24th Sunday after Pentecost

Sunday, November 8, 2026
followed by Coffee Time with Jesus

Introduction to the day

Today the prophet Amos calls for justice to roll down like waters. Paul urges us to encourage one another with the promised coming of the Lord. Jesus tells the parable of the wise and foolish bridesmaids. Surrounded by the faithful of every time and place, we celebrate Christ's coming in our midst in the word of life and the feast of victory—the marriage feast of the Lamb.

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.

FIRST READING: Amos 5:18-24

In the days of Amos, people thought that the day of the LORD would be a time of great victory, but Amos announced that it would be a day of darkness, not light. He said liturgy is no substitute for obedience. The LORD demands justice and righteousness in the community.

PSALM: Psalm 70

You are my helper and my deliverer; O LORD, do not tarry. *(Ps. 70:5)*

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18

Some of the Thessalonians are worried that dead Christians will be excluded from the resurrection to eternal life when Christ comes again. Paul reassures them with the word of hope that all Christians, living or dead, will be raised into everlasting life with Christ.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:1-13

Jesus tells a parable about his own second coming, emphasizing the need for readiness at all times.

GOSPEL MESSAGE - The Challenge of Waiting

For many of us, waiting is not a pleasant experience. Whether our waiting is mundane, like waiting in a long line at the grocery store checkout counter, or profound, like waiting for a medical diagnosis or for a new stage of life to begin, we often feel anxious or uneasy, impatient or frustrated, longing for the wait to be over. Over the course of our lives, we get plenty of experience with waiting but might never learn to be patient, even amid the frustration.

As uncomfortable as waiting may be, it is a necessary aspect of the life of faith. We live in the days between Christ's coming at his birth and his return, that longed-for day of hope and promises fulfilled. Seasons of our liturgical life train us in the art of holy waiting. We wait during Advent for Christ's birth, longing for the joy of his arrival as a child in Bethlehem. We wait during Lent for the bright joy of resurrection, abstaining from "alleluias" and quieting ourselves with prayer and fasting. Just as the young women in today's parable had to continue their daily living until the bridegroom returned (all of them, even the wise ones, went to sleep that night!), in all seasons we go about our lives faithfully, even as we wait with eager longing.

Many generations after the telling of this parable, how are we living as people prepared for the coming of Christ? How are we opening our daily lives to the possibilities that Christ will come among us at any moment? We are invited to live with eager expectation, watchful for the grace and love of God through Jesus Christ, which meets us when we least expect it.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

You illumine the church with the hope of your new day. Prepare our hearts and minds for the inbreaking of your kingdom, that we might awaken to your transforming love at work all around us. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You create and sustain the earth's natural rhythms so that all life might thrive. Show us the wisdom and wonder of nature's balance; make us careful stewards of our common home. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You make justice roll down in all places and among all nations. Encourage all who protect vulnerable communities and help rebuild in the aftermath of conflict, such as CLWR. Uphold veterans and those who care for them. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You hasten to heal our wounds and make whole what is broken. Comfort individuals facing a difficult diagnosis, receiving palliative care, or facing uncertain treatment options. We pray especially for Chris Burchat, Natasha Gagnon-Burchat, Claude Jeannotte, Glenda Panke, Joanne Robinson, Bernadette Schueneman, Heather Schruder, Linda Schruder, Harold Warlich, Roy Zadow, and those in long term care facilities and senior residences. In this moment of silence, we name out loud or in the quiet of our hearts, those who need your healing touch. *(pause)* God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You give rest to weary hearts and bodies. As the days grow shorter in the north, help us to move more slowly and intentionally through our days, honoring the need for quiet and stillness. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You welcome those who have come before us in faith into the joys of heaven. Sustain us by your grace and guide us into the promise of everlasting life. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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, forever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

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Announcements:

Sunday, November 8th – **24th Sunday after Pentecost**
10:30 AM – Grace – Service of the Word
Grace – Helpers – Greeter: Janice Nagora;
Reader: John Yakabuski
Bell Ringer: Sheldon Tiegs**; Elevator:** Ed Byers;
Head Usher: Barry Nagora
Following worship. join us downstairs for coffee time.

Monday, November 9th
9: 00 AM to 3:00 PM - Quilting at Grace
4:00 PM – Confirmation
5:00 PM – Messy Church Youth Group

Tuesday, November 10th
10:00 AM – Bible Discussion Group
We will be studying Matthew 25:14-30

Wednesday, November 11th
9:00 AM to 12 Noon – Tie Quilting
10:30 AM – Remembrance Day Service at the Legion
7:00 PM – Community Choir

Thursday, November 12th
9:00 AM to 12 Noon – ToyBus
9:30 AM – Ottawa Valley Clergy at Grace
10:00 AM – Grace Choir

Saturday, November 14th
1:00 PM – Worship at Fairfields

Sunday, November 15th – 25**th Sunday after Pentecost**
9:00 AM – Bonnechere – HC
10:30 AM – Grace – HC - SS
Grace – Helpers – Greeter: Janice Nagora;
Reader: Lorna Byers; **Bell Ringer**: Jim Verch**;**
Elevator: Ed Byers; **Head Usher**: Barry Nagora

Messy Church
Our Messy Church Youth Group is planning to make Cookie Mix in a Jar for the Bake Sale, and are looking for donations of empty quart jars for this project. Thank you!

Sunday, November 22, 2026 at 7:00 PM,

OFF THE GRID PRODUCTIONS PRESENTS:

CONNIE KALDOR - Canadian Folk Singer / songwriter and 3-time Juno Award Winner. $50.00 per person.

Doors open at 6:15 PM, Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church, Eganville, ON.

Desserts served at intermission

All profits to Eganville Food Bank

TICKETSPLEASE.CA

For info about etransfers Contact Lynne eppsoffthegrid@gmail.com

613-633-7244

From the Cemetery Committee

For anyone who still has floral saddles on tombstones,
please remove them ASAP. Thank you.

Ladies Aid Christmas Party

The Ladies Aid would like to extend an invitation to everyone to join us for our annual Christmas party in the Fellowship Hall at Grace Lutheran Church on Tuesday, December 1, 2026. The “Red Hot Mamas” will be entertaining us with their musical talent beginning at 1:30 pm followed by light refreshments. Doors will open at 1:00 pm as the Ladies Aid will be selling homemade preserves and goodies prior to the performance. Hope to see you there for an afternoon of fun and fellowship to start the Christmas season.

We are looking for volunteers who would like to organize our entry for the **Eganville Christmas Parade, Sunday, December 13th at 1:00 PM**. Please contact the church office.