



**The Time In Between...**  
**Is a Time For Faithful Service**

November 19/20, 2023

# ETERNAL LOVE LUTHERAN CHURCH

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*a member congregation of the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod (WELS)*

## **FOR OUR GUESTS**

Thank you for being here. During your visit today, you will see and hear what we're all about: God's *eternal love* for us through his Son, Jesus Christ! Any directions for speaking or singing, standing or sitting, will be indicated in this folder or projected on the wall in front of you.

- Restrooms are available just outside the chapel doors down the hallway to the left.
- If you have young children with you today, great! We encourage families to worship together. We do have a nursery area available just outside the chapel near the restrooms should you feel the need to step out of worship with your child for a moment. In addition, activity sheets for young children are available on the bulletin table and small bags with quiet activity items are located just outside the chapel doors.

## **ABOUT OUR WORSHIP SERIES: THE TIME IN BETWEEN**

In the great timeline of human history, there are only two ultimately significant points:

1. the first time Christ came to our world to win salvation by his life, death, and resurrection;
2. the second time Christ will come to consummate his everlasting kingdom.

We live in the time in between those two points. It is a time of tension. We know that peace and perfection are ours already because of what Jesus did the first time he came. Yet we do not enjoy a peaceful and perfect existence now already. We will not know such a life until Christ comes again. And so we wait and watch, living in the time in between. As the church year draws to a close, Scripture points us toward the end of time when Christ will come again. Until then Christ teaches us how to live in the time in between.

## **TODAY'S THEME: THE TIME IN BETWEEN IS A TIME FOR FAITHFUL SERVICE**

As we wait for Christ to return, we are not to be sedentary. One reason Christ has not yet returned is that there is still work to be done. And Christ carries out his good work through us, his Church. So, until Christ comes again, believers will be busy with faithful service. Christ has given every believer gifts and talents. And when Christ entrusts us with those gifts and talents, he calls us to use them all for his glory. In the time between Christ's first and second coming, we use everything the master has given us to live according to his will and to carry out his mission.

Consecration Prayer—For a Life of Faithful Service:

*Take my life and let it be  
consecrated, Lord, to thee;  
take my moments and my days,  
let them flow in ceaseless praise. (CW 892)*

HYMN

Open, Lovely Doors

*The cantor sings stanza two.*



1 O - pen, love - ly doors, and let me come in - to God's  
*Cantor:* 2 With a song I've come to greet you; come to me, dear  
3 You de - serve my deep - est rev - 'rence; sanc - ti - fy me



house to - day! This is where great joys be - set me  
Lord, I pray. Where you let your peo - ple meet you  
through and through. Let my wor - ship in your pres - ence



more than I can sing or say. Here I view God's  
heav - en's light is bright as day. Let my heart your  
clear - ly show my love for you. Lord of mer - cy,



glo - rious face, see his light, re - ceive his grace.  
heav - en be; Sav - ior, make your home in me.  
hear my cry: lift my heart to you on high!

*STAND*

*The cantor leads the congregation in singing.*



1 Be - fore you I kneel, my Mas - ter and Mak - er, to of - fer the  
3 Be - fore you we kneel, our Mas - ter and Mak - er; es - tab - lish the



work of my hands. For this is the day you've giv - en your  
work of our hands, and or - der our steps to seek first your



ser - vant; I will re - joice and be glad  
king - dom in ev - 'ry small and great task.



for the strength I have to live and breathe, for each  
May we live the gos - pel of your grace, serve your



skill your grace has giv - en me, for the needs and op - por -  
pur - pose in our fleet - ing days, then our lives will bring e -



tu - ni - ties that will glo - ri - fy your great name.  
ter - nal praise and all glo - ry to your great name.

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## CONFESSION

Blessed are they whose transgressions are forgiven, whose sins are covered.

**Blessed are they whose sin the Lord does not count against them.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Almighty and merciful Father,**

**we have strayed from your ways like lost sheep.**

**We have offended you and sinned against your holy law.**

**Have mercy on us, Lord!**

**Spare us, forgive us, and restore us,**

**according to your promises in Christ Jesus.**

## ABSOLUTION

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

*BE SEATED*

## HYMN RESPONSE

## Take My Life and Let It Be



1 Take my life and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;  
5 Take my will and make it thine, it shall be no long - er mine;



take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.  
take my heart, it is thine own, it shall be thy roy - al throne.

## THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

*Let us pray.*

Lord God Almighty, so rule and govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that we may always look forward to the end of this present evil age and the day of your righteous judgment. Keep us steadfast in true and living faith, and present us at last holy and blameless before you; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

### FIRST READING

**Isaiah 1:10–18**

*Israel's service had not been faithful. How does God respond?  
He promises to make them as pure as newly fallen snow.*

<sup>10</sup>Hear the word of the Lord, you rulers of Sodom!

Listen to the law of our God, you people of Gomorrah!

<sup>11</sup>What do your many sacrifices mean to me? says the Lord.

I have more than enough rams as burnt offerings  
and enough fat from well-fed animals.

I am not pleased with the blood of bulls  
or the blood of lambs and male goats.

<sup>12</sup>When you come to appear before me,  
who has asked for this from your hands:  
this trampling on my courts?

<sup>13</sup>Stop bringing worthless offerings!  
Your incense is an abomination to me.  
I cannot stand your sinful assemblies  
on the new moons, Sabbaths, and holy days.

<sup>14</sup>Deep in my soul I hate your new moons and your appointed feasts.

They have become a burden to me.  
I am tired of putting up with them.

<sup>15</sup>When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you.

Indeed, even though you make many prayers, I will not hear.

Your hands are full of blood.

<sup>16</sup>Wash yourselves. Purify yourselves.

Remove your evil deeds from my sight.

Stop doing evil. <sup>17</sup>Learn to do good.

Seek justice. Relieve the oppressed.

Seek justice for the fatherless. Plead for the widow.

<sup>18</sup>Come now, and let us reason together, says the Lord.

Though your sins are like scarlet, they will be as white as snow.

Though they are as red as crimson, they will be like wool.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## SECOND READING

## Romans 12:1–8

*When we keep God's mercy in view, we understand and appreciate the gifts he gives us in Christ, and we use those gifts faithfully.*

Therefore I urge you, brothers, by the mercies of God, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice—holy and pleasing to God—which is your appropriate worship. <sup>2</sup>Also, do not continue to conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, so that you test and approve what is the will of God—what is good, pleasing, and perfect.

<sup>3</sup>So by the grace given to me, I tell everyone among you not to think of yourself more highly than you ought, but think in a way that results in sound judgment, as God distributed a measure of faith to each of you. <sup>4</sup>For we have many members in one body, and not all the members have the same function. <sup>5</sup>In the same way, though we are many, we are one body in Christ, and individually members of one another.

<sup>6</sup>We have different gifts, according to the grace God has given us. If the gift is prophecy, do it in complete agreement with the faith. <sup>7</sup>If it is serving, then serve. If it is teaching, then teach. <sup>8</sup>If it is encouraging, then encourage. If it is contributing, be generous. If it is leadership, be diligent. If it is showing mercy, do it cheerfully.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## HYMN OF THE DAY

## O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made



1 O God, your hand the heav-ens made and all that they con - tain;  
 2 To us are giv - en gifts di - vine, all tal - ents you have sent;  
 3 De - liv - er us from self - ish aims, true stew - ards we would be;



the world ap - peared at your com - mand, and in it now you reign.  
 in - spire us now to use them well your king - dom to ex - tend.  
 en - dow us with a deep de - sire to live un - self - ish - ly.



The rest - less sea, the land, the sky your hand - i - work de - clare;  
 We hold each gift a trust from you nor claim it as our own;  
 A full ac - count - ing we must give and see you face to face;



the touch of your cre - a - tive pow'r is pres - ent ev - 'ry - where.  
 we grate - ful - ly ac - knowl - edge, Lord, all things are yours a - lone.  
 let us ap - proach your throne with joy, sup - port - ed by your grace.

*STAND*



<sup>14</sup>“You see, the kingdom of heaven is like a man going on a journey. He called his servants and entrusted his possessions to them. <sup>15</sup>To one he gave five talents, to another two talents, and to still another one talent, each according to his own ability. Then he went on his journey. <sup>16</sup>The servant who had received the five talents immediately put them to work and gained five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the servant who had received the two talents gained two more. <sup>18</sup>But the servant who had received one talent went away, dug a hole in the ground, and hid his master’s money.

<sup>19</sup>“After a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>The servant who received the five talents came and brought five more talents. He said, ‘Master, you entrusted five talents to me. See, I have gained five more talents.’

<sup>21</sup>“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master.’

<sup>22</sup>“The servant who received the two talents came and said, ‘Master, you entrusted me with two talents. See, I have gained two more talents.’

<sup>23</sup>“His master said to him, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You were faithful with a few things. I will put you in charge of many things. Enter into the joy of your master.’

<sup>24</sup>“Then the servant who received one talent came and said, ‘Master, I knew that you are a hard man, reaping where you did not plant and gathering where you did not scatter seed. <sup>25</sup>Since I was afraid, I went away and hid your talent in the ground. See, you have what is yours.’

<sup>26</sup>“His master answered him, ‘You wicked and lazy servant! You knew that I reap where I did not plant and gather where I did not scatter seed? <sup>27</sup>Well then, you should have deposited my money with the bankers so that when I came I would get my money back with interest. <sup>28</sup>Take the talent away from him and give it to the servant who has the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>Because everyone who has will be given more, and he will have an abundance. But the one who does not have, even what he has will be taken away from him. <sup>30</sup>Throw that worthless servant into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

## **Understand Life Now in These Last Days**

- 1. Understand what Jesus is doing now.**
- 2. Understand what Jesus trusts us to be doing now.**
- 3. Understand what will happen when Jesus returns on the Last Day.**

STAND

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

*Selection on the Lord's Supper from the Large Catechism*

...the [Lord's Supper] is given as a daily pasture and sustenance, that faith may refresh and strengthen itself so that it will not fall back in...battle, but become ever stronger and stronger.

**The new life must be guided so that it continually increases and progresses.**

But it must suffer much opposition. For the devil is such a furious enemy. When he sees that we oppose him and attack the old man, and that he cannot topple us over by force, he prowls and moves about on all sides. He tries every trick and does not stop until he finally wears us out, so that we either renounce our faith or throw up our hands and put up our feet, becoming indifferent or impatient.

**Now to this purpose the comfort of the Sacrament is given when the heart feels that the burden is becoming too heavy, so that it may gain here new power and refreshment.**

BE SEATED

## OFFERING

*The members of Eternal Love congregation have joined together to do the Lord's work in this city and around the world. Guests need not feel obligated to participate in this offering which supports our church's ministry. If being here today was a blessing to you and you would like to support our ministry, you can scan here and enter your phone number or email address to donate. (Members, please use a phone number or email address that is currently on file with the church).*



*During this time, we ask that everyone take part in completing the worship register. Please fill in the requested information and pass the booklet to the end of the row. Thank you!*

## OFFERING SONG

## This Broken Bread—Not Bread Alone

*As the cantor sings the anthem, ponder the mystery and blessing of holy communion.*

*This broken bread—not bread alone  
But Jesus' body, broken, torn  
Upon the cross at Calvary—  
This bread he offers now to me.*

*I come, unworthy, weary, worn.  
My soul is yearning for my Lord.  
“Do this,” he said, “rememb’ring me.  
My life and death have set you free.  
My life and death have set you free.”*

*This brimming wine—not wine alone  
But Jesus' blood, that richly flowed  
From wounds he bore upon the tree—  
This wine he offers now to me.*

*I come, unworthy, weary, worn.  
My soul is yearning for my Lord.  
“Do this,” he said, “rememb’ring me.  
My life and death have set you free.  
My life and death have set you free.”*

*A miracle, a mystery:  
His blood and body here for me.  
I fix my eyes on things unseen.  
I eat and drink eternity.*

*I come, unworthy, weary, worn.  
My soul is yearning for my Lord.  
“Do this,” he said, “rememb’ring me.  
My life and death have set you free.  
My life and death have set you free.*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

*The minister speaks the prayer, including any brief intercessory prayers, concluding with:*

*"...through Jesus Christ our Lord."*

**Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those  
who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**

*STAND*

# THE SACRAMENT

*For our guests: Eternal Love Lutheran Church practices close communion. We welcome congregational members and those in fellowship with our national church body to receive the sacrament with us today. If you are interested in learning more about what we believe or about holy communion, please speak with our pastor.*

## PREFACE

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

## HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



1 Sing, "Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of hosts on high,  
2 Ho - san - na in the high - est! How blest is Christ our King,



your ev - er - last - ing glo - ry fills earth and sea and sky."  
who died as our Re - deem - er, e - ter - nal life to bring!



Our voic - es cry, "Ho - san - na!" Lord, hear our hum - ble plea:  
How blest are you, Lord Je - sus, now com - ing in God's name!



in mer - cy, come and save us; in love, come set us free.  
"Ho - san - na in the high - est!" our grate - ful hearts pro - claim.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## LAMB OF GOD *(spoken)*

Men: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Women: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

**All: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

*BE SEATED*

## DISTRIBUTION HYMN

## Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared

*The cantor sings stanza six.*



1 Lord Je - sus Christ, you have pre - pared this feast for  
4 We eat this bread and drink this cup, your pre - cious  
*Cantor:* 6 Lord, I be - lieve what you have said; help me when  
8 For your con - sol - ing sup - per, Lord, be praised through-

our sal - va - tion; it is your bod - y  
Word be - liev - ing that your true bod - y  
doubts as - sail me. Re - mem - ber that I  
out all ag - es! Pre - serve it, for in



and your blood, and at your in - vi - ta - tion  
 and your blood our lips are here re - ceiv - ing.  
 am but dust, and let my faith not fail me.  
 ev - 'ry place the world a - gainst it rag - es.



as wea - ry souls, with sin op - pressed, we come to  
 This Word re - mains for - ev - er true, and there is  
 Your sup - per in this vale of tears re - fresh - es  
 Grant that this sac - ra - ment may be a bless - ed



you for need - ed rest, for com - fort, and for par - don.  
 naught you can - not do, for you, Lord, are al - might - y.  
 me and stills my fears and is my price - less trea - sure.  
 com - fort un - to me when liv - ing and when dy - ing.

*STAND*

O God the Father, source of all goodness, in your loving-kindness you sent your Son to share our humanity. We thank you that through him you have given us pardon and peace in this Sacrament. We also pray that you will not forsake us but will rule our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit so that we willingly serve you day after day; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

**Amen.**

*BE SEATED*

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## ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Liturgist (Sunday): Pastor Dave Backus  
Preacher (Sunday): Pastor David Nottling  
Minister (Monday): Pastor Ryan Kolander  
Scripture Readers: Clay Funk (8:00 am); Tim Kruse (10:45 am)  
Keyboardist: Tod Frenz Cantor: Julie Ann Sawall

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### Open, Lovely Doors (CW 912)

Text: tr. Michael D. Schultz, b. 1963; Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737, abr. Tune: Joachim Neander, 1650–1680 Text: © 2012 Michael D. Schultz, admin. Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703840

### Before You I Kneel (CW 735)

Text: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Jeff Taylor, b. 1957; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974 Tune: Stuart Townend, b. 1963; Jeff Taylor, b. 1957; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980; Keith Getty, b. 1974 Text and tune: © 2012 Getty Music and Seek 1st Publishing, admin. MusicServices.org and Townend Music. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703840

### Take My Life and Let It Be (CW 695)

Text: Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879 Tune: William H. Havergal, 1793–1870 Text and tune: Public domain.

### O God, Your Hand the Heavens Made (CW 751)

Text: Frank L. Cross, 1904–2001 Tune: English; adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958, alt. Text: © 1961, ren 1989 The Hymn Society, admin. Hope Publishing Co. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703840 Tune: Public domain

### This Broken Bread—Not Bread Alone

Text: Laurie F. Gauger. Tune: Sarah R. Lambrecht Text: © 2015 Laurie F. Gauger. Tune and Setting: © Sarah R. Lambrecht

### Confession of Faith excerpt from the Large Catechism

McCain, P. T., ed. (2005). *Concordia: The Lutheran Confessions* (pp. 433–435). Concordia Publishing House.

### Holy, Holy, Holy (CW 1026 Sanctus [Brit.] - EWING)

Text: Michael D. Schultz Tune: Alexander C. Ewing Text: © 2021 Northwestern Publishing House. Used by permission: OneLicense no. 703840 Tune: Public domain.

### Lord Jesus Christ, You Have Prepared (CW 667)

Text: tr. Emanuel Cronenwett, 1841–1931, alt.; Samuel Kinner, 1603–1668 Tune: Peter Sohren, c. 1630–c. 1692, alt. Text and tune: Public domain

### Holy Bible

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