

## Sunday Devotion for Martin Luther Church

23rd Sunday after Pentecost, November 8, 2020

**A warm welcome to watch this devotion and related videos at  
[www.tiny.cc/MartinLuther](http://www.tiny.cc/MartinLuther)**

### A. GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

#### Prelude

#### Announcements

#### Words of Welcome & Opening

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,  
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

A: **And also with you.**

#### Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with always.

A: **And also with you.**

**Gathering Hymn: Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty ELW 533** *(See next page)*

#### Peace

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

A: **And also with you.**

#### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, and awaken us to the needs of others, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

#### Confession and Forgiveness

P: Gracious God,

A: **have mercy on us.**

**We confess that we have turned from you  
and given ourselves into the power of sin.**

**We are truly sorry and humbly repent.**

**In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown,  
things we have done and things we have failed to do.**

**Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit,**

## Open Now Thy Gates of Beauty



1 O - pen now thy gates of beau - ty, Zi - on, let me en - ter there,  
2 Gra - cious God, I come be - fore thee; come thou al - so un - to me;  
3 Here thy praise is glad - ly chant-ed, here thy seed is du - ly sown;  
4 Thou my faith in - crease and quick-en, let me keep thy gift di - vine;  
5 Speak, O God, and I will hear thee, let thy will be done in - deed;



where my soul in joy - ful du - ty waits for God who an - swers prayer.  
where we find thee and a - dore thee, there a heav'n on earth must be.  
let my soul, where it is plant-ed, bring forth pre - cious sheaves a - lone,  
how - so - e'er temp - ta - tions thick-en, may thy word still o'er me shine  
may I un - dis - turbed draw near thee while thou dost thy peo - ple feed.



Oh, how bless-ed is this place, filled with so - lace, light, and grace!  
To my heart, oh, en - ter thou, let it be thy tem - ple now!  
so that all I hear may be fruit - ful un - to life in me.  
as my guid-ing star through life, as my com-fort in all strife.  
Here of life the foun - tain flows; here is balm for all our woes.

Text: Benjamin Schmolck, 1672–1737; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.  
Music: UNSER HERRSCHER, Joachim Neander, 1650–1680

**so that we may live and serve you in newness of life  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.**

**Amen.**

P: God who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

**Amen.**

### Psalm 70

<sup>1</sup>Be pleased, O God, to deliver me;  
O LORD, make haste to help me.

**<sup>2</sup>Let those who seek my life be put to shame and confounded;  
let those who take pleasure in my misfortune draw back and be disgraced.**

<sup>3</sup>Let those who say to me “Aha!” and gloat over me turn back because of their shame.

**<sup>4</sup>Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you; let those who love your salvation say forever, “Great is the LORD!”**

<sup>5</sup>But as for me, I am poor and needy; come to me quickly, O God. You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry.

## **B. WORD**

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **Reading: Matthew 25:1-13**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

A: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>1</sup>“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. <sup>2</sup>Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. <sup>3</sup>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, all of them became drowsy and slept. <sup>6</sup>But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ <sup>7</sup>Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. <sup>8</sup>The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ <sup>9</sup>But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ <sup>10</sup>And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. <sup>11</sup>Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ <sup>12</sup>But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ <sup>13</sup>Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

A: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

### **Sermon by Vicar Adam McComb**

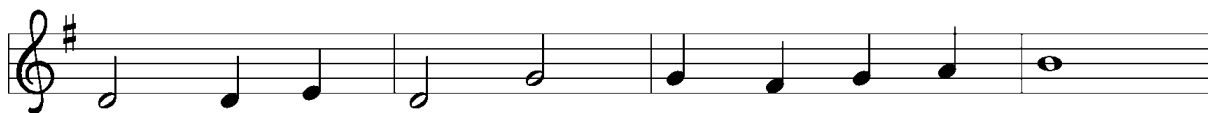
**Hymn: Savior, Again to Your Dear Name ELW 534** *(See next page)*

### **Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s 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 to the dead.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

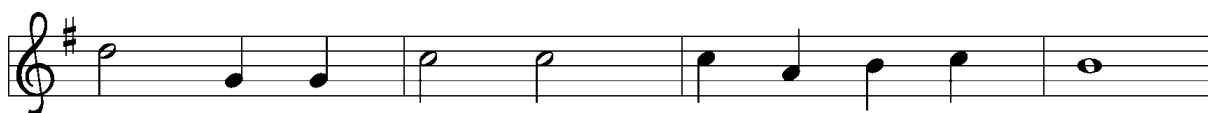
## Savior, Again to Your Dear Name



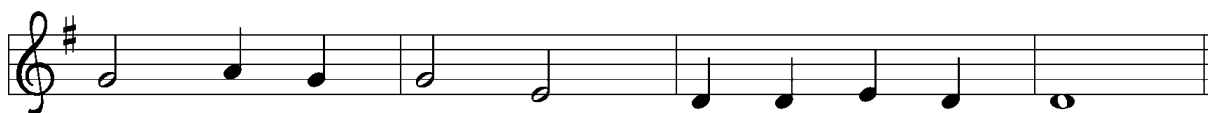
1 Sav - ior, a - gain to your dear name we raise  
2 Grant us your peace up - on our home - ward way;  
3 Grant us your peace, Lord, through the com - ing night;  
4 Grant us your peace through - out our earth - ly life,



with one ac - cord our part - ing hymn of praise;  
with you be - gan, with you shall end the day;  
for us trans - form its dark - ness in - to light.  
our balm in sor - row, and our stay in strife;



once more we bless you ere our wor - ship cease,  
guard all the lips from sin, the hearts from shame,  
Keep us from harm and dan - ger till the dawn;  
then, when your voice shall bid our con - flict cease,



then, low - ly bend - ing, wait your word of peace.  
that in this house have called up - on your name.  
your eve - ning pres - ence prom - ise to your own.  
call us, O Lord, to your e - ter - nal peace.

Text: John Ellerton, 1826–1893, alt.  
Music: ELLERS, Edward J. Hopkins, 1818–1901

**and 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.**

### Prayers of Intercession

Hear us, O God, **Your mercy is great.**

## The Lord`s Prayer

**Our Father, who art in heaven  
Hallowed by 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.**

## C. SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**Amen.**

### Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

A: **Thanks be to God.**

### Postlude

#### Announcements

- Sunday Worship: 11:00 am [In-Person](#) and Live-stream, then a recording on our [YouTube Channel](#) at [www.tiny.cc/MartinLuther](http://www.tiny.cc/MartinLuther). Please subscribe and comment. Please register to attend in-person by 5:00 pm on Thursdays before each Sunday service (Eventbrite: <http://tiny.cc/MartinLutherRegister>), complete COVID waiver and review guidelines. Schedule is subject to change.
  - ◊ **Nov 15:** 11:00 am English-German Service with Godspeed for Volunteers
  - ◊ **Nov 22:** 11:00 am German Service on Christ the King Sunday
  - ◊ **Nov 29:** 11:00 am English-German Service on 1st Sunday of Advent with Celebration of Martin Luther Church's 65th Anniversary
- German [Radio Devotions](#) on our website and Sundays at 9.30 am on CHLO Radio AM 530

## Announcements continued...

- [Sunday School lessons](#) (April-June) on our website. Join our team to help plan fall lessons!
- [Virtual Coffee Shop Talk](#), Mondays 7:00-9:00 pm on Zoom led by Vicar Silke Fahl. Email [vicarfahl@martinluther.ca](mailto:vicarfahl@martinluther.ca) to sign up.
- [Virtual Prayer Circle](#), every other Wednesday 7:00 pm through Zoom led by Solveig Christina Voss. Next date: November 11. To request a prayer or join our prayer circle, email [prayers@martinluther.ca](mailto:prayers@martinluther.ca).
- [Fall Bible Study](#) on the Book of Ruth. Email [vicarfahl@martinluther.ca](mailto:vicarfahl@martinluther.ca) for Zoom log in.
  - ◇ Dinner with Ruth every other Tuesday, 5-6:30 pm, October 13-December 8
  - ◇ Coffee with Ruth every Wednesday, 8:30-9 am, October 14-December 16
  - ◇ Lunch with Ruth every Wednesday, 12:15-12:45 pm, October 14-December 16
- [Masks for Good](#) - A project to ensure that everyone has access to masks. Everyone who wants to get involved can find an activity that suits them. Contact Vicar Adam McComb if you'd like to volunteer, [vicarmccomb@martinluther.ca](mailto:vicarmccomb@martinluther.ca)
- [Corona-Care Calls](#)- Volunteers are continuing to call you with more information and to understand your needs. Let us know if you'd like to join the call team!
- Please phone or email the church office:
  - ◇ if we can help you in any way or to give feedback on what we're offering
  - ◇ if you'd like to volunteer during Sunday services
  - ◇ to support our church and [donate](#). Best ways are PAR or send cheque to church office.

*From sundaysandseasons.com.*

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Organist & Choir Director: Linda Marcinkus

*Member of Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) &  
Partnered with Evangelische Kirche in Deutschland (EKD)*