



# St. John's Lutheran Church

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



## *Christ the King Sunday*

*November 20, 2022*

*10:30 Service of the Word*

Pope Pius XI established Christ the King Sunday in 1925 to counter what he regarded as the destructive forces of the modern world: secularism in the west and the rise of communism in Russia and fascism in Italy and Spain, harbingers of the Nazism soon to seize Germany. Pope Pius intended to oppose the rule of Christ to the totalitarian claims of these ideologies. By intention or coincidence, the festival of Christ the King also landed on the last Sunday in October, coinciding with the Protestant celebration of the Reformation. In the reform of the Roman liturgy after the Second Vatican Council, the festival of Christ the King moved to the last Sunday of the church year. Thus, it no longer served as a “Counter-Reformation Day” celebration. Lutherans adopted the holiday in the late 1970s.

*-The Lutheran Forum November 2017*

*Welcome to worship today!*

If you are visiting with us we invite you to sign the Guest Book in the back of the sanctuary.

† GATHERING †

Prelude and Announcements

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the Holy Trinity, one God,  
who redeems us in Christ Jesus,  
whose steadfast love endures forever.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
*(A moment of silence for reflection.)*

P: Most merciful God,

**C: we confess that we have sinned against you  
and our neighbors.**

**We have ignored voices  
that call for your justice.**

**We have neglected actions  
that witness to your righteousness.**

**We have spoken and acted  
in ways that disrupt your beloved community.**

**We truly repent of things we have done  
and left undone.**

**For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.**

**Restore our troubled spirits,  
so that we may live in newness,  
follow the way of the Spirit,  
and build the body of Christ.**

**Amen.**

P: Rejoice and be glad!

God hears the prayers of all who cry out,  
and restores us to life through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Therefore, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins,  
in the name of the Father,

and of the Son,

and of the Holy Spirit.

**C: Amen**

*Gathering Hymn* You Are Mine  
(for music see Hymn 581 in the Red Hymnal)

- 1. I will come to you in the silence,  
I will lift you from all your fear.  
You will hear my voice, I claim you as my choice,  
be still and know I am here.**
- 2. I am hope for all who are hopeless,  
I am eyes for all who long to see.  
In the shadows of the night, I will be your light,  
come and rest in me.**

*Refrain*

**Do not be afraid, I am with you.  
I have called you each by name.  
Come and follow me, I will bring you home;  
I love you and you are mine.**

- 3. I am strength for all the despairing,  
healing for the ones who dwell in shame.  
All the blind will see, the lame will all run free,  
and all will know my name.     *Refrain***
- 4. I am the Word that leads all to freedom,  
I am the peace the world cannot give.  
I will call your name, embracing all your pain.  
Stand up, now walk and live!     *Refrain***

Text and music: David Haas; copyright 1991 GIA Publications; Reprinted under OneLicense.net #S-902689

*Greeting* (2 Corinthians 13:13)

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

**C:** **And also with you.**

*Gathering Dialog* (Deuteronomy 26, 11, 8)

**A:** You are the treasured people of the Lord,

**C:** **a people holy to the Lord our God.**

**A:** Keep the words of the Lord in your heart; teach them to your children.

**C:** **Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away,  
when you lie down and when you rise.**

**A:** One does not live by bread alone,

**C:** **but by every word that comes from the mouth of the Lord.**

Prayer of the Day

A: Let us pray...

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

† WORD †

First Reading Titus 1:1-2:10

B: Paul, a servant of God and an apostle of Jesus Christ, for the sake of the faith of God's elect and the knowledge of the truth that is in accordance with godliness, <sup>2</sup>in the hope of eternal life that God, who never lies, promised before the ages began— <sup>3</sup>in due time he revealed his word through the proclamation with which I have been entrusted by the command of God our Savior, <sup>4</sup>To Titus, my loyal child in the faith we share: Grace and peace from God the Father and Christ Jesus our Savior. <sup>5</sup>I left you behind in Crete for this reason, so that you should put in order what remained to be done, and should appoint elders in every town, as I directed you:

<sup>6</sup>someone who is blameless, married only once, whose children are believers, not accused of debauchery and not rebellious. <sup>7</sup>For a bishop, as God's steward, must be blameless; he must not be arrogant or quick-tempered or addicted to wine or violent or greedy for gain; <sup>8</sup>but he must be hospitable, a lover of goodness, prudent, upright, devout, and self-controlled. <sup>9</sup>He must have a firm grasp of the word that is trustworthy in accordance with the teaching, so that he may be able both to preach with sound doctrine and to refute those who contradict it. <sup>10</sup>There are also many rebellious people, idle talkers and deceivers, especially those of the circumcision; <sup>11</sup>they must be silenced, since they are upsetting whole families by teaching for sordid gain what it is not right to teach. <sup>12</sup>It was one of them, their very own prophet, who said, "Cretans are always liars, vicious brutes, lazy gluttons." <sup>13</sup>That testimony is true. For this reason rebuke them sharply, so that they may become sound in the faith, <sup>14</sup>not paying attention to Jewish myths or to commandments of those who reject the truth. <sup>15</sup>To the pure all things are pure, but to the corrupt and unbelieving nothing is pure. Their very minds and consciences are

corrupted. <sup>16</sup>They profess to know God, but they deny him by their actions. They are detestable, disobedient, unfit for any good work. But as for you, teach what is consistent with sound doctrine. <sup>2</sup>Tell the older men to be temperate, serious, prudent, and sound in faith, in love, and in endurance. <sup>3</sup>Likewise, tell the older women to be reverent in behavior, not to be slanderers or slaves to drink; they are to teach what is good, <sup>4</sup>so that they may encourage the young women to love their husbands, to love their children, <sup>5</sup>to be self-controlled, chaste, good managers of the household, kind, being submissive to their husbands, so that the word of God may not be discredited. <sup>6</sup>Likewise, urge the younger men to be self-controlled. <sup>7</sup>Show yourself in all respects a model of good works, and in your teaching show integrity, gravity, <sup>8</sup>and sound speech that cannot be censured; then any opponent will be put to shame, having nothing evil to say of us. <sup>9</sup>Tell slaves to be submissive to their masters and to give satisfaction in every respect; they are not to talk back, <sup>10</sup>not to pilfer, but to show complete and perfect fidelity, so that in everything they may be an ornament to the doctrine of God our Savior.

*After the reading the reader may say:* The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Scripture Poetry Psalm 97 (read responsively)

D: The Lord rules; the earth is eager,  
joy touches distant lands.

**C: God is wrapped in thunder cloud,  
throned on justice, throned on right.**

D: Fire marches out in front  
and burns up all resistance.

**C: Overhead, God's lightning flares,  
the earth shudders to see it.**

D: Mountains melt down like wax  
before the Lord, the ruler of all.

**C: Overhead God's justice resounds,  
a glory all people can see.**

D: Idolators are the fools,  
they brag of empty gods.  
You gods, be subject to the Lord!

**C: Zion hears, and is happy.  
The cities of Judah are joyful  
about your judgments, Lord.**

D: You Lord, you reach high  
in majesty above the earth,

far higher than any god.

**C: Those who love the Lord hate evil;  
God shields their faithful lives  
and breaks the hold of the wicked.**

D: Light will rain down on the just,  
joy on the loyal heart.

**C: Be joyous in the Lord God,  
you people of faith,  
praise God's holy name!**

Second Reading Titus 2:11-3:15

E: For the grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, <sup>12</sup>training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, <sup>13</sup>while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. <sup>14</sup>He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

<sup>15</sup>Declare these things; exhort and reprove with all authority. Let no one look down on you.

Remind them to be subject to rulers and authorities, to be obedient, to be ready for every good work, <sup>2</sup>to speak evil of no one, to avoid quarreling, to be gentle, and to show every courtesy to everyone. <sup>3</sup>For we ourselves were once foolish, disobedient, led astray, slaves to various passions and pleasures, passing our days in malice and envy, despicable, hating one another. <sup>4</sup>But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, <sup>5</sup>he saved us, not because of any works of righteousness that we had done, but according to his mercy, through the water of rebirth and renewal by the Holy Spirit. <sup>6</sup>This Spirit he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior, <sup>7</sup>so that, having been justified by his grace, we might become heirs according to the hope of eternal life. <sup>8</sup>The saying is sure. I desire that you insist on these things, so that those who have come to believe in God may be careful to devote themselves to good works; these things are excellent and profitable to everyone.

<sup>9</sup>But avoid stupid controversies, genealogies, dissensions, and quarrels about the law, for they are unprofitable and worthless. <sup>10</sup>After a first and second admonition, have nothing more to do with anyone who causes divisions, <sup>11</sup>since you know that such a person is perverted and sinful, being self-condemned. <sup>12</sup>When I send Artemas to you, or Tychicus, do your best to come to me at Nicopolis, for I have decided to spend the winter there. <sup>13</sup>Make every effort to send Zenas the lawyer and Apollos on their way, and see that they lack nothing. <sup>14</sup>And let people learn to

devote themselves to good works in order to meet urgent needs, so that they may not be unproductive. <sup>15</sup>All who are with me send greetings to you. Greet those who love us in the faith. Grace be with all of you.

*After the reading the reader may say:* The Word of the Lord

**C: Thanks be to God.**

Gospel Acclamation (John 12:46)

**C: Alleluia. I am have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in darkness. Alleluia.**

Gospel Reading John 12:44-50

*The gospel is announced:*

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 12<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**C: Glory to you O Lord.**

<sup>44</sup>Then Jesus cried aloud: "Whoever believes in me believes not in me but in him who sent me. <sup>45</sup>And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. <sup>46</sup>I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness. <sup>47</sup>I do not judge anyone who hears my words and does not keep them, for I came not to judge the world, but to save the world. <sup>48</sup>The one who rejects me and does not receive my word has a judge; on the last day the word that I have spoken will serve as judge, <sup>49</sup>for I have not spoken on my own, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment about what to say and what to speak. <sup>50</sup>And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I speak, therefore, I speak just as the Father has told me."

*After the reading:*

P: The gospel of the Lord

**C: Praise to you O Christ.**

Sermon

Hymn of the Day Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing  
(For music see Hymn 807 in the Red Hymnal)

**1. Come, thou fount of every blessing,  
tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
streams of mercy, never ceasing,  
call for songs of loudest praise.  
While the hope of endless glory  
fills my heart with joy and love,  
teach me ever to adore thee;  
may I still thy goodness prove.**

2. **Here I raise my Ebenezer:**  
“Hither by thy help I’ve come”;  
and I hope, by thy good pleasure,  
safely to arrive at home.  
Jesus sought me when a stranger,  
wand’ring from the fold of God;  
he, to rescue me from danger,  
interposed his precious blood.
3. **Oh, to grace how great a debtor**  
daily I’m constrained to be;  
let thy grace now like a fetter  
bind my wand’ring heart to thee.  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it;  
prone to leave the God I love.  
Here’s my heart, oh, take and seal it;  
seal it for thy courts above.

Text: Robert Robinson, 1735-1790, alt. Music: J Wyeth, *Repository of Sacred Music*, Part II, 1813

*Response to the Word*

E: In Christ you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

**C: We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

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

**C: 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.**

E: Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

**C: pray in the Holy Spirit.** (Jude 20)

E: Keep yourselves in the love of God;

**C: look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.** (Jude 21)

E: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

**C: Everything old has passed away;  
behold, everything has become new!** (2 Corinthians 5:17)

### Prayers of Intercession

P: With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

*The pastor will begin the prayer with a petition and then invites the congregation to add additional petitions and thanksgivings. Please conclude your petition with:* Lord in your mercy,

*The congregation will respond:* **Hear our prayer.**

*The pastor concludes the prayer:*

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

**C: Amen.**

### Peace

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

**C: And also with you.**

P: Let us share that peace with one another.

*The congregation may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.*

## † THANKSGIVING †

### Special Music

#### Hymn of Thanksgiving

Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil

*For music turn to Hymn 713 in the Blue Hymnal*

**Lord, let my heart be good soil,  
open to the seed of your Word.  
Lord, let my heart be good soil,**

**where love can grow and peace is understood.  
When my heart is hard,  
break the stone away.  
When my heart is cold,  
warm it with the day.  
When my heart is lost,  
lead me on your way.  
Lord, let my heart,  
Lord, let my heart,  
Lord, let my heart be good soil.**

Text and music: Handt Hanson, b. 1950, Copyright 1985 Prince of Peace Publishing/Changing Church, Inc.

*Offering Prayer*

P: Let us pray:

**C: Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts, ready to praise you and to respond to those in need, through Jesus our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

*Lord's Prayer*

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**C: 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.**

† SENDING †

*Blessing*

P: The God of peace,  
who creates all things and calls them good,  
who makes us alive in Jesus,  
and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope,  
bless you now and forever.

**C: Amen.**

*Sending Hymn* Jesus Shall Reign

*(For music see Hymn 434 in the Red Hymnal)*

- 1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun  
does its successive journeys run;  
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore,  
till moons shall wax and wane no more.**
- 2. To him shall endless prayer be made,  
and praises throng to crown his head;  
his name like sweet perfume shall rise  
with ev'ry morning sacrifice.**
- 3. People and realms of ev'ry tongue  
dwell on his love with sweetest song;  
and infant voices shall proclaim  
their early blessings on his name.**
- 4. Blessings abound where're he reigns:  
the pris'ners leap to lose their chains,  
the weary find eternal rest,  
and all who suffer want are blest.**
- 5. Let ev'ry creature rise and bring  
peculiar honors to our king;  
angels descend with songs again,  
and earth repeat the loud amen.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt. Music: attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

*Dismissal*

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

**C: God's Work. Our Hands.**

**Worship assistants TODAY:**

Greeters and Ushers	Mary and Greg Zuege
Acolyte	Thomas Bullwinkle
Altar Care	No communion
Communion Assistant	No communion
Counters	Art Fields
Coffee Hour	Parish Thanksgiving Dinner

**Worship assistants for next Sunday, November 27**

Greeters and Ushers	John and Linda Thompson
Acolyte	Owen Young
Counters	Bill and Katy Stimmel
Coffee Hour	

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