

Christ the King Sunday

November 26, 2023

Greetings and Welcome

Prelude by the Faith Singers – “Give Thanks,” arr. Barker

GATHERING

**Call to Worship and Confession*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: **Amen.**

P: *(Jeremiah 17:7-8)* ⁷Blessed are those who trust in the Lord, whose trust is the Lord.

C: **⁸They shall be like a tree planted by water, sending out its roots by the stream. It shall not fear when heat comes, and its leaves shall stay green; in the year of drought it is not anxious, and it does not cease to bear fruit.**

P: Our family tree of faith is filled with men and women who live by faith and make mistakes. When we stumble, we are in good company. Yet, we are also surrounded by a company of saints, redeemed by the mercy of God. Let us confess our sin and put our trust in this mercy.

Silence

C: **Forgiving God, we confess that our actions do not always reflect your goodness. Like Abraham, we question your promise. Like Jacob, we take what is not ours. Like Moses, we fear that we are not enough. In your love and compassion, prune our faults and failures and keep us connected to you.**

P: God has heard your confession and forgives your sin. Jesus is living water for you and all. May the Holy Spirit dwell in you richly that you bear the fruit of love for God and one another.

C: **Amen.**

Gathering Song – “Beneath the Tree of Life”

*Refrain: Come and gather beneath the tree of life.
Come and gather beneath the tree of life –
Root of wisdom, branch of peace, fruit of healing and release.
Come and gather beneath the tree of life.*

**Here we raise the saving cross of Jesus,
singing praise to him who leads us on from death into new life. *Refrain***

Children’s Sermon

Hymn of Praise – “God of Grace and God of Glory” ELW 705

- 1 God of grace and God of glory, on your people pour your pow’r;
Crown your ancient Church’s story; bring its bud to glorious flow’r.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage for the facing of this hour,
for the facing of this hour.**
- 2 Lo! The hosts of evil round us scorn the Christ, assail his ways!
From the fears that long have bound us free our hearts to faith and praise.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the living of these days,
for the living of these days**
- 3 Cure your children’s waring madness; bend our pride to your control;
Shame our wanton, selfish gladness, rich in things and poor in soul.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, lest we miss your kingdom’s goal,
lest we miss your kingdom’s goal.**
- 4 Save us from weak resignation to the evils we deplore;
Let the gift of your salvation be our glory evermore.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, serving you whom we adore,
serving you whom we adore.**

WORD

Reading: Isaiah 5:1-7; 11:1-5

Reader: Liddy Stark

5Let me sing for my beloved
my love-song concerning his vineyard:

My beloved had a vineyard
on a very fertile hill.

² He dug it and cleared it of stones,
and planted it with choice vines;
he built a watch-tower in the midst of it,
and hewed out a wine vat in it;
he expected it to yield grapes,
but it yielded wild grapes.

³ And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem
and people of Judah,
judge between me
and my vineyard.

⁴ What more was there to do for my vineyard
that I have not done in it?
When I expected it to yield grapes,
why did it yield wild grapes?

⁵ And now I will tell you
what I will do to my vineyard.
I will remove its hedge,
and it shall be devoured;
I will break down its wall,
and it shall be trampled down.

⁶ I will make it a waste;
it shall not be pruned or hoed,
and it shall be overgrown with briars and thorns;
I will also command the clouds
that they rain no rain upon it.

⁷ For the vineyard of the LORD of hosts
is the house of Israel,
and the people of Judah
are his pleasant planting;
he expected justice,
but saw bloodshed;
righteousness,
but heard a cry!

11A shoot shall come out from the stock of Jesse,
and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

² The spirit of the LORD shall rest on him,
the spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the spirit of counsel and might,
the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.

³ His delight shall be in the fear of the LORD.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide by what his ears hear;

⁴ but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

⁵ Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist,
and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Reading:* Mark 12:1-3

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the 12th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

¹Then he began to speak to them in parables. ‘A man planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a pit for the wine press, and built a watch-tower; then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. ²When the season came, he sent a slave to the tenants to collect from them his share of the produce of the vineyard. ³But they seized him, and beat him, and sent him away empty-handed.

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

Song: “Oh, Worship the King” ELW 842

**1 Oh, worship the King, all-glorious above.
Oh, gratefully sing God's power and love;
our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days,
pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.**

- 2 **The earth with its store of wonders untold,
Almighty, your pow'r has founded of old;
established it fast by a changeless decree,
and round it has cast, like a mantle, the sea.**
- 3 **Your 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.**
- 4 **Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
your mercies, how tender, how firm to the end,
our maker, defender, redeemer, and friend.**
- 5 **O measureless might, ineffable love,
while angels delight to hymn you above,
the humbler creation, though feeble their lays,
with true adoration shall sing to your praise.**

Sermon: "A New Shoot"

Song of the Day – "Praise to You, O God of Mercy" (WOV 790)

1. **Praise to you, O God of mercy! Thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!**
2. **From of old you loved and sought us! Thanks be to you forever!
Truth and justice you have taught us: thanks be to you forever!**

**Strong is your faithfulness, strong is your love,
rememb'ring your covenant of life with us.**

3. **Praise to you, O God of mercy! Thanks be to you forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly: thanks be to you forever!
Thanks be to you forever!**

**The Apostles' Creed*

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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*

Stewardship Time: Mission Moment – Reverse Advent
Hallie Mayner

Stewardship is about our grateful response to God's grace for us. How do you respond? If you would like to financially support our ministry together, you can place a donation in an offering box or through our website. If you would like to support our ministry together through service, you can find a list of ministry teams online or on our ministry team menu. Consider joining a ministry team, or starting a new one, today!

–Please take a moment to sign into the Welcome Folder in your pew–

**Great Thanksgiving*

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

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

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

**Words of Institution*

P: 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*

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.

Communion Songs

“People of Hope”

Refrain: We are people of hope alive in the myst'ry, growing in faith, learning to love. We are people of hope throughout all of hist'ry, held by the one who will never let go.

- 1. We are dead in our striving for wealth and for might,
But God rich in mercy has loved us to life. Refrain**
- 2. We are what God has made us, created in Christ,
For justice and mercy to be our way of life. Refrain**

In the journey ev'ry day we're led by the Word, saved by grace. Refrain

“All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name”

- 1 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.**
- 2 Ye chosen seed of Israel's 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.**

- 3 **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.**
- 4 **Oh, that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song and crown him Lord of all.
to him all majesty ascribe and crown him Lord of all.**

**Post-Communion Blessing*

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

C: **Amen.**

**Closing Prayer*

SENDING

**Benediction*

P: May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord make his face to shine on you
and be gracious to you, may the Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C: **Amen.**

**Sending Song* – “How Great Is Our God/How Great Thou Art” ELW 856

1. **The splendor of the King, clothed in majesty;
Let all the earth rejoice, all the earth rejoice.
He wraps Himself in light, and darkness tries to hide,
and trembles at His voice, and trembles at His voice.
How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great is our God!**

2. **Age to age He stands, and time is in His hands;
Beginning and the End, Beginning and the End.
The Godhead, three in one, Father, Spirit, Son,
the Lion and the Lamb, the Lion and the Lamb.
How great is our God! Sing with me: How great is our God!
And all will see how great, how great is our God!**

**O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,
consider all the works thy hand hath made,**

**I see the stars, I hear the mighty thunder,
thy power throughout the universe displayed;
Then sings my soul my Savior God to thee,
How great thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul my Savior God to thee,
How great thou art, how great Thou art.**

**When Christ shall come, with shout of acclamation,
and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
and there proclaim, “My God, how great thou art!”
Then sings my soul my Savior God to thee,
How great thou art, how great Thou art.
Then sings my soul my Savior God to thee,
How great thou art, how great Thou art.**

Dismissal

P: Go in peace, serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Worship Assistants

Communion Assistant: Pam Devlin

Greeter: Liddy Stark

Reader: Liddy Stark

Ushers: Larry Kuster & Patty Nelson

Pastor: Adam Dichsen

Music Director: Jean Welch

Musician: Jean Welch

Drummer: John Demien

Financial Assistants: Greg Kimler & Mike Oldenettel

Chancel Committee: Martha Krohe

Coffee Hosts: Verla Buckner & Laura Sweatman

Singers:

Benen Dichsen

Rigby Dichsen

Adam Krohe

Carol VanderKloot

Louis Dichsen

Kelly Hartz

Kris Roth

Marilyn Dichsen

Terri Kimler

Melissa Street



Church Council Members:

Malinda Carlson	Kelly Hartz	Patty Nelson	Monica Proefrock
Ken Devlin	Greg Kimler	Mike Oldenettel	Kelly Street
Marilyn Dichsen			

The altar plants are donated today by Vicki Robson

What's Coming Up at Faith?

Sunday, November 26, 9:30am: Worship
10:45am: Sunday School
11:00am: Decorate Church for Christmas
Friends from Faith Card Ministry

Wednesday, November 29, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group

Sunday, December 3, 9:30am: Worship
10:45am: Sunday School

Wednesday, December 6, 7-8am: Men's Prayer Group
11:30am: Advent Allegro Lunch
12:15pm: Advent Allegro Concert
5:15pm: Worship Core Team

Song Credits

Holy Communion Tree of Life Setting, by Marty Haugen; © 2000, GIA Publications, Inc., used by permission.

Evangelical Lutheran Worship, © 2006 Augsburg Publishing House. Used by permission.

"Praise to You, O God of Mercy," from **With One Voice**, © 1995 Augsburg-Fortress. Used by permission.

"People of Hope," by Larry Olson & Hans Peterson, © 1998 Dakota Road Music. CCLI#973583

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name," arr. Grant Wall, © 2011 Hello Cleveland Music, Getty Music Pub.
CCLI#973583

"How Great Is Our God," words and music by Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, and Ed Cash, © 2004 worshiptogether.com.
CCLI#973583

News Updates

Sunday School

Calling all kids! After worship, fellowship, and snacks, we will gather for music and then head to our classes. We have two classes this year, one for pre-K through Kindergarten and the other for early elementary. If you have questions or are interested in helping, contact Patty Nelson at 217-653-3105.

Decorating the Church

Many hands make for a beautiful setting for our worship during Advent and Christmas. We will gather after worship **today** to decorate our spaces. We welcome all volunteers, so plan to join in the fun.

Sound Celebration Chorus

The Sound Celebration Chorus invites you to their 3rd Annual Free Christmas Concert: Thanks for the Holidays. **Today at 2:00pm** at St. John's Lutheran Church, 2477 W. Washington St., Springfield. A free-will offering will be taken for our chosen charity – Springfield Area Micro Food Pantries.

Friends from Faith Card Ministry

A ministry team led by Naomi Hahn: on the last Sunday of each month, everyone is welcome to send a greeting card. **Today**, visit the tall table just outside the sanctuary where you can select a card, sign a card, or deposit a card in the mailbox to send. Cards and stamps are provided for your use. If you have extra cards or stamps to spare, please bring them and donate them in the provided jar.

Advent Allegro Lunchtime Concerts

We have a great lineup for this year's Advent Allegro concert series.

December 6: "The Extension Chords" (*with Jean Welch*)

December 13: Jacksonville High School Madrigals

December 20: Matthew Nall on piano

The brief concerts will last approximately 30 minutes and begin at 12:15pm. Lunch of soup, chips, fruit, and dessert will be served beginning at 11:30am and after the concert for \$5. **We could use some help with serving the meal and providing cookies and soup.** If you would like to pitch in, contact the church office (245-8919 or faithlutheran62650@frontier.com) or **sign up on the sheet on the counter by the coffee sales.**

Music Rehearsals

Exaltation Ringers rehearse on some Sundays after the service at 10:45am in the Choir Room. We ring one Sunday each month. If you are interested in ringing, please let me know. Jean Welch, *Music Director*

Book Group - "Blood Brothers" by Elias Chacour

As a child, Elias Chacour lived in a small Palestinian village in Galilee. When tens of thousands of Palestinians were killed and nearly one million forced into refugee camps in

1948, Elias began a long struggle with how to respond. In *Blood Brothers*, he blends his riveting life story with historical research to reveal a little-known side of the Arab-Israeli conflict, exploring whether bitter enemies can ever be reconciled. This book offers hope and insight to help each of us learn to live at peace in a world of tension and terror. **A discussion will be held after worship on December 3.**

Christmas Carols

Please join us for *Christmas Carols* to sing and celebrate Jesus' birth! This event will be hosted by Grace Lutheran and Faith Lutheran Churches on Friday, December 15, 5:30-6:30pm at "Now and Then", 142 E. Beardstown St., Virginia, IL. There will be free ice cream and hot cocoa!

Ideas Wanted!

Help prepare a great list of books for us to read in 2024. Which authors, titles, and subjects are you interested in exploring next year? Please email your suggestions to Kelly Hartz at khartz@sompo-intl.com. If you're passionate about a book and would also love to lead the group discussion, please let us know! We're looking for books AND leaders.

Faith Directory

Thank you for your updated photos and information for our new digital directory! You can access it online by using this QR code. It is password protected, and the password is "faith". If you notice any changes or would like to add your photo, please contact the church office.



Prayer Shawl Ministry

Sharon Zuiderveld and her sister, Mary Ellen Peterson, are looking for crocheters and knitters (or those who want to learn) to help make prayer shawls. The shawls will then be given to friends as reminders that they are covered by our prayers and the love and grace of God. Anyone interested in knitting or crocheting for the Prayer Shawl ministry may contact Sharon Zuiderveld. Beginners (and lefties) are welcome. Please let her know what day and time are best for you: sharonzuiderveld@hotmail.com or 217-883-1258

Sign-Up Sheets

are available at the podium in the gathering area. Please take a moment to sign up to be an Usher, Reader, Greeter, Communion Assistant, Coffee Host, Chancel Committee volunteer, and to Donate Altar Plants. **Thank You!** *We are Gifted to Serve!*