for yourselves.' <sup>10</sup>And 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. <sup>11</sup>Afterward the other virgins came also, saying, 'Lord, lord, open to us.' <sup>12</sup>But he answered, 'Truly, I say to you, I do not know you.' <sup>13</sup>Watch therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour."

P. Here ends the reading of the Gospel.

## STATEMENT 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**

*(Please sit)*

## TITHES & OFFERING

*(While the music is playing, please bring your offerings forward and place them in the plate.)*

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

### MESSAGE SONG "Soon and Very Soon"

1. Soon and very soon  
We are going to see the King!  
Soon and very soon  
We are going to see the King!  
Soon and very soon  
We are going to see the King!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
We're going to see the King!

2. No more crying there,  
We are going to see the King!  
No more crying there,  
We are going to see the King!  
No more crying there,  
We are going to see the King!  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
We're going to see the King!

*(continued...)*