First English Lutheran Church

1311 East 18th Street

Spencer, Iowa 51301

8:00 am Communion Service

Paul E. Kaldahl, Pastor
Kristin Kaldahl, Organist
www.spencer-church.com

Pentecost 25
November 15 2026
Phone: 262-5598

PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD

Prelude, Ringing of the Bells

Opening Hymn - LSB # 660 "Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus"

Welcome

INVOCATION

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

C: Amen.

P: Father of mercies and God of all consolation, come to the aid of Your people, turning us from our sin to live for You alone.

C: Give us the power of Your Holy Spirit that we may attend to Your Word, confess our sins, receive Your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Your Son Jesus Christ, our Lord and Redeemer. Amen.

Baptism Hymn - LSB # "Father Welcomes"

(8:00 Service)

Baptism - Cooper Matthew Fassler, son of Ryan & Makayla Fassler. Sponsors are Karla Uhl and Nathan Arndt

(10:45 Service)

Baptism - Cooper Dean Snyder, son of William & Samantha (Cody) Snyder. Sponsor is Hannah Brands

Old Testament Lesson - Zephaniah 1:7-16

Be silent before the Lord GOD! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests. 8And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—"I will punish the officials and the king's sons and all who array themselves in foreign attire. 9On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud. 10"On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills. 11Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off. 12At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.'

13Their goods 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." 14The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there. 15A day of wrath is that day, 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, 16a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements.

Epistle - 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers, you have no need to have anything written to you. 2For you yourselves are fully aware that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. 3While people are saying, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and they will not escape. 4But you are not in darkness, brothers, for that day to surprise you like a thief. 5For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. 6So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. 7For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. 8But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. 9For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, 10who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. 11Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Holy Gospel - Matthew 25:14-30

14[Jesus said:] "For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. 15To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. 16He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. 17So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. 18But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. 19Now after a long time the

master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. [20]And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here I have made five talents more.' [21]His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' [22]And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here I have made two talents more.' [23]His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.'

[24]He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, [25]so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' [26]But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sowed and gather where I scattered no seed? [27]Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. [28]So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. [29]For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. [30]And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

Hymn - LSB # 338 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Sermon

Nicene Creed (Inside back cover of hymnal)

Offering

Offertory Hymn - LSB #851 vs 1-2 "Lord of Glory"

Collect of the Day

P: Almighty and ever-living God, You have given exceedingly great and precious promises to those who trust in You. Dispel from us the works of darkness and grant us to live in the light of Your Son, Jesus Christ, that our faith may never be found wanting; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Prayers

Hymn Of Praise - LSB #790 vs. 1 and 4 "Praise to the Lord"

ORDER OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

The Exhortation

P: Dearly beloved, since it is our intention to come to the Holy Supper of our Lord Jesus Christ, it is proper that we diligently examine ourselves as St. Paul tells us to do, for this Holy Sacrament has been instituted for the special comfort and strengthening of those who humbly confess their sins and hunger and thirst for righteousness.

C: But as we thus examine ourselves, we find nothing in us but sin and death, from which we cannot set ourselves free.

P: That is why our Lord Jesus Christ has had mercy on us and has taken on Himself our nature;

C: that He might fulfill for us the whole law of God and for our deliverance suffer death and all that we by our sins have deserved.

P: That we might all the more confidently believe this and be strengthened by our faith, Christ has instituted the Holy Sacrament of His Supper, in which He feeds us with His body and gives us to drink of His blood.

C: Therefore, whoever eats of this bread and drinks of this cup, firmly believing the words of Christ, dwells in Christ, and Christ in him, and has eternal life.

P: We should do this also in remembrance of Him, showing His death,

C: That He was delivered for our offenses and raised again for our justification,

P: And, giving Him our most hearty thanks, take up our cross and follow Him and according to His commandment to love one another as He has loved us.

C: For we are all one body, even as we all eat of His Body and drink of His Blood.

P: Let us humble ourselves before God, confess our sins to Him, and implore His forgiveness.

ALL: O almighty God, merciful Father, I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your punishment now and forever. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious to me, a poor sinful being. Forgive me all my sins and grant me the power of Your Holy Spirit that I may amend my sinful life.

P: God be gracious to you and strengthen your faith and confidence in Him.

C: Amen.

P: I stand before you as God's ambassador and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ announce that all your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Communion Collect

P: Lord of heaven and earth, we praise and thank you for having had mercy on those whom you created, sending your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and to be our Savior.

C: With repentant joy, we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

P: Gathered in the name and remembrance of Jesus, we beg you, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit.

C: Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us to do in His own testament.

P: Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us. . .

ALL: *"Our Father, who art. . ."*

Consecration of Bread and Wine

Communion Distribution

Hymns

LSB # 623 “Lord Jesus Christ, We Humbly Pray”
LSB # 507 “Holy, Holy, Holy”
LSB # 620 “Jesus Comes Today with Healing”
LSB # 628 “Your Table I Approach”

Collect After Holy Communion

P: Lord Jesus Christ, we thank and praise you that you have again revived us with the gift of this comforting sacrament. Bless our participation in Your holy Body and Blood that we may now depart with peace and joy, knowing that we are reconciled to God; for You live and reign with the Father, and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

Benediction

P: May the God of peace, who through the blood of the eternal covenant brought back from the dead our Lord Jesus Christ, that great Shepherd of the sheep, equip you with everything good for doing His will, and may He work in us what is pleasing to Him, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory for ever and ever.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn - LSB # 783 “take My Life and Let It Be”

Announcements and Postlude

✞ ✞ ✞ HOLY COMMUNION ✞ ✞ ✞

Dear Visitors and Friends: Our practice of close communion is the historic practice of the church. Through it we practice love and fidelity to God’s Word, prompting us to care for all of God’s people in this unique way. Please understand that our communion practice does not deny that the members of other denominations are Christians! Rather, it bows the knee to the Bible’s deep concern for doctrinal truth (Romans 16:17). When we commune together, God unites all who commune, not only in saving faith, but also in truth, regarding what the scripture teaches about the Lord's Supper. In 1 Corinthians 11 Paul tells us that this expression of unity must be honest and truthful.

For this reason, the congregations of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod have agreed to follow the Biblical and historical practice of “Close Communion.” ***If you desire to receive the Lord’s Supper and are not a communicant member of First English Lutheran Church or a sister congregation in the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod, we respectfully ask that you not commune this morning.*** Rather, we invite you to ask the pastor about how you might become a communicant member of our congregation.

It is our sincere prayer that our careful administration of the Lord's Supper will not be a hindrance to our fellowship with you this morning, but instead that it would lead you to appreciate the high regard we have for Christ and His Word concerning this precious gift. **Thank you for understanding, and God bless you!**

If you are a member of the LCMS, please follow the four steps of preparation for Holy Communion. You can find those preparation instructions on the white cards on the back of the pew in front of you. When you attend Holy Communion, please register by filling out one of the white cards and pass them to the inner aisle during the offering so that the ushers can collect it.

For those who prefer, the cup in the center of the communion tray is grape juice with a drop of wine. If you do not feel secure taking the individual cup from the tray, please hold out your hand to indicate your concern and the cup will be handed to you. We invite small children to accompany their parents, if they desire to receive a blessing from the Pastor.

✞ ✞ VISITORS AND MEMBERS ✞ ✞

Sometime during the service, we ask that everyone fill out one of the cards found in the pew racks so that we might have a record of your worship with us today. For our visitors we ask that you please sign our Guest Register on the table next to the front door as you leave. We are pleased to have you join us this morning as we praise our great God and encourage you to visit us again when possible.

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