



# Reign of Christ

## Sunday, November 21, 2021

*Welcome to First Lutheran Church!*  
*An asterisk \* invites you to stand in body or in spirit.*  
*You are welcome to sing during worship if you are vaccinated!*

## Gathering in God's Presence

**Prelude** — “Fugue in F Major”

Dieterich Buxtehude  
Sophie Martinez, organ

**Welcome**

**\*Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.  
**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one  
another.  
*Silence is kept for reflection.*

**Almighty God,**  
**to whom all hearts are opinion,**  
**all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid,**  
**cleanse the thoughts of our hearts**  
**by the inspiration of you Holy Spirit,**  
**that we may perfectly love you**  
**and worthily magnify your holy name,**  
**through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

**Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us  
even when we were dead to sin,  
and made us alive  
together with Christ.  
By grace we have been saved.  
In the name of † Jesus Christ,  
our sins have been forgiven.  
May almighty God  
strengthen us with power  
through the Holy Spirit,  
that Christ may live in our  
lives through faith.

**Amen.**

**\*Gathering Hymn** — no. 855

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”  
Led by Sophie Martinez, GAC Organ Scholar

**\*Greeting & Kyrie** — *Setting Four, front of hymnal, page 147*

\*Canticle of Praise —

“All Glory Be to God on High”



1 All glo - ry be to God on high, and peace to earth be  
2 Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly Son of God, cre - a - tion's  
3 To you a - lone, O God, we cry, the Ho - ly One we  
giv - en! Let an - gels sing, let all re - ply; good -  
au - thor, O Lamb of God, your death a - lone takes  
name you; for you a - lone are God most high, one  
will breaks forth from heav - en! Lord God Al - might - y,  
sin a - way for - ev - er. Stretch out your arms to  
liv - ing God we claim you: we wor - ship you, Lord  
heav - en's king, we wor - ship you, our thanks we sing, we  
ev - 'ry land, and, as you reign at God's right hand, re -  
Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it ev - er blest, in  
praise you for your glo - ry.  
ceive our prayer; have mer - cy.  
God the Fa - ther's glo - ry. A - - - men.

\*Prayer of the Day

May God be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

## Hearing & Responding to Scripture

A Reading from Hebrew Scriptures — Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

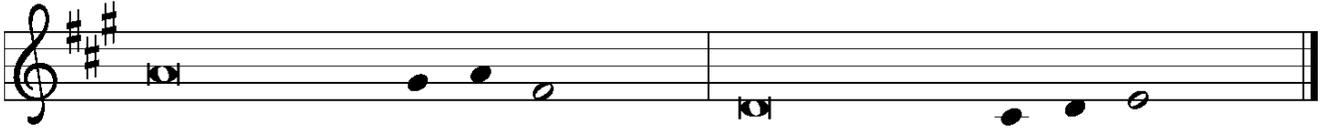
9As I watched,  
thrones were set in place,  
and an Ancient One took his throne,  
his clothing was white as snow,  
and the hair of his head like pure wool;  
his throne was fiery flames,  
and its wheels were burning fire.  
10A stream of fire issued  
and flowed out from his presence.  
A thousand thousands served him,

and ten thousand times ten thousand  
stood attending him.  
The court sat in judgment,  
and the books were opened.  
13As I watched in the night visions,  
I saw one like a human being  
coming with the clouds of heaven.  
And he came to the Ancient One  
and was presented before him.

14To him was given dominion  
and glory and kingship,  
that all peoples, nations, and languages  
should serve him.  
His dominion is an everlasting dominion  
that shall not pass away,  
and his kingship is one  
that shall never be destroyed.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 93** — *sung responsively by verse*



1The Lord is king, robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and | armed with strength.  
The Lord has made the world so sure that it can- | not be moved.  
2**Ever since the world began, your throne has | been established;  
you are from | everlasting.**  
3The waters have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted | up their voice;  
the waters have lifted up their | pounding waves.  
4**Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers | of the sea,  
mightier is the Lord who | dwells on high.**  
5Your testimonies are | very sure,  
and holiness befits your house, O Lord, forever and for- | evermore.

### A Reading from the Epistles — Revelation 1:4b-8

4bGrace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, 5and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, 6and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

7Look! He is coming with the clouds;  
every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him;  
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

8“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God’s people. **Thanks be to God.**

### \*Gospel Acclamation — *Setting Four, front of hymnal, page 151*

### \*Gospel — John 18:33-37

The Gospel of John, the 18th chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

33Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” 34Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” 35Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” 36Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” 37Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

\*Hymn — no. 435

“Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending”

\*Affirmation of Faith — Nicene Creed

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.

\*Prayers of Intercession

Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to liberate all of creation. We pray for all living things longing for the freedom to flourish, from ancient trees and wild grasses to endangered animals and rare insects. Give human beings compassionate hearts to care for them. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us into the way of peace. Direct the members of international alliances in choosing a nonviolent path toward the future. Give them the humility and wisdom to make just decisions to benefit all. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to make us into your own people, set free to serve you. We pray for people who serve the well-being of others, especially ministries in our community, such as the St. Peter Area Food Shelf, Partners for Housing, the Hikmah tutoring program, and many others. Renew them in their work. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to rule in all times and places. We pray for the friends of our congregation who are unable to join our worship in person and for all who are sick and suffering. Join their prayers with ours and unite them with us in the body of Christ. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son to reign over and to judge the nations. We know that you love the good and oppose evil throughout history, freeing your people, and dethroning tyrants who defy you. Frustrate and confuse those who lie and who encourage lies in order to promote injustice and tyranny. Put a love of the truth in our hearts and honest tongues in our mouths, and protect us from the Father of Lies. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to be the Good Shepherd, and he told Peter, “Feed my sheep.” Bless the work of the Call Committee as we continue to seek a shepherd for the flock of this congregation. Bring us a pastor who will, like Peter, Paul, and all the apostles, feed your sheep, gather us in, and lead your people. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to be our beginning and our ending. We give thanks for those whose lives have given us a glimpse of Jesus’ reign of justice and peace. Empower us to join their witness. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Receive these and all our prayers, Gracious God. We pray in the name of Jesus the prayer that he taught us to pray:

**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.**

## Offering

*Music at the Offering*

“Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending”

Setting by Scott Hyslop

David Fienen, organ

*Please leave an offering in the basket outside the sanctuary, mail a check to the office, or give online: <https://tithe.ly/give?c=283020>.*

# Departing to Serve God’s World

## Announcements

\***Sending Hymn** — no. 660

“Lift High the Cross”

Extended Fanfare Introduction by Paul Manz

\***Blessing**

God, the beginning and the end,  
who has written your name in the book of life,  
✠ bless and keep you in grace and peace  
from this time forth and forevermore.

**Amen.**

\***Dismissal**

Go in peace. Praise God and serve the Lord in all that we do our say. Exercise good judgement and serve the Lord, the Lord’s people, and all who live and breathe. **Thanks be to God!**

\***Postlude** — “Processional on ‘Lift High the Cross’”

Setting by Donald Busarow

David Fienen, organ

## **Acknowledgements**

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### **Worship Assistants**

Interim Pastor: Bill Nelsen  
Director of Music: Emily Bruflat  
Musicians: David Fienen, Sophie Martinez

Greeter/Reader: Rebekah Roemhildt  
Ushers: Tom Thorkleson  
Audio/Video: Leif Hammer

## **Announcements**

- Have you donated for Holiday Vouchers yet? We have received very few holiday grocery voucher contributions for the St. Peter Area Food Shelf. Checks can be made out to the church with "holiday vouchers" noted in the memo line.
- Upcoming Congregation Meetings:
  - December 5
  - January 30
- This Sunday, Christ the King, is the last Sunday after Pentecost, the final Sunday of the liturgical year. White paraments adorn the altar because it is a festival of Christ. Today is the last Sunday this liturgical year that we will see the front hanging and the five pairs of side panels which have been hung in sequence throughout the season of Pentecost which spans the seasons in Saint Peter from late spring through early winter. A river appears on the east panels referring to the waters of baptism as well as the Minnesota River to the east of the church while tall grasses of the prairie to the west of the church form the bottom border on the west. The tree branch symbolizes the living Christ as well as the wood of the cross while the butterfly suggests the Holy Spirit. The green of the first pair is a Five pairs of side panels hung in sequence throughout the season of Pentecost which spans the seasons in Saint Peter from late spring through early winter. A river appears on the east panels referring to the waters of baptism as well as the Minnesota River to the east of the church while tall grasses of the prairie to the west of the church form the bottom border on the west. The tree branch symbolizes the living Christ as well as the wood of the cross while the butterfly suggests the Holy Spirit. The green of the first pair is one more statement of the liturgical color of Pentecost. It also reflects the greening of late spring.
- Altar flower sign-up sheet for 2022 is now in the gathering space. Cost of flowers for 2022 will be \$50 with some exceptions for seasons which are noted on the sheet.
- Altar flowers are given today by Angela Giedd in remembrance of her dad, Bob Berg.

## **Prayers**

We pray for Mary Pieklo, mother of Bob & Rhoda Stenson's daughter-in law.

We pray for Betty Thompson's sister Nancy Maag and Ellen Conover who are both recovering from surgery.

We lift up prayers for those on our long-term list: Gwen Weldon, Tom and Deb Johnson, Tom Michels, Abigail Christenson, Betty Gustafson, Elgene Lund, Chuck Petry, Bob Cady, Joan Williams, Myrene Bunge, Glen Stryker, Erika Schuldt and Urusla McRostie; and we pray for for all those families continuing to adjust to the loss of loved ones, including the families of Beverly Wetherill, Tom Stenson, Mary Lee Denley, Marion Peterson, and Bob Isenberg.