

# Twenty-third Sunday After Pentecost



November 8, 2020  
10:30 AM

Join us for our livestream at <https://www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit/>  
or <https://www.youtube.com/user/StJohnsSummitNJ>  
Zoom Coffee Hour: URL: <https://zoom.us/j/753360733>



**Everyone is welcome.** As people of God, St. John's welcomes all regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28) This is Christ's church, and Christ has bid you come.

**November 8, 2020**

**In-Person Worship:** Join us for our final in-person worship service next **Sunday at 3:00 PM**. Please bring your own chairs—spots will be marked on the front lawn. Masks must be worn and social distance must be observed. Limited bathroom usage. At-risk individuals or anyone feeling unwell should not attend. Please use discretion. **Please RSVP** here so that we can plan for attendance.

**LSMNJ Christmas Giving Tree:** Please help provide Christmas gifts for families and seniors in need by either 1) Purchasing gift cards for at least \$35 or \$40 from a Grocery Store, Walmart, or Target and get them to St. John's no later than December 2nd; or 2) Purchasing gifts from LSMNJ's Amazon Smiles Christmas Gift List. Follow this link to access the children's wish <https://smile.amazon.com/hz/charitylist/ls/BO29XPGZ2EIP>.

**Online Pledge Form:** Our primary mode of collecting 2021 Financial Stewardship Pledges will be online. Please fill out the Online Pledge Form <https://forms.gle/9X3dVQkh6J8MCU5v9>. You may also submit the paper pledge card in person to the church office.

**ALCM Virtual Christmas Carol:** All musicians—singers and instrumentalists—are invited to join Lutherans across the country in making a video of "Angels We Have Heard on High" for use in Christmas services around the country this year. For more information and to participate click [here](#). Submit videos by **TODAY**.

**Holiday Recipes:** This year we can't gather to share a meal, but we are putting together a Christmas/holiday recipe collection to share with one another. If you have a favorite recipe—please share it with Pastor Blake by **November 9**.

**Transition Town Hall on November 9 and 17 at 7:00 PM.** Anticipating Pastor Moore's upcoming retirement, our congregation will be in transition. Come with your questions, thoughts, and concerns to a Zoom Town Hall meeting as we begin this process.

**Confirmation:** We will confirm four youth—Lindsey Bresnahan, Chelsea Hynes, Erik Noble, and Thomas Young—on Sunday, **November 15 at 3:00 PM** during the outside service. In the case of inclement weather, the service will be confirmands and their immediate families only, inside. Please pray for our confirmands.

**Advent at Home:** We are preparing resources for you to engage in the season of Advent at home: devotional book, Advent calendar, Advent crafts, and more. To have this resource brought to your home, sign up [here](#) by **November 20**.

**Synod Youth Retreat:** This year's synod youth retreat will be all online **November 20–21**. All youth, 6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> grades are welcome! For more information and to register, click [here](#).

**Neighbors Helping Neighbors:** Please give generously to the emergency fund sponsored by the Summit Interfaith Council to help Summit immigrant neighbors adversely affected by COVID-19. You may make your tax-deductible donation to the Relief Fund [here](#), by either check or PayPal. Checks should be made out to and mailed to Beacon UU Congregation in Summit, 4 Waldron Ave., Summit, NJ 07901.

**Music Notes:** Participating in our worship service this morning are members of the Agape Music Outreach Handbell Ensemble, co-directed by Linda Clark and Lisa Wichman. Agape Music Outreach includes singers, ringers, and instrumentalists from various denominations who prepare and celebrate sacred music to enable all to grow stronger in faith and purpose. Their mission is to participate to the glory of God in worship services and community outreach events throughout northern NJ, especially with churches and organizations that may have limited musical resources. Presently on pandemic hiatus, their members are grateful for opportunities at St. John's to participate in making virtual worship recordings.

### **Prayer Before Worship**

Send your Spirit to move in our world and stir the water of our souls  
that we may desire a word of instruction that awakens us to the joy of your coming reign.  
Amen.

From *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A, Vol. 2*

### **Gathering**

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

**PRELUDE** Setting of *Italian Hymn* (ELW 673)

By Sandra Eithun (b. 1963)

Virtual Agape Ringers

Guest Virtual Ringers: Craig Clark, Linda Clark, Kim Kanefke, Andy Moody,  
John Resciniti, and Beth van de Beek

### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, who creates, redeems, and sustains us and all of  
creation. **Amen.**

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to  
live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive  
your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin before God and one another.

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

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.**

## GATHERING HYMN 632 O God, Our Help in Ages Past



1 O God, our help in a - ges past, our hope for years to come,  
2 Un - der the shad - ow of your throne your saints have dwelt se - cure;  
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood or earth re - ceived its frame,  
4 A thou - sand a - ges in your sight are like an eve - ning gone,



our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, and our e - ter - nal home:  
suf - fi - cient is your arm a - lone, and our de - fense is sure.  
from ev - er - last - ing you are God, to end - less years the same.  
short as the watch that ends the night be - fore the ris - ing sun.

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

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

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

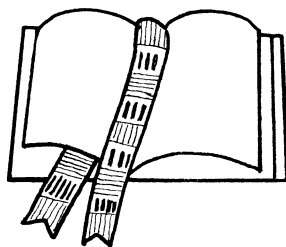
Music: ST. ANNE, William Croft, 1678–1727

## APOSTOLIC GREETING

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



## Word

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

### FIRST READING Amos 5:18–24

<sup>18</sup>Alas for you who desire the day of the Lord! Why do you want the day of the Lord? It is darkness, not light; <sup>19</sup>as if someone fled from a lion, and was met by a bear; or went into the house and rested a hand against the wall, and was bitten by a snake. <sup>20</sup>Is not the day of the Lord darkness, not light, and gloom with no brightness in it?

<sup>21</sup>I hate, I despise your festivals, and I take no delight in your solemn assemblies. <sup>22</sup>Even though you offer me your burnt offerings and grain offerings, I will not accept them; and the offerings of well-being of your fatted animals I will not look upon. <sup>23</sup>Take away from me the noise of your songs; I will not listen to the melody of your harps. <sup>24</sup>But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.

*The reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* Thanks be to God.

### PSALM 70

1. Come quick - ly, LORD, to res - cue me, and has - ten to my  
2. May all who seek your name re - joice, your praise in grat - i -  
3. Yet I am poor and need - y, LORD; be quick to hear my

help, I pray. May all who seek to take my life be  
tude re - cord. May those who love your sav - ing pow'r say  
ur - gent plea. You are my help, my Sav - ior God! Do

put to shame with - out de - lay.  
ev - er - more, "Ex - alt the LORD!"  
not de - lay; re - mem - ber me.

## SECOND READING 1 Thessalonians 4:13–18

<sup>13</sup>We do not want you to be uninformed, brothers and sisters, about those who have died, so that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. <sup>14</sup>For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have died. <sup>15</sup>For this we declare to you by the word of the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will by no means precede those who have died. <sup>16</sup>For the Lord himself, with a cry of command, with the archangel's call and with the sound of God's trumpet, will descend from heaven, and the dead in Christ will rise first. <sup>17</sup>Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up in the clouds together with them to meet the Lord in the air; and so we will be with the Lord forever. <sup>18</sup>Therefore encourage one another with these words.

*The reader concludes:* The word of the Lord. *The assembly responds:* Thanks be to God.

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

*Congregation:*

Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia, Lord, to whom shall we go?—

You have the words of e-ter-nal life: Al-le-lu-ia!—

Music: *Now the Feast and Celebration*, Marty Haugen, b. 1950  
Music © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

## GOSPEL Matthew 25:1–13

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **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.”

*The gospel is proclaimed, concluding:* The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

# HYMN OF THE DAY 436 Wake, Awake, for Night Is Flying



1 Wake, a - wake, for night is fly - ing, the watch-men  
2 Zi - on hears the watch-men sing - ing, and all her  
3 Glo - ri - a! Let heav'n a - dore you! Let saints and



on the heights are cry - ing; a - wake, Je - ru - sa - lem, at last.  
heart with joy is spring-ing. She wakes, she ris - es from her gloom.  
an - gels sing be - fore you, with harp and cym-bal's clear-est tone.



Mid - night hears the wel - come voic - es, and at the  
Her dear friend comes down, all glo - rious, the strong in  
Gates of pearl, twelve por - tals gleam - ing, lead us to



thrill-ing cry re - joic - es: "Come forth, you maid-ens! Night is past.  
grace, in truth vic - to - rious: her star is ris'n; her light is come.  
bliss be - yond all dream - ing, with an - gel choirs a - round your throne.



The bride - groom comes! A - wake; your lamps with glad - ness take!"  
Now come, O Bless - ed One, Lord Je - sus, God's own Son.  
No eye has caught the light, no ear the thun-d'ring might



Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and pre - pare the feast to share;  
Sing ho - san - na! Oh, hear the call! Come one, come all,  
of such glo - ry. There we will go: what joy we'll know!



go, meet the bride - groom, who draws near.  
and fol - low to the ban - quet hall.  
There sweet de - light will ev - er flow.

## **APOSTLES' CREED**

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith:

**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, and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## **PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Lord in your mercy, . . . **Hear our prayer. *Response at the conclusion of the prayer: Amen.***

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

And now let us pray as our Savior taught us:

**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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

## **PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**



## **GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS**

*If you would like to make a one-time or recurring electronic contribution, or want information about mailing checks, you may visit [www.stjohnssummit.org/giving](http://www.stjohnssummit.org/giving). You may also contact the church office for more options.*

## **STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE**

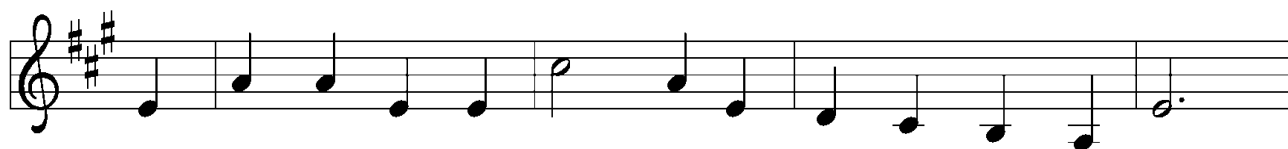
The Rev. Marissa Krey  
Director, Mission Funding–ELCA World Hunger

**OFFERING MUSIC** Setting of *Wachet Auf* By Gustav Adolph Thomas (1842–1870)  
Virtual Recorder Ensemble



## OFFERTORY 681 We Plow the Fields and Scatter

### *Verse 3*



3 We thank you, our cre - a - tor, for all things bright and good,



the seed-time and the har - vest, our life, our health, our food.



No gifts have we to of - fer for all your love im - parts,



but what you most would trea - sure—our hum - ble, thank-ful hearts.

#### *Refrain*



All good gifts a - round us are sent from heav'n a - bove.



We thank you, Lord, we thank you, Lord, for all your love.

Text: Matthias Claudius, 1740–1815; tr. Jane M. Campbell, 1817–1878, alt.  
Music: WIR PFLÜGEN, Johann A. P. Schulz, 1747–1800

## OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. **Blessed are you, O God, maker of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: our selves, our time, and our possessions. Use us, and what we have gathered, in feeding the world with your love, through the one who gave himself for us, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

## Sending

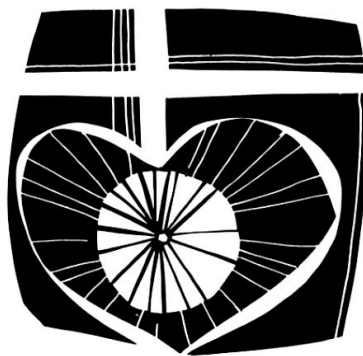
*God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

### **READING** Ephesians 1:15–23

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

### **BLESSING**

May the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of Jesus Christ our Lord; and may the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit be with you and rest upon you now and forevermore. **Amen.**



**SENDING HYMN 818 O Master, Let Me Walk with You**



1 O Mas - ter, let me walk with you in low - ly  
2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear,  
3 Teach me your pa - tience; share with me a clos - er,  
4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the



paths of ser - vice true; tell me your se - cret;  
win - ning word of love; teach me the way - ward  
dear - er com - pa - ny, in work that keeps faith  
fu - ture's broad - 'ning way, in peace that on - ly



help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.  
feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.  
sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong,  
you can give; with you, O Mas - ter, let me live.

Text: Washington Gladden, 1836–1918, alt.  
Music: MARYTON, H. Percy Smith, 1825–1898

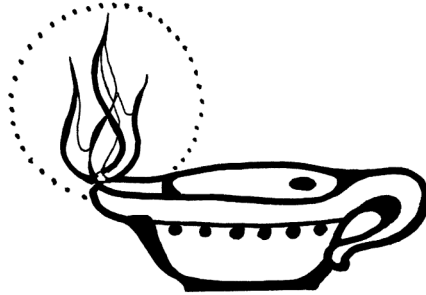
**DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Serve the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE** Setting of *St. Anne*

By Paul Soulek (b. 20<sup>th</sup> C.)

**ZOOM COFFEE HOUR:** URL: <https://zoom.us/j/753360733>



**Zoom Children's Time, Sundays at 9:30 AM.** Join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86580617100>.

**Evening Prayer: Wednesdays at 7:00 PM** on both our [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) pages.

**Hymns of Faith: Wednesdays at 10:30 AM.** Zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88523165763>

**Worship Live Stream at 10:30 AM** on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit](http://www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit) or our YouTube Channel at [www.youtube.com/user/StJohnsSummitNJ](http://www.youtube.com/user/StJohnsSummitNJ) **Worship bulletins** are located: <https://www.stjohnssummit.org/bulletins>.

**Giving Is Important.** We count on your generous offerings to continue to do our robust ministry. Please give generously. You may [give online](#) or mail checks to the church.

## **Ministers: The People of St. John's**

### **Clergy & Staff**

The Rev. Gladys G. Moore, Pastor

The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor

Donna Garzinsky, Director of Music

Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator

Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation

The Rev. Dr. Harry Kocotos, Visitation Pastor

Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton

Anne Ryan Dello Russo, Nursery

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**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH**

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# PRE-READER

Pentecost 23

- Today is the **23<sup>rd</sup> Sunday** after Pentecost.
- Pentecost is a season of **growing**.
- God wants us to grow by **being ready** for God to **show up**.

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God wants us to walk on the road of love. God welcomes us on this road. Color in the welcome mat. Use lots of colors. Everyone is welcome.





**Jesus told a story about getting ready.**



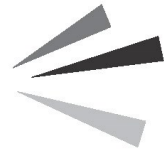
Five bridesmaids put oil in their lamps. They were ready.  
Five other bridesmaids need our help. We can help them  
get ready.



**We can draw flames on their lamps. We can  
draw smiles on their faces.**



Today's story is about a wedding. Lots of weddings happen at church.



**What do you need for a wedding? Circle those things.**







# READER

Pentecost 23

- Today is the **23<sup>rd</sup>** Sunday after Pentecost.
- The Pentecost season is the **longest season** of the church year.
- At the **end** of the Pentecost season, we enter **Advent**.
- Advent is the time when we **get ready** for Jesus at Christmas.

## Ready, Set, Grow

Jesus tells us to get ready to meet God. What helps us get ready to meet God? Unscramble the words above the road and write your answers on the road.



iebbi  
rrayep  
eolv  
plenhig

Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom.

## Memory Verse



**Matthew 25:1**

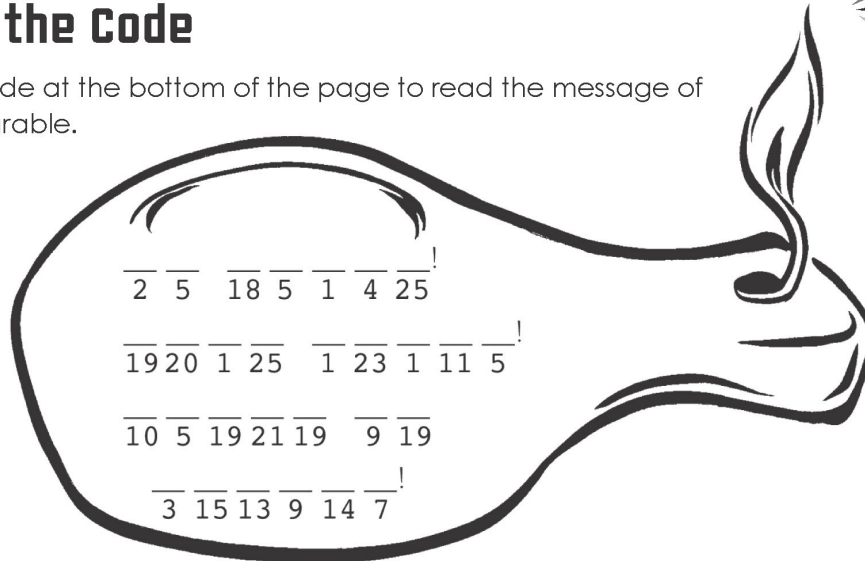
## All Is Ready!

The five bridesmaids who were ready had lamps filled with oil. Find them and color their lamps.



## Crack the Code

Use the code at the bottom of the page to read the message of today's parable.
















A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26


# Ready and Waiting

Matthew 25:1-13


Jesus told many parables about the kingdom of heaven. Find this parable in Matthew.

Fill in the blanks with the correct numbers and read the story.

5+5  took their oil  and went to meet the . 4+1 were wise and filled their  with oil. 3+2 weren't wise, and didn't fill their  with oil. It got to be late at night, and the 9+1  fell asleep. Suddenly, at 11+1 midnight, the  arrived. The 1+4 wise  lit their oil  and went in to the wedding banquet with the . The 2+3 not-so-wise  couldn't light their , so they couldn't go to the wedding banquet. Jesus says we should be like the 0+5 wise  and be ready!

 = bridesmaids

 = groom

 = lamps



# Get Ready for Worship

Here's a quiz to help you get ready for worship. Circle the letter that matches your answer.

## 1. What can you bring to church each week?

- a. Bible
- b. Headphones
- c. Snacks



## 2. How can you get ready to pray during worship?

- a. Read the bulletin.
- b. Start looking through your hymnal.
- c. Fold your hands and close your eyes.

## 3. How can you get ready to sing at church?

- a. Do some voice warm-up exercises.
- b. Find the hymn numbers in the hymnal or the song in the bulletin service folder.
- c. Do some drum rolls on the pews.

## 4. How do we get ready to take communion at church?

- a. Go to the communion table.
- b. Stare out the window.
- c. Start whistling.

**Now try writing your own question or two!**