

November 20, 2022

Reign of Christ

*An asterisk * invites you to stand in body or in spirit, and you are invited to read responses found in **bold**.*

Welcome to First Lutheran Church!

Gathering in God's Presence

Prelude — “Holy, Holy, Holy”

Setting by Michael Helman
Handbell Choir

***Processional Hymn** — no. 855

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

***Words of Welcome**

***Confession and Forgiveness**

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
who redeems us in Christ Jesus,
whose steadfast love endures forever. **Amen.**
Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of
one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
and our neighbors.
We have ignored voices
that call for your justice.
We have neglected actions
that witness to your righteousness.
We have spoken and acted
in ways that disrupt your beloved community.**

**We truly repent of things we have done
and left undone.**

**For the sake of Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us.**

**Restore our troubled spirits,
so that we may live in newness,
follow the way of the Spirit,
and build up the body of Christ.
Amen.**

Rejoice and be glad!

God hears the prayers of all who cry out,
and restores us to life through the death
and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Therefore, I declare to you the forgiveness of all
your sins,

in the name of the Father,
and of the ☩ Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

***Greeting & Kyrie** — pg. 147, front of hymnal, *ELW* Setting Four

***Canticle of Praise** — pg. 149, front of hymnal, *ELW* Setting Four

“This Is the Feast”

***Prayer of the Day**

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

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through 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

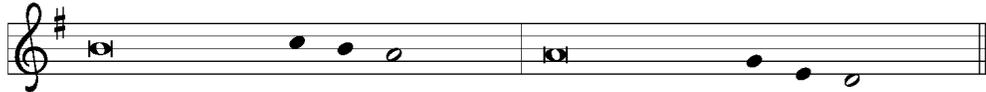
A Reading from the book of Jeremiah— Jeremiah 23:1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The Lord is our righteousness.”

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 46 — *Sung all together in unison*



God is our ref- | uge and strength,
a very present | help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth
be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the
depths | of the sea;
though its waters | rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble | with its
tumult.
There is a river whose streams make glad the
cit- | y of God,
the holy habitation of | the Most High.
God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be
shaken;
God shall help it at the | break of day.
The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth | melts away.

The Lord of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.
Come now, regard the works | of the Lord,
what desolations God has brought up- | on the
earth;
behold the one who makes war to cease in | all
the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear,
and burns the | shields with fire.
“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be
exalted | in the earth.”
The Lord of | hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.

A Reading from Paul’s Letter to the Colossians — Colossians 1:11-20

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so

that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

Word of God. Word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

***Gospel Acclamation**

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

***Gospel — Luke 23:33-43**

The Gospel of Luke, the 23rd chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon — “Oh, I just can’t wait to be King!”

Pastor Chris Culuris

***Hymn — no. 434**

“Jesus Shall Reign”

***Affirmation of Faith — The Apostles’ Creed**

**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 power of 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

United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

We pray for your church. Embolden denominations and faith-based organizations in creative and collaborative ministries and increase our work for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the earth. Protect waterways from pollution and animal habitats from destruction. Guide us in careful stewardship of waters, plant life, and animals. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for the nations of the world. Instill in every leader's heart a desire for justice and peace. Support the work of international collaborations that seek the goals of health and joy for all people. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for all who are undermined or oppressed. Amplify the voices of the unheard and break open stubborn systems of injustice. Bring about your righteousness and fill us all with your redeeming light. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We pray for this assembly. Guide our pastor and council members in discernment, and nurture new leaders with fresh ideas. Give this congregation a spirit of discipleship and service. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

We give thanks for all who have died in the faith. Console us who mourn and comfort us with the beautiful promise of life in your kingdom. Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Offering

Music at the Offering

"Liebster Jesu"

J.S. Bach

Sharing the Meal

***Great Thanksgiving & Preface** — pg. 152, front of hymnal, *ELW* Setting Four

***"Holy, Holy, Holy"** — pg. 153, front of hymnal, *ELW* Setting Four

*Words of Institution and The Lord's Prayer

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.

In gratitude to God, we pray the prayer 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**

This is the table, not of the Church but of Jesus Christ.
It is made ready for those who love God
and who want to love God more.
So come, you who have much faith, and you who have little.
You who have been here often
and you who have not been for a long time or ever before.
You who have tried to follow and all of us who have failed.
These are the gifts of God for the People of God.
Come, not because the Church invites you;
It is Christ who invites you to be known and fed here.
The table is ready. Come.

Distribution of Communion

“Lamb of God” — pg. 154, front of hymnal, *ELW* Setting Four
Hymn — no. 343

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

Communion Blessing and Prayer

We give you thanks, most gracious God, that you have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of Paradise. Enliven us to be your body in the world and to serve those who are in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Departing to Serve God’s World

Announcements

***Sending Hymn** — no. 660

“Lift High the Cross”

***Blessing & Dismissal**

The God of peace, who creates all things and calls them good,
who makes us alive in Jesus, and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope,
✠ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**
Go in peace. Be a blessing in the world. **Thanks be to God.**

***Postlude** — “Gelobet seist du, Jesu Christ (Fughette)”

Setting by Johann Heinrich Buttstedt

Acknowledgements

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Worship Assistants

Pastor: Chris Culuris

Director of Music: Emily Bruflat

Music Leader: Sophie Martinez

Audio/Video: Wes Chambers, Shanon Nowell

Greeters: Cole Buffington, Jake Banks

Reader: Aileen Bipes

Ushers: Keith Stelter, Tom Thorkelson

Musicians: Handbell Choir

Communion Preparers: Nancy Thorkelson, Jim Neubauer

Communion Servers: Annalise Rivas, John Bipes, Aileen Bipes

Bread Bakers: Diane Stewart, Annalise Rivas

Acolytes: Natalie Twait, Harley Samuelson

Announcements

- We return to A Sanctified Art for a beautiful and slightly different approach to **Advent this year**. The series, *From Generation to Generation*, will take us on a journey through Advent, Christmas, and will end with Epiphany.
 - Devotional booklets will be available in the Heartbeat this coming week - this is a good chance to make sure you are on the mailing list!
 - For a printed version contact Angela, now available in the Gathering Space as well!
 - Similar to Lent, this Advent will feature a daily meditation posted to our Facebook page. Starting Sunday, November 27, visit www.facebook.com/FLCSTP each day at 9:00 a.m. for a new post from A Sanctified Art!
- **Flowers for the Altar** are given by John and Sharon Malm in memory of John’s mother and father Evelyn and Herbert Malm.
- Trinity Lutheran Church is hosting the annual **Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Service** in St Peter on Wednesday, November 23, 2022 at 7:00 p.m.
- **The office will be closed** November 24 and 25 for the Thanksgiving Holiday.
- **Advent Midweek Worship**: There will be four midweek services during Advent - beginning next week on Nov 30 - featuring *Holden Evening Prayer* by Marty Haugen each week at 7:00 p.m. in the Sanctuary. You are invited to make this a part of your Advent spiritual journey.
- For fellowship today please meet in the Dining Hall for the **Soup Cook-Off & Dessert Auction!** Join us to taste these delicious recipes! The Fellowship Committee will be serving coffee and lemonade as well.
- **Poinsettias and Christmas trees** are available to order using the Flower Sign-Up Sheet in the Gathering Space. Orders are due by Dec 12. These will be placed on the altar and you may give them in honor or in memory of someone. The names of these people will be noted in the December 24 bulletin.
- **Holiday Pies or Flowers**. Do you know someone who could use some cheer this season? Please contact the office to let us know who would like a pie or flowers this season.
- FLC is collecting money for the **Holiday Grocery Voucher Program**. Please write your checks to First Lutheran Church with “*Grocery Vouchers*” in the memo line.
- There are a few **new volunteer opportunities for youth** including bell ringing for the Salvation Army as well as positions to help in “The Kitchen”. Contact Calleigh Carlson for more details on how to sign up.
- **Buy a holiday wreath or swag and help support local Scouts!** You may purchase them after church today in the Gathering Space.
- **Upcoming Congregational Meetings Dec 4 & Jan 29**. Please plan to be at these important meetings that will take place after worship. A quorum is needed and we will be voting on new council members in December and reviewing the Annual Report in January.

Prayers

- We lift up prayers for those on our long-term list: Joann Muesing, Elgene Lund, Chuck Petry, Bob Cady, Joan Williams, Myrene Bunge, Glenn Stryker, Erika Schuldt, Claire Cardwell, Ursula McRostie, Karen Wendroth and Gene Roemhildt.
- We pray for Allen Storkson, Shanon Nowell's father-in-law. He is hospitalized and recently diagnosed with an aggressive form of leukemia.
- We pray for Dan Polzin who is mourning the loss of his father Ken.
- We pray for all those mourning the recent loss of loved ones.
- We pray for peace around the world; for all affected by natural disasters; and, for healing and wholeness in the lives of all who are ill.