

# Christ the King Sunday

November 26, 2023

8:30 & 11:00 am and Livestream



Icon 1, Christ the King, Sundays and Seasons

**FAITH . DISCIPLESHIP . COMMUNITY**  
**THE LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD**

The Rev. Alejandro Mejia, Interim Senior Pastor  
The Rev. William (Bill) Gohl, Jr., Interim Associate Pastor

At The Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd, we embrace the uniqueness of every individual and respect their dignity and worth, for all are created in the image of God. We strive to welcome everyone in the fullness of who they are.

Let us call together for reconciliation, and live out God's vision of love for people of every sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, socio-economic status, age, physical or mental ability, political persuasion, race, ethnicity, and personal history. Let us walk together to strive for racial equity, as Jesus calls us to do.

All people are welcome here to worship, build community, and grow together as Jesus 'disciples at this place.

*Enter Reverently. Meditate Quietly. Worship Joyfully. Serve Christ Faithfully.*

## ✦ GATHERING ✦

### Prelude

Barbara Skillman

### Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.*

**P** *Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.*

**C** **Amen.**

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

*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**P** *Holy One,*

**C** **we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.**

**P** *Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through ☩ Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.*

**C** **Amen.**



1 All crea-tures, wor - ship God most high! Sound ev - 'ry voice in earth and  
2 Sing, broth - er wind; with clouds and rain you grow the gifts of fruit and  
3 Sing, broth - er fire, so mirth - ful, strong; drive far the shad - ows, join the  
4 All who for love of God for - give, all who in pain or sor - row



sky: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Sing, broth - er sun, in splen-dor  
grain: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear sis - ter wa - ter, use - ful,  
throng: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Dear moth - er earth, so rich in  
grieve: Al-le - lu - ia! Al-le - lu - ia! Christ bears your bur-dens and your



bright; sing, sis - ter moon and stars of night:  
clear, make mu - sic for your Lord to hear: Al-le - lu - ia, al-le -  
care, praise God in col - ors bright and rare:  
fears; still make your song a - mid the tears:

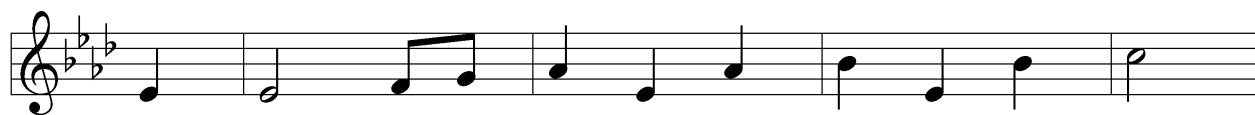


lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia!

**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.**

# To God Be the Glory



1 To God be the glo - ry, great things he has done;  
 2 Oh, per - fect re - demp - tion, the pur - chase of blood,  
 3 Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,



so loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
 to ev - 'ry be - liev - er the prom - ise of God;  
 and great our re - joic - ing through Je - sus the Son;



who yield - ed his life an a - tone - ment for sin,  
 the vil - est of - fend - er by grace may be - lieve,  
 but pur - er, and high - er, and great - er will be



and o - pened the life - gate that all may go in.  
 that mo - ment from Je - sus a par - don re - ceive.  
 our won - der, our vic - t'ry, when Je - sus we see.

## *Refrain*



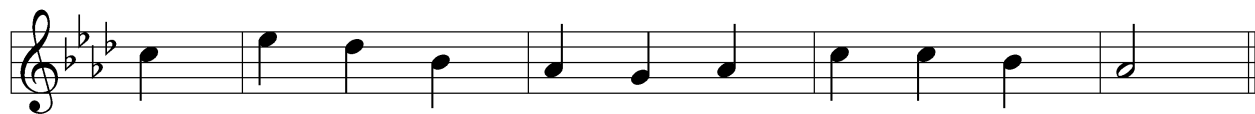
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the earth hear his voice!



Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, let the peo - ple re - joice!



Oh, come to the Fa - ther, through Je - sus the Son,



and give him the glo - ry, great things he has done.

**P** *The Lord be with you.*

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

**P** *Let us pray. O God of power and might,*

**C** **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.**

## ✦ THE WORD ✦

### **First Reading**

Ezekiel 34:11-16

**A** *A reading from the prophet Ezekiel. <sup>11</sup>Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek 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. <sup>13</sup>I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will 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. <sup>14</sup>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. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, 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.*

**A** *The Word of the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

Psalm 95:1-7  
Read Responsively

- A** *<sup>1</sup>O come, let us sing to the LORD;  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!*
- C** **<sup>2</sup>Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**
- A** *<sup>3</sup>For the LORD is a great God,  
and a great King above all gods.*
- C** **<sup>4</sup>In his hand are the depths of the earth;  
the heights of the mountains are his also.**
- A** *<sup>5</sup>The sea is his, for he made it,  
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.*
- C** **<sup>6</sup>O come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**
- A** *<sup>7</sup>For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture,*
- C** **and the sheep of his hand.  
O that today you would listen to his voice!**

## Second Reading

Ephesians 1:15-23

- A** *A reading from Ephesians. <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.

**A**    *The Word of the Lord.*

**C**    **Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

*Repeat alleluia*

Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

**P** *The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the Twenty-fifth chapter.*  
**C** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

*[Jesus said to the disciples:]* <sup>31</sup> “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. <sup>32</sup>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, <sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup>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, <sup>36</sup>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.’ <sup>37</sup>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? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ <sup>40</sup>And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ <sup>41</sup>Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>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.’ <sup>44</sup>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?’ <sup>45</sup>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.’ <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

**P**    *The Gospel of the Lord.*  
**C**    **Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Please be seated.*

**Sermon**

The Rev. Alejandro Mejía

*Please stand as you are able.*



1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ, our head and  
 2 To this tem - ple, where we call you, come, O Lord of  
 3 Here be - stow on all your ser - vants what they seek from  
 4 Praise and hon - or to the Fa - ther, praise and hon - or



cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord and pre - cious,  
 hosts, and stay; come with all your lov - ing - kind - ness,  
 you to gain; what they gain from you, for - ev - er  
 to the Son, praise and hon - or to the Spir - it,



bind - ing all the church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's  
 hear your peo - ple as they pray; and your full - est  
 with the bless - ed to re - tain; and here - af - ter  
 ev - er three and ev - er one: one in might and



help for - ev - er and our con - fi - dence a - lone.  
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in these walls to - day.  
 in your glo - ry ev - er - more with you to reign.  
 one in glo - ry while un - end - ing a - ges run!

*Please be seated.*

**A** *Let us confess our faith using the words of the Nicene Creed.*

**C** **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and**

**for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

**A** *Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.*

*A brief silence.*

*After each portion of the prayers:*

**A** *Hear us, O God.*

**C** **Your mercy is great.**

*The prayers conclude:*

**P** *We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.*

**C** **Amen.**

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

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

*After sharing the peace, please be seated.*

## Offering and Offertory

*Please stand, as you are able.*



We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, you are the Liv - ing Bread.



We come now to your ta - ble, Lord, let ev - 'ry soul be fed.



You are the Liv - ing Bread, let ev - 'ry soul be fed:



and now may ev - 'ry soul be fed with Liv - ing Bread.

- A** *Let us pray. God of all goodness,*  
**C** **generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. Amen.**

## ✦ THE EUCHARIST ✦

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

*The thanksgiving continues with the preface for the season; the congregation responds:*



Du är he - lig, du är hel. Du är all - tid myck-et mer  
You are ho - ly, you are whole. You are al - ways ev - er more



än vi nån - sin kan för - stå, du är nä - ra än - då.  
than we ev - er un - der - stand. You are al - ways at hand.



Väl - sig - nad va - re du som kom - mer hit just nu,  
Bless - ed are you com - ing near. Bless - ed are you com - ing here



väl - sig - na - de vår jord, blir till bröd på vår jord.  
to your church in wine and bread, raised from soil, raised from dead.



<sup>2</sup>  
Du är he - lig, du är hel - het,  
You are ho - ly, you are whole - ness,



du är när - het he - la kos - mos lo - var dig!  
you are pres - ent. Let the cos - mos praise you, Lord!



Ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na,  
Sing ho - san - na in the high - est!



ho - si - an - na, ho - si - an - na vår Gud.  
Sing ho - san - na! Sing ho - san - na to our God!

**P** *Holy God, mighty and merciful, your people praise you, saying:  
Your mercy endures forever.*

**C** **Your mercy endures forever.**

**P** *By your promise you bound yourself to earth and all its creatures,  
granting them life and calling them to flourish, setting the sign of  
your bow in the clouds, the colors of your love and faithfulness.  
Your mercy endures forever.*

**C** **Your mercy endures forever.**

**P** *By your promise you bound yourself to your people of old, blessing  
them with family outnumbering the stars and calling them to be a  
blessing to others, showing them steadfast love in every generation  
and calling them to be a light to the nations. Your mercy endures  
forever.*

**C** **Your mercy endures forever.**

**P** *By your promise you joined us to Jesus, your Beloved, grafting us  
into your living Vine, and calling us to bear the fruit of your self-  
giving love.*

*In the night in which he was betrayed....*

*Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,...*

**P** *With this bread and cup we remember his life laid down and lifted up  
as we proclaim the mystery of faith.*

**C** **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

**P** *Send your Holy Spirit upon us and these gifts of bread and wine. Bless us to be a blessing. Make us a sign of your faithfulness. Send us to tend and cherish the earth and to serve the world with mercy and love.*

*With all the saints in light, with the earth and all its creatures, with sun and moon and stars, we praise you, O God, through Christ Jesus, in your Spirit, now and forever.*

**C** **Amen.**

**P** *Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior taught us:*

**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.**

**P** *There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.*

**C** **Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated.*

*We welcome to the table all who proclaim with us that Jesus Christ is truly present in the bread and the wine. (Note: should you prefer, we also offer gluten free wafers and grape juice. Just let the Pastor or Assistants know.)*

*If you require communion to be brought to you in the pew, please alert an usher.*

*During the distribution of communion, the following is sung:*



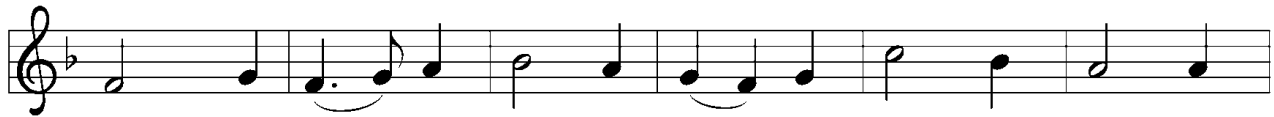
1 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
2 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;  
3 O Lamb of God, you bear the sin of all the world a - way;



you suf-fered death our lives to save: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
you set us free from guilt and grave: have mer-cy now, we pray.  
e - ter-nal peace with God you made: give us your peace, we pray.

*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*

No. 631



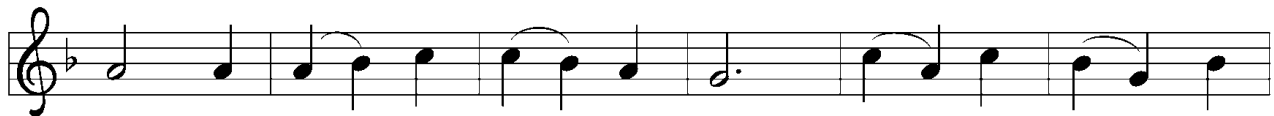
1 Love di - vine, all loves ex - cel - ling, Joy of heav'n, to  
2 Breathe, oh, breathe thy lov - ing Spir - it in - to ev - 'ry  
3 Come, Al - might - y, to de - liv - er; let us all thy  
4 Fin - ish then thy new cre - a - tion, pure and spot - less



earth come down! Fix in us thy hum - ble dwell - ing, all thy  
trou - bled breast; let us all in thee in - her - it; let us  
life re - ceive; sud - den - ly re - turn, and nev - er, nev - er -  
let us be; let us see thy great sal - va - tion per - fect -



faith - ful mer - cies crown. Je - sus, thou art all com - pas - sion,  
find thy prom - ised rest. Take a - way the love of sin - ning;  
more thy tem - ples leave. Thee we would be al - ways bless - ing,  
ly re - stored in thee! Changed from glo - ry in - to glo - ry,



pure, un - bound - ed love thou art; vis - it us with  
Al - pha and O - me - ga be; end of faith, as  
serve thee as thy hosts a - bove, pray, and praise thee  
till in heav'n we take our place, till we cast our



thy sal - va - tion, en - ter ev - 'ry trem - bling heart.  
its be - gin - ning, set our hearts at lib - er - ty.  
with - out ceas - ing, glo - ry in thy per - fect love.  
crowns be - fore thee, lost in won - der, love, and praise!



1 In the sing - ing, in the si - lence, in the hands ex - pect - ant, o - pen,  
2 In the ques - tion, in the an - swer, in the mo - ment of ac - cept - ance,



in the bless - ing, in the break - ing, in your pres - ence at this ta - ble,  
in the heart's cry, in the heal - ing, in the cir - cle of your peo - ple,



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the wine of grace;



Je - sus Christ, Je - sus Christ, be the bread of peace.

*After all have communed, please stand, as you are able.*

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

**C** **Amen.**

**A** *Let us pray. Lord Jesus,*

**C** **in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way. Amen.**

# ✦ SENDING ✦

**P** *May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.*

**C** **Amen.**

## Sending Hymn

## *Beautiful Savior*

No. 838



1 Beau - ti - ful	Sav - ior,	King	of cre - a - tion,
2 Fair are the	mead - ows,	fair	are the wood - lands,
3 Fair is the	sun - shine,	fair	is the moon - light,
4 Beau - ti - ful	Sav - ior,	Lord	of the na - tions,



Son	of	God	and
robed	in	flow'rs	of
bright	the	spar -	klings
Son	of	God	and

Son	of	Man!	spring;
stars	on	high;	
Son	of	Man!	



Tru - ly	I'd	love	thee,
Je - sus	is	fair -	er,
Je - sus	shines	bright -	er,
Glo - ry	and	hon -	or,

tru - ly	I'd	serve	thee,
Je - sus	is	pur -	er,
Je - sus	shines	pur -	er
praise,	ad - o -	ra -	tion,



light	of	my	soul,
he	makes	our	sor -
than	all	the	an -
now	and	for -	ev -

my	joy,	my	crown.
rowing	spir -	it	sing.
gels	in	the	sky.
er -	more	be	thine!

**A** *Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.*

**C** **Thanks be to God. Amen.**

### **Postlude**

*We welcome and thank Barbara Skillman for leading our music during  
worship this morning!*

***The Flowers are Given to the Glory of God by***

*Peggy Thomas in memory of her parents, William & Doris Richards*

*And by*

*Pam Ryan in loving memory of her parents' wedding anniversary*

***Pray for Those That Need God's Healing***

*Ray, Darius, Lynn, Donald, Al, Donna, Lind, Joan, Ed, Marion, Betty,  
Doris, Theresa, Elaine, Georgeann, Jean, Marge, Nicholas, Lois,  
Barbara & Bruce*

***Announcements***

Bring the family and come *Deck the Halls* on December 2 at 9:00 a.m. Enjoy coffee, cocoa, and donuts as we ready the Sanctuary and Narthex for the Christmas Season.

Christmas Basket project is in full swing. Gifts and food baskets are being provided for 75 families provided to us by Mason Dixon Community Services. Tags are available for you to choose from the display in the Narthex.

Gingerbread Bash (family fun night) is December 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00. Register using the link on our website for this free event! Friends welcome!

Sharing Table Saturday, December 9<sup>th</sup>. Much food and help is needed. Sign-up to help using the link in Epistle or see Lisa Steel.



## CONTACT INFORMATION

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## SERVING TODAY

Greeters

8:30 a.m.

Assisting Minister

Sherman Canapp, OSSD

11:00 a.m.

Janet DeVinney

Communion Assistants

Tina Zimmerman

Ushers

Doyle McCracken

Peggy Thomas  
John Helmick

Acolytes

Livestream

Shawn Nesaw