LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE NATIVITY

Gathering through the love of Christ to care, grow, and serve.

Christ the King

November 22, 2026

10:00 Worship

Gathering

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude All Hail King Jesus — Arr. Stan Pethel
With O Worship the King
Mark Grush, trombone

Please stand as able, facing the back of the church.

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers. **Amen.**

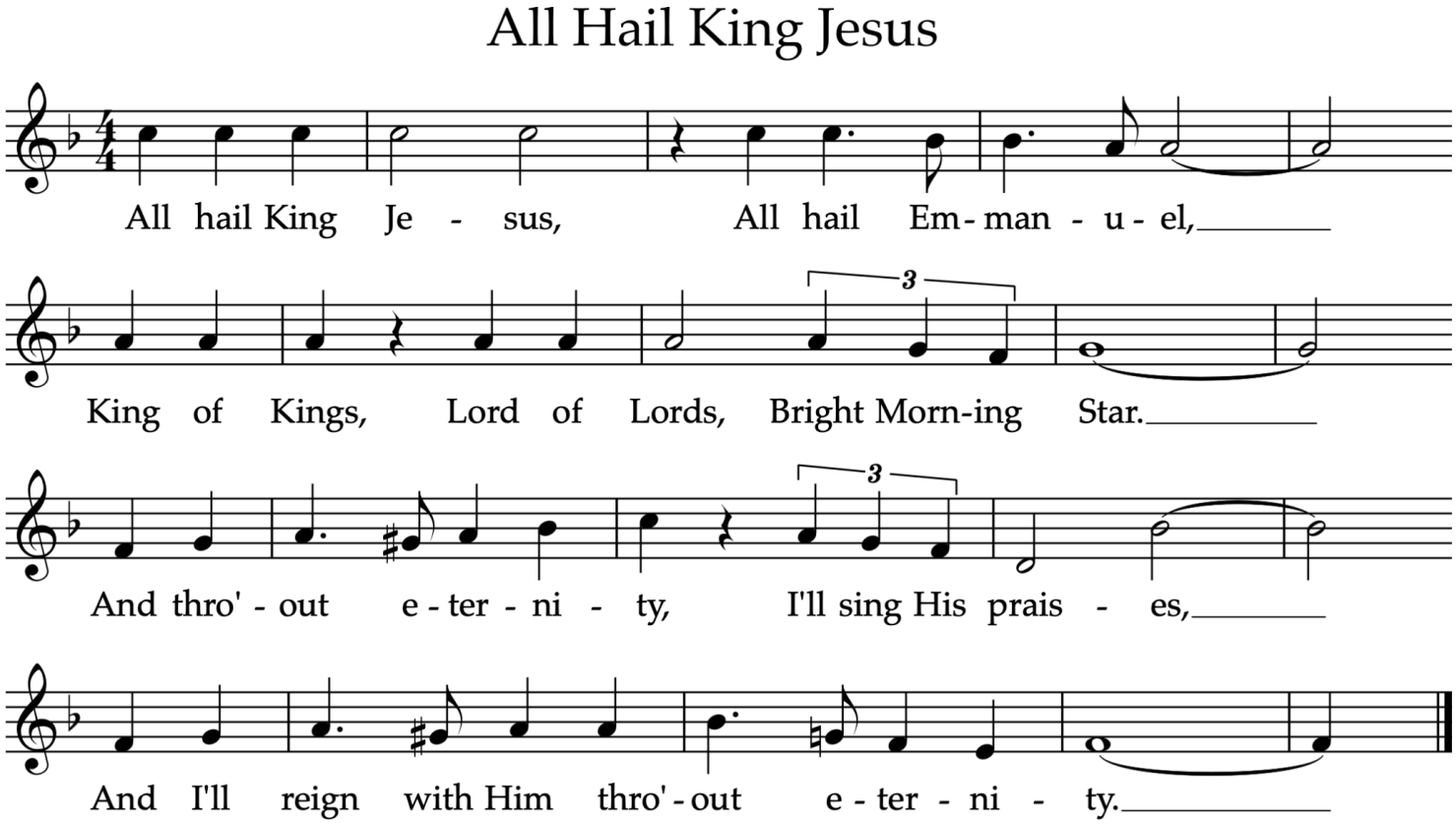
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God, **we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.**

Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you. **Amen.**

Song *(Sung twice)*



Greeting and Prayer of the Day

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.**

Let us pray. O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. **Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Please be seated
Faith in Focus

Word

First Reading Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Psalm

Psalm 95 — Johann Cruger



Second Reading — Ephesians 1:15-23

Please stand as able at the introduction

Gospel Acclamation



Gospel — Matthew 25:31-46

Please be seated

Sermon — Carolyn Anderson

Response to the Word

Hymn of the Day — Jesus Shall Reign — ELW 434

Apostles' Creed

Let us profess 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

Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Greet those near you and then be seated.

Meal

Offering Total Praise Richard Smallwood
Arr. Joel Raney

Please stand as able
Offering Response



Offering Prayer

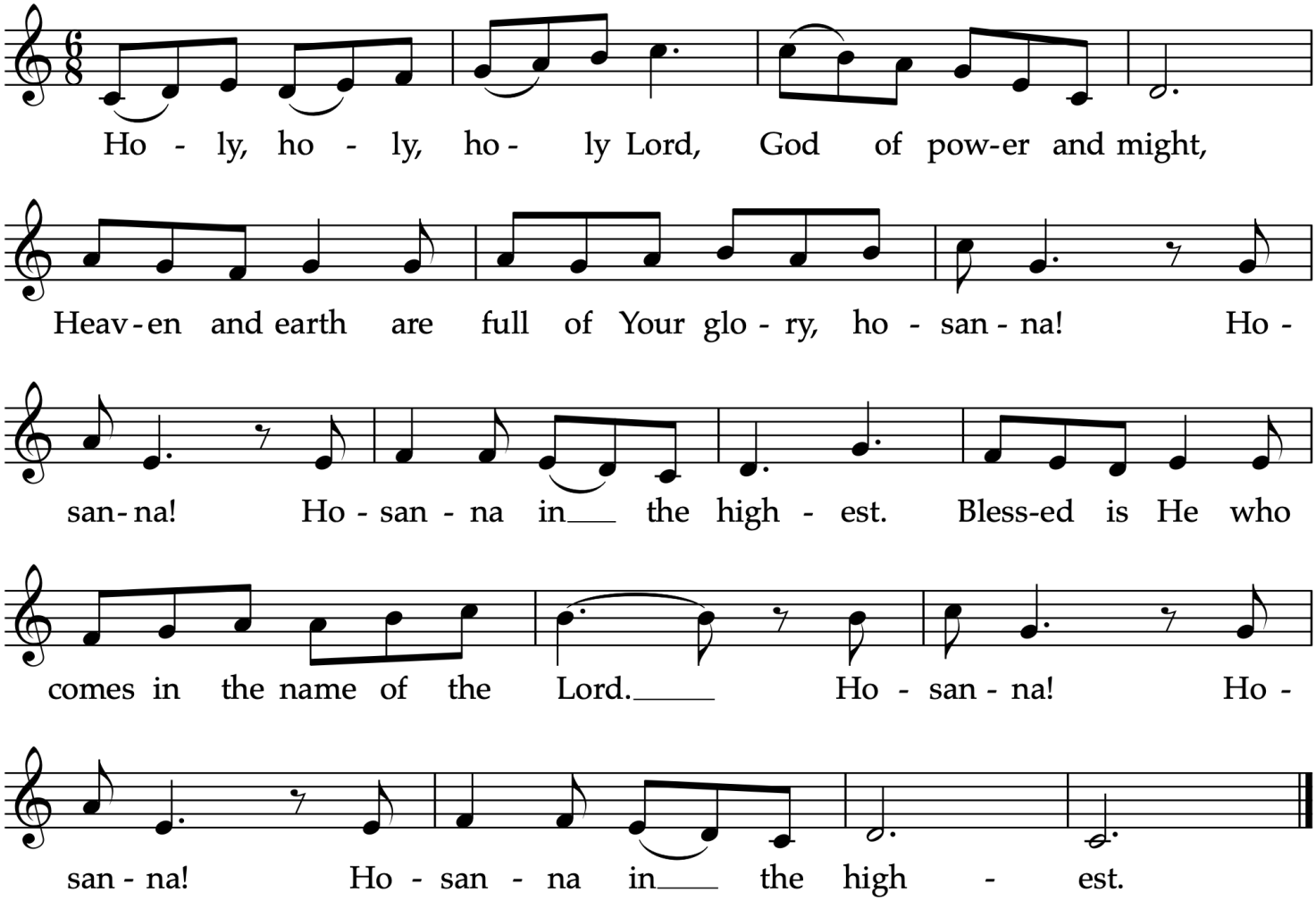
A: Let us pray. Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. **Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more, all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

Great Thanksgiving *(The Rev. Lang Collins)*

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**
Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

join their unending hymn…



Thanksgiving at the Table

Memorial Acclamation

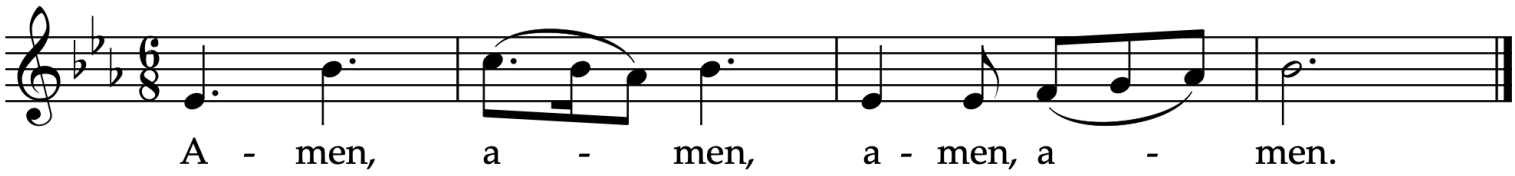
Until he comes…



And let the church say, Amen. ***Amen.***

Amen

Now and forever…



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

Invitation to Communion

In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in.

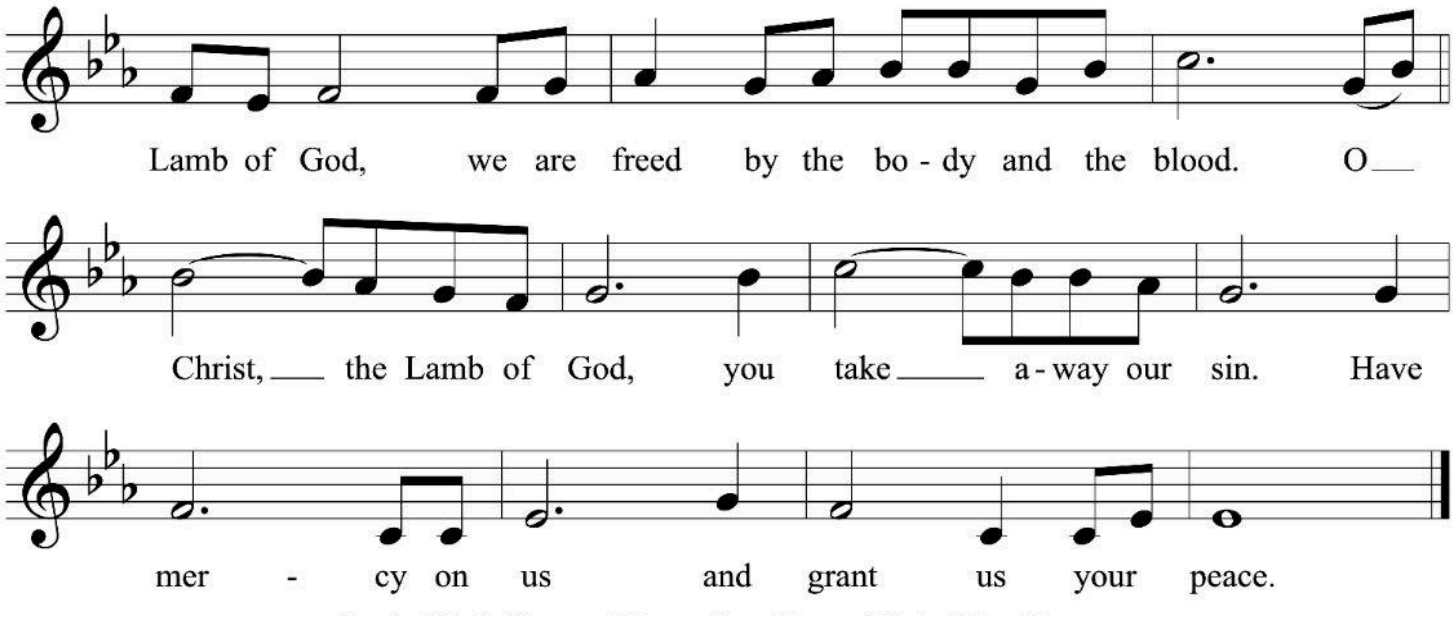
Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

This is the feast of all the baptized, regardless of denomination. All are welcome.

Please be seated

Lamb of God



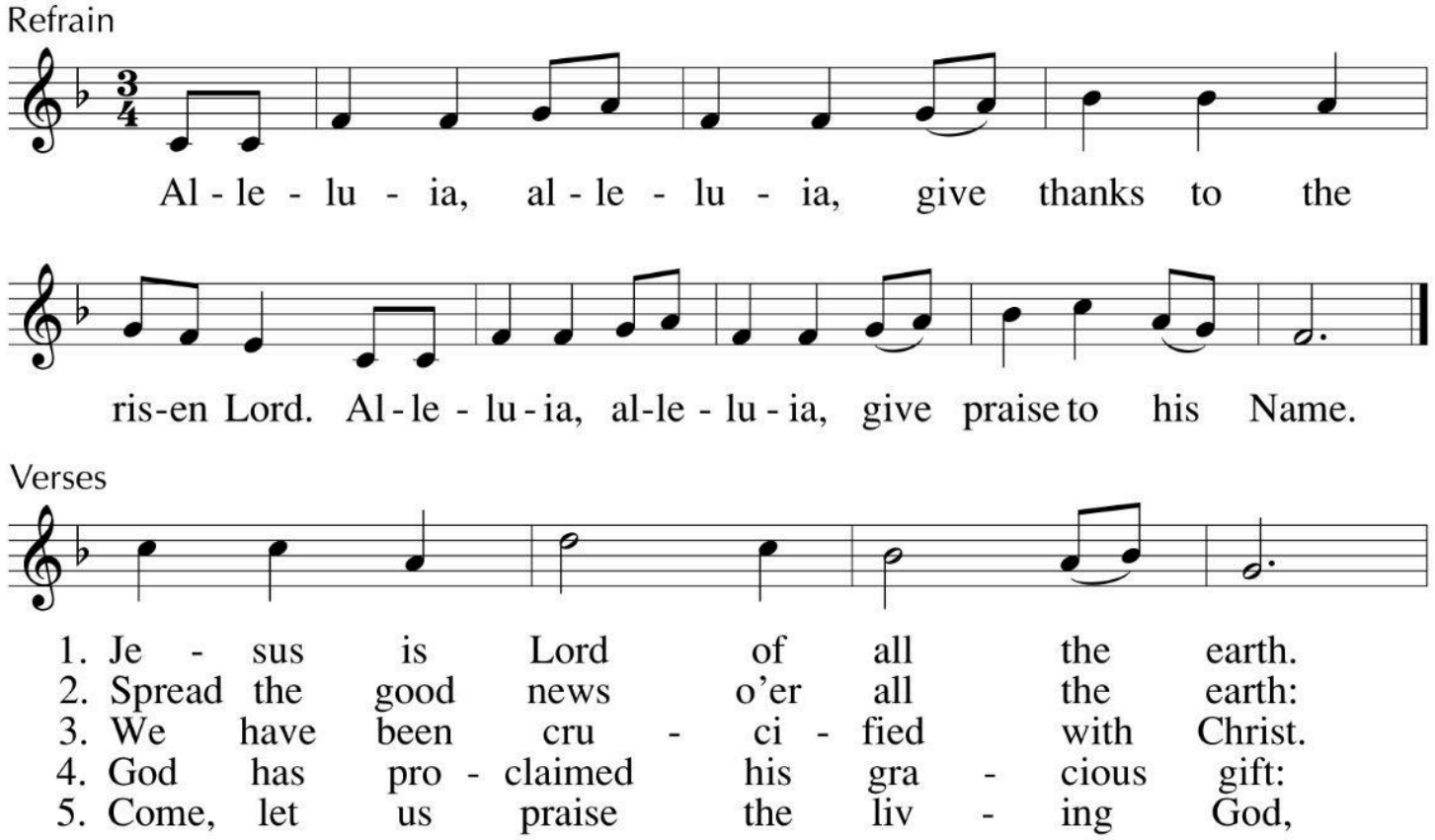


Communion

Please bring an empty cup to the altar rail from the station in the center of the main aisle. Grape juice is available. A gluten-free, celiac-friendly option is also available. Please ask the server if you require a gluten-free option. If you wish to come forward for a blessing but not commune, please cross your arms over your chest.

Music During Communion

Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks





He is the King of cre - a - tion.
Je - sus has died and has ris - en.
Now we shall live for ev - er.
Life e - ter - nal for all who be - lieve.
Joy - ful - ly sing to our Sav - ior.

Please stand as able.

Post-Communion Blessing

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**

Prayer after Communion

A: Let us pray. Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. **You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen.**

Sending

Blessing

The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always. **Amen.**

Hymn Crown Him With Many Crowns ELW 855

Dismissal

A: As disciples of Jesus at Nativity, **we are gathering through the love of Christ to care, grow, and serve. Amen.**

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

11 Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for
my sheep and will sort them out. 12 As shepherds
sort out their flocks when they are among
scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will
rescue them from all the places to which they
have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick
darkness. 13 I will bring them out from the peoples
and gather them from the countries and bring
them into their own land, and I will feed them on
the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and
in all the inhabited parts of the land. 14 I will feed
them with good pasture, and the mountain heights
of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie
down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on
rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15 I myself
will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make
them lie down, says the Lord God. 16 I will seek the
lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind
up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but
the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them
with justice. 20 Therefore, thus says the Lord God
to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep
and the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with
flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak
animals with your horns until you scattered them
far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and they shall
no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between
sheep and sheep. 23 I will set up over them one
shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed
them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd.
24 And I the Lord will be their God, and my servant
David shall be prince among them; I the Lord
have spoken.

Ephesians 1:15-23

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and
your love toward all the saints, and for this reason
16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I
remember you in my prayers, 17 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, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart
enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to
which he has called you, what are the riches of his
glorious inheritance among the saints, 19 and what
is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us
who believe, according to the working of his great
power. 20 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, 21 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.
22 And he has put all things under his feet and has
made him the head over all things for the church,
23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all
in all.

Matthew 25:31-46

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31 "When the Son of
Man comes in his glory and all the angels with
him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. 32 All
the nations will be gathered before him, and he
will separate people one from another as a
shepherd separates the sheep from the goats,
33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and
the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to
those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are
blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom
prepared for you from the foundation of the world,
35 for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was
thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was
a stranger and you welcomed me, 36 I was naked
and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took
care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'
37 Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when
was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food
or thirsty and gave you something to drink? 38 And
when was it that we saw you a stranger and
welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing?
39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in
prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer
them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of
the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you
did it to me.' 41 Then he will say to those at his left
hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into
the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his
angels, 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no
food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to
drink, 43 I was a stranger and you did not welcome
me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick
and in prison and you did not visit me.' 44 Then
they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we
saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or
sick or in prison and did not take care of you?'
45 Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just
as you did not do it to one of the least of these,
you did not do it to me.' 46 And these will go away
into eternal punishment but the righteous into
eternal life."

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