

LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

Christ the King
November 23 & 24, 2024
5:00pm & 8:00am

AS WE GATHER

The Last Sunday of the Church Year is about the last things, the day of judgment when Jesus Christ “will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,” Christ, “whose kingdom will have no end” (Nicene Creed). The last Sunday is therefore known as the Sunday of fulfillment, when all the plans and promises of God’s salvation break forth in the resurrection of all flesh and eternal life in the new heavens and earth. This year we hear the Readings appointed for what some churches call Christ the King Sunday.

Reception of Holy Communion: If you are planning to receive Christ's supper today, please read through the words of exhortation in the fellowship folder. For members, it is a good review of important spiritual matters for gathering at the table. For guests, it explains our stance on confession of faith, doctrinal unity, and proper spiritual preparation to receive the Supper for your benefit.

WELCOME

MINISTRY MOMENT – Cookie Walk

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.” And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” Revelation 21:3-5

HANDSHAKES & HUGS

✠ PREPARATION ✠

OPENING HYMN #804

“O Worship the King”

O worship the King, all glorious above.
O gratefully sing His pow’r and His love;
Our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

This earth, with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, thy pow’r hath founded of old,
Established it fast by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
It streams from the hills, it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills in the dew and the rain.

Frail children of dust and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust, nor find Thee to fail.
Thy mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
Our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend!

O measureless Might, ineffable Love,
While angels delight to hymn Thee above,
Thy humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
With true adoration shall sing to Thy praise.

(Rise)

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Pastor: The LORD reigns; He is robed in majesty;

People: the LORD is robed; He has put on strength as His belt.

Pastor: Oh come, let us worship and bow down;

People: let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Jesus said, "Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice." Today we kneel humbly before Him, our king, confessing the truth that we have sinned against our creator's clear commands. Let us make our heartfelt petition for mercy, forgiveness, and salvation.

People: Most merciful Lord, whose majesty has been shown to all nations by your triumph over all sin and death on your glorious cross, from your exalted throne at the right hand of the Father you live and reign over all creation. Receive our humble plea for mercy, life, and forgiveness of our sin, and grant to us your enlivening grace by speaking your liberating word of truth.

Pastor: "Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice." Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE

LSB p. 155

Refrain: This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

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

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

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. *Refrain*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. *Refrain*

SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord Jesus Christ, so govern our hearts and minds by your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of your glorious return, we may persevere in both faith and holiness of living; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

(Be seated)

☩ WORD ☩

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Daniel 7:9–10, 13–14* (The Ancient of Days gives dominion to the Son of Man.)⁹ "As I looked, thrones were placed, and the Ancient of Days took his seat; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames; its wheels were burning fire."¹⁰ A stream of fire issued and came out from before him; a thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.¹³ "I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him."¹⁴ And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE Revelation 1:4b–8 ("I am the Alpha and the Omega.")

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,⁵ and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.⁷ Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

Lector: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

8:00 CHOIR

8:00 CHIMES

(Rise)

HOLY GOSPEL *John 18:33–37* (“So You are a king?”)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighteenth chapter.

People: Glory to you, O Lord.

³³ So Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” ³⁴ Jesus answered, “Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?” ³⁵ Pilate answered, “Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?” ³⁶ Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world.” ³⁷ Then Pilate said to him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, O Christ.

(Be seated)

CHILDREN’S SONG & CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

“God Is So Good”

AGPS#107

God is so good, God is so good, God is so good, He’s so good to me.

I’ll do His will, I’ll do His will, I’ll do His will, He’s so good to me.

He loves me so, He loves me so, He loves me so, He’s so good to me.

SERMON HYMN #525 “Crown Him With Many Crowns”

Crown Him with many crowns, The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav’nly anthem drowns All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king Through all eternity.

Crown Him the virgin’s Son, The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won Which now His brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic rose, Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows, The babe of Bethlehem.

Crown Him the Lord of love. Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their wond’ring eyes At mysteries so bright.

Crown Him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o’er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing, Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.

Crown Him the Lord of heav’n, Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to whom is giv’n The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns, For He is king of all.

SERMON

(Rise)

OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit.
Amen.

LSB p. 192

NICENE CREED

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible. And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

(Be seated)

OFFERING As your offering is collected, **please sign our fellowship folder** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the folder along to others in your pew, and return it to the center aisle. You may check the folder to see names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: O Almighty God, merciful Father, in this present life of sin and suffering your Holy Church longs for the return of Christ. Give us grace to make a good confession and strength to stand firm in the faith, ever watchful for His coming in power and glory. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Gracious God, bestow strength and steadfastness on the pastors and missionaries of your Church, that in these gray and latter days your little flock may be nurtured and built up to the praise of Christ, who called us out of darkness into His marvelous light. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Most merciful God and Father, give grace to your Holy Church throughout the world, that she may serve you with reverence and awe and endure faithful to the end. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O King of glory, Lord of hosts, in humility your only-begotten Son stood before governors and kings and was accused unjustly for our sake. Defend the cause of the weak and those who have no voice in our society, particularly the unborn, the poor and the homeless. Give the government of our nation the fortitude to serve its citizens and strive for fairness and justice. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O God, with all creation we look in eager expectation toward our final redemption at the revelation of your Son. Until that day, sustain those who live under the cross. Give them patience and hope, and grant healing and aid to the sick especially Lisa, Judy, Jerry, Sheri, Charlotte, Carole, Weey, June, Audrey, Janice, David, Helga, Dick, Michael, Margie, Anna, Charlene, Danielle, Marlene, Guy, RoseMarie, Dorothy, Marga, Ardis, Noah, Mike, Jill, Janet, Vern, Cathy, Shirley and Sarah. Draw near to the dying. Hold them in the arms of your love, and defend them against the final assaults of the evil one. Comfort those who mourn with the hope of the resurrection of the body to eternal life. Give us faith to believe that, in such crosses, you work all things for our good. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Almighty God, make each communicant worthy to receive Christ's body and blood this day, that they would do so with a repentant heart and in faith, not to their judgment but for their salvation. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Lord, we thank you for you enabling us to extend a call to Danielle Jackson to serve as our next principal. Give her wisdom as she deliberates the direction you are leading her to, and peace that surpasses all understanding that you will be with her no matter the decision. Help us to pray for her and support her daily as she contemplates the call, while continuing to serve you. Lord, in your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: O Lord, heavenly Father, we gratefully remember the sufferings and death of Your dear Son, Jesus Christ, for our salvation. Rejoicing in His victorious resurrection from the dead, we draw strength from His ascension before You, where He ever stands for us as our own High Priest. Gather us together from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers, deliver and preserve us, for to You alone we give all glory, honor and worship, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

PREFACE

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

PROPER PREFACE

Pastor: It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who, out of love for His fallen creation, humbled Himself by taking on the form of a servant, becoming obedient unto death, even death upon a cross. Risen from the dead, He has freed us from eternal death and given us life everlasting. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you and saying:

SANCTUS

LSB p. 161

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory,
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

PAX DOMINI

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI

LSB p. 163

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Be seated)

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

HYMN #549 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown Him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem And crown Him Lord of all.

Crown Him, ye martyrs of our God, Who from His altar call;
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod And crown Him Lord of all.

Ye seed of Israel's chosen race, Ye ransomed from the fall,
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.

Hail Him, ye heirs of David's line, Whom David Lord did call,
The God incarnate, man divine, And crown Him Lord of all.
The God incarnate, man divine, And crown Him Lord of all.

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.
Go, spread your trophies at His feet And crown Him Lord of all.

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe, On this terrestrial ball.
To Him all majesty ascribe And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe And crown Him Lord of all.

Oh, that with yonder sacred throng We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song And crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song And crown Him Lord of all.

HYMN #515 "Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers"

Rejoice, rejoice, believers, And let your lights appear;
The evening is advancing, And darker night is near.
The Bridegroom is arising And soon is drawing nigh.
Up, pray and watch and wrestle; At midnight comes the cry.

The watchers on the mountain Proclaim the Bridegroom near;
Go forth as He approaches With alleluias clear.
The marriage feast is waiting; The gates wide open stand.
Arise, O heirs of glory; The Bridegroom is at hand.

The saints, who here in patience Their cross and suff'rings bore,
Shall live and reign forever When sorrow is no more.
Around the throne of glory The Lamb they shall behold;
In triumph cast before Him Their diadems of gold.

Our hope and expectation, O Jesus, now appear;
Arise, O Sun so longed for, O'er this benighted sphere.
With hearts and hands uplifted, We plead, O Lord, to see
The day of earth's redemption That sets Your people free!

HYMN #512

"At the Name of Jesus"

At the name of Jesus Ev'ry knee shall bow,
Ev'ry tongue confess Him King of glory now.
'Tis the Father's pleasure We should call Him Lord,
Who from the beginning Was the mighty Word.

At His voice creation Sprang at once to sight,
All the angel faces, All the hosts of light,
Thrones and bright dominions, Stars upon their way,
All the heav'nly orders In their great array.

Humbled for a season, To receive a name
From the lips of sinners Unto whom He came,
Faithfully He bore it Spotless to the last,
Brought it back victorious When from death He passed;

Bore it up triumphant With its human light,
Through all ranks of creatures To the central height,
To the throne of Godhead, To the Father's breast,
Filled it with the glory Of that perfect rest.

In your hearts enthrone Him; There let Him subdue
All that is not holy, All that is not true:
Crown Him as your captain In temptation's hour;
Let His will enfold you In its light and pow'r.

Christians, this Lord Jesus Shall return again
In His Father's glory, With His angel train;
For all wreaths of empire Meet upon His brow,
And our hearts confess Him King of glory now.

Glory then to Jesus, Who, the Prince of light,
To a world in darkness Brought the gift of sight;
Praise to God the Father; In the Spirit's love
Praise we all together Him who reigns above.

COMMON DISMISSAL

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

Pastor: Let us pray. Gracious God, our heavenly Father, you have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #336 "Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending"

Lo! He comes with clouds descending, Once for ev'ry sinner slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending, Swell the triumph of His train:
Alleluia, alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign.

Ev'ry eye shall now behold Him Robed in glorious majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold Him, Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing, Shall their true Messiah see.

Those dear tokens of His passion Still His dazzling body bears;
Cause of endless exultation To His ransomed worshipers;
With what rapture, with what rapture Gaze we on those glorious scars!

Yea, amen, let all adore Thee, High on Thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the power and glory, Claim the kingdom as Thine own.
Alleluia, alleluia! Thou shalt reign, and Thou alone!

Preacher
Liturgist
Lectors
Organist

Pastor Joshua Grotelueschen
Pastor Harold Bender
Marc Stefanic, Katie Scepaniski, Jim Laux
Deaconess Carole King

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series B, Quarter 4. Copyright © 2024 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved.
Used by permission.

At our November 17th Voter's Assembly,
we placed a Call to Danielle Jackson, to
serve as the Principal of St. Paul's Lutheran
School.

Please keep Danielle in your prayers as she
prayerfully considers her Call.