

---

# Traditional Worship Guide

The 25<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost | Commitment Sunday  
November 19, 2023

---

## WELCOME

### INVITATION & PSALM 95 *(from Morning Prayer)*

P: O Lord, open my lips.

C: **and my mouth shall proclaim your praise!  
Glory 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: Give glory to God, our light and our life.

C: **O come, let us worship and praise.**

P: Come, let us sing to the LORD;  
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

C: **Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving  
and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.**

P: For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler  
above all gods.

C: **In your hand are the caverns of the earth;  
the heights of the hills are also yours.**

P: The sea is yours, for you made it;  
and your hands have molded the dry land.

C: **Come, let us worship and bow down;  
let us kneel before the LORD our Maker.**

P: For the Lord is our God,

C: **and we are the people of God's pasture  
and the sheep of God's hand.**

HYMN: "Lord of Glory, You Have Brought Us" ..... # **707**

## GREETING

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

Righteous God, our merciful master, you own the earth and all its peoples, and you give us all that we have. Inspire us to serve you with justice and wisdom, and prepare us for the joy of the day of your coming, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

HOLY GOSPEL            *Matthew 25: 14-30*            Bible, pg. 1541

*Say before the reading:*    **Glory to You, O Lord.**

*Say after the reading:*    **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## SERMON

*After the sermon at the 10:30 service, the preacher goes to  
the Contemporary Service in the Fellowship Hall.*

## COMMITMENTS

*After the sermon, Bethany members are invited to bring forward  
their commitment cards for the "Building Bright Futures" campaign.  
Even if you cannot pledge monetary gifts, please write your name on a  
card and present it as your prayer support*

HYMN: "As Saints of Old" ..... # **695**

1        As saints of old their firstfruits brought  
          of orchard, flock, and field  
          to God, the giver of all good,  
          the source of bounteous yield,  
          so we today firstfruits would bring,  
          the wealth of this good land:  
          of farm and market, shop and home,  
          of mind and heart and hand.

2        A world in need now summons us  
          to labor, love, and give,  
          to make our life an offering  
          to God that all may live.  
          The church of Christ is calling us  
          to make the dream come true:  
          a world redeemed by Christ-like love,  
          all life in Christ made new.

3 In gratitude and humble trust  
 we bring our best today,  
 to serve your cause and share your love  
 with all along life's way.  
 O God who gave yourself to us  
 in Jesus Christ your Son,  
 teach us to give ourselves each day  
 until life's work is done.

Text: Frank von Christierson, alt. © 1961, ren. 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Company. Music: English folk tune; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872-1958; arr. © Oxford University Press. One License # A-708297.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow-er and  
 might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who  
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the  
 high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

**PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

*Response:* P: ...Lord in Your mercy, **C: hear our prayer.**

**MINISTRY HIGHLIGHTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*Please sign and pass the black registration pads located near center aisle.*

**HYMN: “Just as I Am” (vs 1 & 2,) ..... # 592**

- 1 Just as I am, without one plea,  
 but that thy blood was shed for me,  
 and that thou bidd’st me come to thee,  
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.
- 2 Just as I am, though tossed about  
 with many a conflict, many a doubt,  
 fightings and fears within, without,  
 O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Text: Charlotte Elliott, 1789-1871. Music: William B. Bradbury, 1816-1868. Public domain.

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

- P: The Lord be with you.  
**C: And also with you.**  
 P: Lift up your hearts.  
**C: We lift them to the Lord.**  
 P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy ... we praise your  
 name and join their unending hymn: *continue* →

*Words of Institution and The Lord’s Prayer*

*Please come forward by the center aisle, receive communion, and return by the side aisle. During communion distribution, all may sing:*

- Hymn: “Lamb of God” ..... # 195  
 Hymn: “Christ Be Our Light” ..... # 715  
 Hymn: “O Christ, the Same” ..... # 760  
 (alt. tune WOV)

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** (*pastor*)

**BENEDICTION**

**HYMN: “Great is Thy Faithfulness” ..... # 733**

**DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God!**

“Gospel Acclamation” and “Holy, holy, holy” are reprinted from *With One Voice* © 1995. All rights reserved. Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress license #14414-LIT.

## Lord of Glory, You Have Bought Us

1 Lord of glory, you have bought us  
with your lifeblood as the price,  
never grudging for the lost ones  
that tremendous sacrifice;  
and with that have freely given  
blessings countless as the sand  
to the unthankful and the evil  
with your own unsparing hand.

2 Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to give you  
gladly, freely, of your own.  
With the sunshine of your goodness  
melt our thankless hearts of stone  
till our cold and selfish natures,  
warmed by you, at length believe  
that more happy and more blessed  
'tis to give than to receive.

3 Wondrous honor you have given  
to our humblest charity  
in your own mysterious sentence,  
"You have done it all to me."  
Naked, sick, in prison, hungry--  
in the least your face we view,  
saying by your poor and needy,  
"Give as I have giv'n to you."

4 Lord of glory, you have bought us  
with your lifeblood as the price,  
never grudging for the lost ones  
that tremendous sacrifice.  
Give us faith to trust you boldly,  
hope, to stay our souls on you:  
but, oh, best of all your graces,  
with your love our love renew.

Text: Eliza S. Alderson, 1818-1889, alt. Music: Rowland H. Pritchard, 1811-1887  
Public Domain

## Lamb of God

Lamb of God,  
You take away the sin of the world;  
Have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God,  
You take away the sin of the world;  
Have mercy on us.  
Lamb of God,  
You take away the sin of the world;  
grant us your peace.

Music *Bread of Life* by Jeremy Young © 1995 Augsburg Fortress.  
Used by permission of Augsburg Fortress. License #SBL14414

## Christ, Be Our Light

1 Longing for light, we wait in darkness,  
Longing for truth, we turn to you.  
Make us your own, your holy people,  
Light for the world to see.

### *Refrain*

Christ be our light! Shine in our hearts.  
Shine through the darkness. Christ be our light!  
Shine in your church gathered today.

2 Longing for peace, our world is troubled.  
Longing for hope, many despair.  
Your word alone has pow'r to save us.  
Make us your living voice. *Refrain*

3 Longing for food, many are hungry.  
Longing for water, many still thirst.  
Make us your bread, broken for others,  
Shared until all are fed. *Refrain*

4 Longing for shelter, many are homeless.  
Longing for warmth, many are cold.  
Make us your building, sheltering others,  
Walls made of living stone. *Refrain*

5 Many the gifts, many the people,  
Many the hearts that yearn to belong.  
Let us be servants to one another,  
Signs of your kingdom come. *Refrain*

Text & Music Bernadette Farrell © 1993 Bernadette Farrell, admin. OCP Publications. All rights reserved. One License #A-708297.

## O Christ the Same

1 O Christ the same, through all our story's pages,  
our loves and hopes, our failures and our fears;  
eternal Lord, the King of all the ages,  
unchanging still, amid the passing years:  
O living Word, the source of all creation,  
who spread the skies, and set the stars ablaze,  
O Christ the same, who wrought our whole salvation,  
we bring our thanks for all our yesterdays.

2 O Christ the same, the friend of sinners, sharing  
our inmost thoughts, the secrets none can hide,  
still as of old upon your body bearing  
the marks of love, in triumph glorified:  
O Son of Man, who stooped for us from heaven,  
O Prince of life, in all your saving power,  
O Christ the same, to whom our hearts are given,  
we bring our thanks for this the present hour.

3 O Christ the same, secure within whose keeping  
our lives and loves, our days and years remain,  
our work and rest, our waking and our sleeping,  
our calm and storm, our pleasure and our pain:  
O Lord of love, for all our joys and sorrows,  
for all our hopes, when earth shall fade and flee,  
O Christ the same, beyond our brief tomorrows,  
we bring our thanks for all that is to be.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926 © 1984 Hope Publishing Co. One License #A-708297.  
Music: Irish tune, arr. John Barnard, b. 1948. Public domain.

## Great Is Thy Faithfulness

1 Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father;  
There is no shadow of turning with thee;  
Thou changest not, thy compassions they fail not;  
As thou hast been, thou forever will be.

### *Refrain*

Great is thy Faithfulness! Great is thy Faithfulness!  
Morning by morning new mercies I see;  
All I have needed thy hand hath provided;  
Great is thy Faithfulness, Lord unto me.

2 Summer and winter and spring-time and harvest;  
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above  
Join with all nature in manifold witness  
To thy great Faithfulness, mercy and love. *Refrain*

3 Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth,  
Thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide;  
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow,  
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside! *Refrain*

Text: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1866-1960 Music William M. Runyan 1870-1957  
Text and Music © 1923, ren. 1951 Hope Publishing Co. All rights reserved. One License #A-708297