

Hymn ***Our God, our help in ages past***

*King's College Choir*

*Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,  
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:*

*Under the shadow of your throne your saints have dwelt secure;  
sufficient is your arm alone, and our defense is sure.*

*Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,  
from everlasting you are God, to endless years the same.*

*A thousand ages in your sight are like an evening gone;  
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.*

*Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away;  
they fly forgotten, as a dream dies at the op'ning day.*

*Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come:  
O be our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.*

*Celebrant* Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God, the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

*Celebrant* Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known,  
and from whom no secrets are hid:  
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,  
that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*A moment of silence for self-reflection*

*Celebrant* Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

*People* **Gracious God, have mercy on us. We confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors  
as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your name. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit+. **Amen.**

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

*People* **And also with you.**

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, and for the unity of all,

let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For our holy house, and for all who offer their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**

**Worthy is Christ the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God.**

**Power, and riches, and wisdom, and strength, and honor, and blessing, and glory are his.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.**

**Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:**

**Blessing, and honor, and glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.**

**This is the feast of victory for our God. For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign.**

**Alleluia. Alleluia.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray: Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

### **First Reading**

### **Zephaniah 1:7,12-18**

Be silent before the Lord God! For the day of the Lord is at hand; the Lord has prepared a sacrifice, he has consecrated his guests. At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the people who rest complacently on their dregs, those who say in their hearts, "The Lord will not do good, nor will he do harm." Their wealth 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. The great day of the Lord is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the Lord is bitter, the warrior cries aloud there. That day will be a day of wrath, 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, a day of trumpet blast and battle cry against the fortified cities and against the lofty battlements. I will bring such distress upon people that they shall walk like the blind; because they have sinned against the Lord, their blood shall be poured out like dust, and their flesh like dung. Neither their silver nor their gold will be able to save them on the day of the Lord's wrath; in the fire of his passion the whole earth shall be consumed; for a full, a terrible end he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 90:1-12**

### *Domine, refugium*

Lord, you have been our refuge \*

**from one generation to another.**

Before the mountains were brought forth, or the land and the earth were born, \*

**from age to age you are God.**

You turn us back to the dust and say, \*

**"Go back, O child of earth."**

For a thousand years in your sight are like yesterday when it is past \*

**and like a watch in the night.**

You sweep us away like a dream; \*

**we fade away suddenly like the grass.**

In the morning it is green and flourishes; \*  
**in the evening it is dried up and withered.**  
For we consume away in your displeasure; \*  
**we are afraid because of your wrathful indignation.**  
Our iniquities you have set before you, \*  
**and our secret sins in the light of your countenance.**  
When you are angry, all our days are gone; \*  
**we bring our years to an end like a sigh.**  
The span of our life is seventy years, perhaps in strength even eighty; \*  
**yet the sum of them is but labor and sorrow, for they pass away quickly and we are gone.**  
Who regards the power of your wrath? \*  
**who rightly fears your indignation?**  
So teach us to number our days \*  
**that we may apply our hearts to wisdom.**  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.  
**As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be. World without end. Amen.**

**Second Reading**                      **1 Thessalonians 5:1-11**

Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel**                                      **Matthew 25:14-30**

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "It is as if a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two

more talents.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.' But his master replied, 'You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.'"

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## **Sermon**

### **Hymn**

### ***Come, Labor On***

*St. Thomas Choir Of Men And Boys*

*Come, labor on. Who dares stand idle on the harvest plain, while all around us waves the golden grain? And to each servant does the Master say, "Go work today."*

*Come, labor on. Claim the high calling angels cannot share--to young and old the Gospel gladness bear; redeem the time; its hours too swiftly fly. The night draws nigh.*

*Come, labor on. No time for rest, till glows the western sky, till the long shadows o'er our pathway lie, and a glad sound comes with the setting sun. "Servants, well done."*

### **Nicene Creed**

*Said by all.*

**We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God, begotten not made, of one being with the Father.**

**Through Him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day He rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.**

**With the Father and the Son, he is worshipped and glorified.**

**He has spoken through the prophets.**

**We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.**

**We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.**

**We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## Prayers of the People

*Celebrant* With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church,  
those in need, and all of God's creation. In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

*Silence*

For this community, the nation, and the world;

**For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

For the peace and unity of the world;

**That a spirit of respect may grow among nations and peoples.**

For the just and proper use of your creation;

**For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

For all bishops and other ministers;

**For all who serve God in his Church.**

For all who love God and trust in Christ, that divisions may cease;

**And that all may be one as you and the Father are one.**

For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

**For those who minister to the sick the friendless, and the needy.**

For wisdom in this time of pandemic;

**That our actions may protect the health of ourselves and others.**

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

*Silence. The People may add their own petitions.*

Hear us, Lord;

**For your mercy is great.**

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. *Silence.*

We will exalt you, O God our King;

**And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.

*Silence.* Lord, let your loving kindness be upon them.

**Who put their trust in you.**

Into your hands, gracious God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we pray together:

**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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

We pray together for Christ's presence:

**My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the bread and wine.**

**I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul.**

**Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come spiritually into my heart.**

**I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.**

*Celebrant:* While we long to receive the sacrament of Christ's Body,

*People:* **We become the sacrament of Christ's Body.**

*Celebrant:* Let your lives be manna to feed our hunger for communion.

*People:* **The love we share becomes bread for the world.**

### **Blessing and Dismissal**

*The Lord Bless You and Keep You [Lutkin], Acapeldridge*