

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH - ELCA
Worship Bulletin for Sun, Nov. 22, 2020
Christ the King Sunday – 11 AM
With Holy Communion

*Prior to Worship, please text Prayers
"Text in Church" # 314.329.0487
& Pastor will lift them up
in Prayer this week*

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

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

The assembly stands. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + One God,
In whose image we are made,
Who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

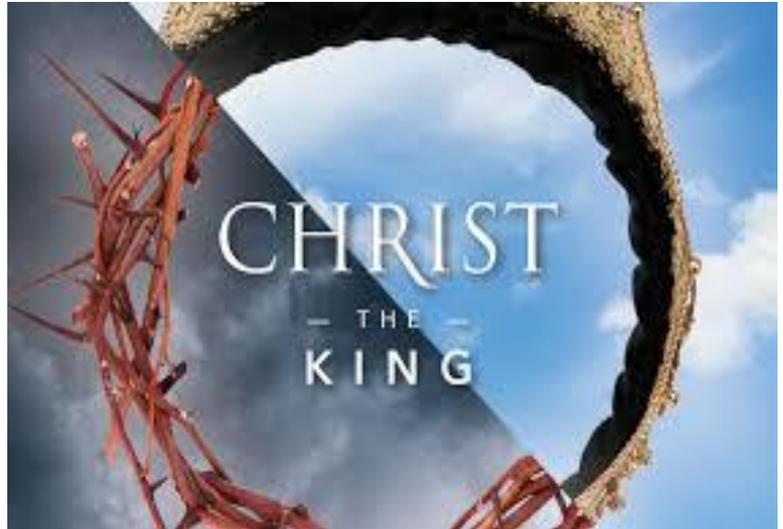
Holy One,
**we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts.
We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in another.
We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community.
Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our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

The presiding minister announces God's forgiveness with these or similar words.

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

GATHERING SONG *Crown Him With Many Crowns* CCLI Song # 23938

Verse 1 Crown Him with many crowns
The Lamb upon His throne
Hark how the heavenly 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

Verse 2 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

Verse 3 Crown Him the Lord of love
Behold His hands and side
Rich wounds yet visible above
In beauty glorified
No angel in the sky
Can fully bear that sight
But downward bends each burning eye
At mysteries so bright

Verse 4 Crown Him the Lord of peace
Whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole
That wars may cease
And all be prayer and praise
His reign shall know no end
And round His pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend
Their fragrance ever sweet

Verse 5 Crown Him the Lord of years
The Potentate of time
Creator of the rolling spheres
Ineffably sublime
All hail Redeemer hail
For Thou hast died for me
Thy praise shall never never fail
Throughout eternity

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. *A brief silence is kept before the prayer.*

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.**

WORD God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 *Read by the Worship Asst.*

A reading from Ezekiel. *Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the LORD will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The LORD will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.*

¹¹Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As 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. ¹³I 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. ¹⁴I 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. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I 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.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 95:1-7a *Worship Asst. leads All in Unison*

¹**Come, let us sing to the LORD;**

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

²**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

³**For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.**

⁴**In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.**

⁵**The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.**

⁶**Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

^{7a}**For the LORD is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep | of God's hand.**

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23 *Read by Worship Asst.*

A reading from Ephesians.

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I 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, ¹⁸so 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, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe,

according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God 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, ²¹far 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. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

KIDS' MESSAGE What 'proleptic' sounds do you make?

[Prolepsis = from 2 Greek words meaning "to take beforehand" or Bringing God's future into our present!]

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[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. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then 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; ³⁵for 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, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷Then 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? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And 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.' ⁴¹Then 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; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I 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.' ⁴⁴Then 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?' ⁴⁵Then 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.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

SERMON Trusting in the Promises of God to... *Celebrate Christ in Deeds*

CREED *The Nicene Creed, led by Worship Asst.*

**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.**

*Or, "who proceeds from the Father." The phrase "and the Son" is a later addition to the creed.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Sovereign of all, train our ears to hear your cry in the needs of those around us. Bless all social ministries of the church through which we seek to serve others as we ourselves have been served. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

You cause rain to fall on the just and unjust alike. Direct our use of creation to provide for the needs of all people in ways that are sustainable for the earth. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Bring peace to every place where conflict rages. Grant opportunities for ending divisions among us and usher in your reign of unity and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Heal the sinful divisions we erect between us and release us from systems of oppression and prejudice. Restore our capacity to see your image in those whose dignity we have stripped away. We lift up those who are ill, struggling, or grieving... **Donna Potsos' Mother (Sophie)** diagnosed with Covid, **Marcus, Tom**, tested positive for Covid-19 (friend of the Way family) **Megan**, exposed to Covid-19 and waiting for test results

ELCA church-wide employees

as they adapt to reorganization and changes with 5% of positions eliminated

**Marilyn, Keith, Luanne, Sandy, Renate,
Myron and Patsy, Adam, Kelly, Clint and Jayne, Betty,
Leah and Al, Wayne,
Jim, Kevin, Marty, Dennis M, Bob, Tara, Roger**

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Pour out the gifts of your Spirit on children and youth throughout the church. Sustain those who work in children's ministry, youth ministry, and campus ministry as they nurture the gifts of young people. Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered through Text-In Church Prayers by Pastor –

Mike and Danielle & Family, Ryan & family are held in prayer on the death of Mike's brother, Jim, Wed. night

Pastor Thank you for saints now departed who fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and tended to the sick. Inspire us by their example, show us your presence in those in need around us.

Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever. **Amen.**

PEACE

The presiding minister and the assembly greet each other in the peace of the risen Christ.

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

The people may greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace, "Peace be with you,"

MEAL God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

OFFERING

Please Remember to fill out your STEWARDSHIP PLEDGE Card for 2021 and continue to offer to Holy Cross what you desire to give to God through

1) Your established e-giving pledge through Vanco OR

2) through a new mobile App called GIVEPLUS+ is available from your mobile store online

3) send your check directly to Holy Cross at 13014 Olive Blvd. in Creve Coeur, MO 63141

4) Go to our Website and hit "DONATE NOW" <http://www.holycrosselca.com/site/cs/links.asp>

The presiding minister instructs those communing at home to gather their bread / cracker / wine/ grape juice elements to hold up during the Words of Institution.

OFFERING SONG *Revelation Song* CCLI Song # 4447960

Verse 1 Worthy is the Lamb Who was slain
Holy holy is He
Sing a new song to Him Who sits on
Heaven's mercy seat

Chorus Holy holy holy
Is the Lord God Almighty
Who was and is and is to come
With all creation I sing
Praise to the King of kings
You are my ev'rything
And I will adore You

Verse 2 Clothed in rainbows of living color
Flashes of lightning rolls of thunder
Blessing and honor strength and glory
And power be to You the only wise King

Verse 3 Filled with wonder awestruck wonder
At the mention of Your name
Jesus Your name is power breath and living water
Such a marv'lous mystery yeah

OFFERING PRAYER (ELW p. 206)

After the table is set, the assisting minister leads... Let us pray.

Merciful God, as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. **Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE [**Home Communion / Fellowship Cups – HOLD UP YOUR ELEMENTS...**]

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus 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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION (ELW p. 208)

The presiding minister may address the assembly in these or similar words.

Come to the banquet, for all is now ready. *The bread may be broken for Home communion.*

COMMUNION

The ministers commune after others commune.

**+ - Blessing of those who are not receiving Communion today,
yet are part of the COMMUNITY of the Body of CHRIST!**

COMMUNION HYMN *instrumental*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION *The assisting minister leads...* Let us pray.

Life-giving God, in the mystery of Christ's resurrection you send light to conquer darkness, water to give new life, and the bread of life to nourish your people. Send us forth as witnesses to your Son's resurrection, that we may show your glory to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS – WED. NIGHT 7 PM WORSHIP ONLINE & 10 AM 1-SUN NOV. 29TH

BLESSING

Almighty God, Father, ✝ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Christ is with you. **Thanks be to God.**

SENDING SONG *The Lord Reigns* CCLI Song # 4696340

The Lord reigns
(REPEAT 9X)

Verse 1 Let the heavens be glad
Let the earth rejoice
Hear the mighty oceans roar
Let the trees of the field sing out for joy
The nations will shout
The Lord reigns

Chorus The Lord reigns
Clothed in majesty
The Lord reigns
Let the trumpet sound
The Lord reigns We will dance for joy
Exalt His holy name

The Lord reigns
Clothed in majesty The Lord reigns
Let the trumpet sound The Lord reigns
We will dance for joy The nations will shout The Lord reigns

Verse 2 Let the earth praise Your Name
Let the mountains shout
All creation worships You
The sun and the stars are in their place
All because of You
Lord You reign

The Lord reigns
(REPEAT 7X)

**Worship Assistant - Bud Niebling, PMA Singers – Moira McCracken & Jonathan Schack
Praise Band - Brandon Clay, Jason Cooper, Paul Niehaus, & Marty Little
AV/Camera Volunteers - Philip Paul, Patrick Goertzen Flowers Given by Holy Cross**

From sundaysandseasons.com. Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Permission to podcast/stream music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-733788A.