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**Sunday, November 26, 2023**  
**Christ the King**

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Service Theme

**Our Unique King**

On the last Sunday of the Church Year, we celebrate Christ as our unique King. Our texts remind us not only of his power and might, but also of his love and mercy. Every King and government on the earth asks their subjects to die for them, but Jesus is unique in that He willingly suffered and died for his subjects. He did not come to be served but to serve and give his life as a ransom for many.

## Hymn

CW 351 "Hail, O Once – Despised Jesus"

**1 Hail, O once-despised Jesus! Hail, O Galilean King!**

**You have suffered to release us, Hope to give and peace to bring.**

**Hail, O universal Savior, Bearer of our sin and shame;**

**By your merits we find favor; Life is given through your name.**

**2 Paschal Lamb, by God appointed, All our sins on you were laid;**

**By almighty love anointed, You have full atonement made.**

**Ev'ry sin has been forgiven Through the power of your blood;**

**Open is the gate of heaven; We are reconciled to God.**

**3 Jesus, heav'nly hosts adore you, Seated at your Father's side.**

**Crucified this world once saw you; Now in glory you abide.**

**There for sinners you are pleading, And our place you now prepare,**

**Ever for us interceding Till in glory we appear.**

**4 Worship, honor, pow'r, and blessing You are worthy to receive;**

**Loudest praises, without ceasing, Right it is for us to give.**

**Help, O bright angelic spirits, All your noblest anthems raise;**

**Help to sing our Savior's merits; Help to chant Immanuel's praise.**

## Order of Service:

Service of the Word (p.38)

**M:** The grace of our Lord (+) Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

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

## Confession of Sins

**M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give us strength to live according to his will.

**C:** **Amen.**

## Prayer and Praise

**M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**C:** *(Sing)* **Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Blessed are they who take refuge in him.  
Your Word, O Lord, is eternal; it stands firm in the heavens.  
Your faithfulness continues forever.  
Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good.  
Blessed are they who take refuge in him.**

## Prayer of the Day

**M:** Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, by your victory you have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim you King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** *(sing)* **Amen.**

## First Lesson

Ezekiel 34:11-16,23,24 (NIV84)

<sup>11</sup> "'For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. <sup>12</sup> As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. <sup>13</sup> I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. <sup>14</sup> I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup> I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. <sup>16</sup> I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice...

<sup>23</sup> I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup> I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the LORD have spoken.

## Psalm 47

(p.85)

### *Refrain*



Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.

### *Psalm tone*



Clap your hands, all you nations;<sup>\*</sup>  
shout to God with cries of joy.

How awesome is the LORD Most High,<sup>\*</sup>  
the great King over all the earth!

God reigns over the nations;<sup>\*</sup>  
God is seated on his holy throne.

### ***Refrain***

God has ascended amid shouts of joy,<sup>\*</sup>  
the LORD amid the sounding of  
trumpets.

Sing praises to God, sing praises;<sup>\*</sup>  
sing praises to our King, sing praises.

For God is the King of all the earth;<sup>\*</sup>  
sing to him a psalm of praise.

**Glory be to the Father and to the  
Son<sup>\*</sup>**

**and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,<sup>\*</sup>  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

### ***Refrain***

## Second Lesson

1 Corinthians 15:20-28 (NIV84)

<sup>20</sup> But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup> For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. <sup>22</sup> For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. <sup>23</sup> But each in his own turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. <sup>24</sup> Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy to be destroyed is death. <sup>27</sup> For he "has put everything under his feet." Now when it says that "everything" has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. <sup>28</sup> When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

## Verse of the Day

Alleluia. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Alleluia. (Revelation 22:13)

**C:** *(sing)* Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

**These words are written that we may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God. Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## Gospel

Matthew 27:27-31 (NIV84)

<sup>27</sup> Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. <sup>28</sup> They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup> and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand and knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. <sup>30</sup> They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. <sup>31</sup> After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

**C:** *(sing)* Praise be to you, O Christ!

## Hymn

CW 375 "The King Of Love My Shepherd Is"

**1 The King of love my shepherd is, Whose goodness fails me never;  
I nothing lack if I am his, And he is mine forever.**

**2 Where streams of living water flow, My Savior gently leads me;  
And where the verdant pastures grow, With food celestial feeds me.**

**3 Confused and foolish oft I strayed, But yet in love he sought me  
And on his shoulder gently laid And home, rejoicing, brought me.**

**4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill With you, dear Lord, beside me;  
Your rod and staff my comfort still, Your cross before to guide me.**

**5 You spread a table in my sight, A banquet here bestowing;  
Your oil of welcome, my delight; My cup is overflowing!**

**6 And so through all the length of days Your goodness fails me never.  
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise Within your house forever!**

## Sermon

Ezekiel 34:11-16,23,24 . . . **The King of Love, My Shepherd is.**

- 1) As both God/Man he laid down his life for His sheep.
- 2) He leads us to the rich pastures of His Gospel.
- 3) He restores and protects our souls.

## Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**  
**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.**  
**He descended into hell.**  
**The third day he rose again from the dead.**  
**He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.**  
**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**  
**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

## Offertory Prayer

### Prayer of the Church

- M:** To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power for ever and ever!
- C:** **Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory.**
- M:** You are worthy, O Christ our King, to receive honor and glory and praise, for you created all things and by your will they were created and have their being.
- C:** **Alleluia! For our Lord God Almighty reigns!**
- M:** You are worthy, O Christ our King, to receive honor and glory and praise because you were slain, and with your blood you purchased us for God. From every tribe and language and people and nation, you have called us into your kingdom and have made us priests to serve you, our God and Father.
- C:** **Help us live as royal priests.**
- M:** We give thanks to you, O Christ our Shepherd-King, because you have searched for us and found us. Lead us to the green pastures and quiet waters of your saving love, so that we may enjoy peace and comfort for our souls.
- C:** **Heal our hearts when they are broken with sin and guilt. Strengthen us when we are weak.**

M: We give thanks to you, Lord God Almighty, because you have taken your great power and have begun to reign. Come with your mighty power to break and defeat every evil plan and purpose of the devil, of the ungodly influences and ideas of the world, and of our own sinful nature. Use your power to calm the unrest among nations and peoples so that your kingdom may spread and grow.

**C: Strengthen our confidence in knowing that your kingdom will never be destroyed.**

M: O Christ our King, you have supremacy over all. You will judge the world in righteousness and the peoples with equity. You have destroyed death and brought life and immortality to light through the gospel. Reign in our hearts that we may serve you more faithfully and speak more boldly to others of your saving love.

**C: Praise be to the Lord God, who alone does marvelous deeds. May the whole earth be filled with his glory.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

M: Hear us, Lord, as we bring you our private petitions.

*Silent prayer.*

M: Look, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him. The kingdom of the world has become the kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ, and he will reign for ever and ever, King of kings and Lord of lords.

**C: The Lord God Almighty reigns! Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! Amen.**

### **LORD'S PRAYER**

**C: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people. Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**or**

Almighty God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: (sing) Amen.**

## The Blessing

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: *(sing)* Amen. Amen. Amen.

## Hymn

CW 341 "Crown Him With Many Crowns"

**1 Crown him with many crowns, The Lamb upon his throne;  
Hark how the heav'nly 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.**

**2 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 his wond'ring eye At mysteries so bright.**

**3 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.**

**4 Crown him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above;  
Crown him the King to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of Love.  
Crown him with many crowns As thrones before him fall;  
Crown him, ye kings, with many crowns For he is King of all.**

## Announcements

### ***Church Cleaners:***

December 3 - Peter // December 10 - James



## DIVINE WORD'S TWO-WEEK CALENDAR

**Su (26)**                      **10:30 am**                      **Lay lead Worship**  
    11:30 am                      Coffee Hour

*Pastor will be in the US from November 20<sup>th</sup>-29<sup>th</sup>.  
 If you need to contact him during that time, please use his US phone number  
 (512) 887-8982*

Tu (28)                      7:00 pm                      Council Budget Meeting

Th (30)                      6:00 pm                      Illuminé (at St. Paul's)  
    6:30 pm                      Youth Confirmation (W)

Fr (1)                      3:00 pm                      Women's Bible Study  
    4:30 pm                      Youth Confirmation (D)

**Su (3)**                      **9:00 am**                      **Sunday School and Bible Class**  
    **10:30 am**                      **Worship & Communion**  
    11:30 am                      First Fellowship  
    **3:00 pm**                      **Worship and Communion in Poltimore**

We (6)                      6:30 pm                      "Test the Spirits" Bible Information Class.

Th (7)                      10:30 am                      Devotion at Longfield Manor  
    6:00 pm                      Illuminé (at St. Paul's)  
    6:30 pm                      Youth Confirmation (W)

Fr (8)                      3:00 pm                      Women's Bible Study  
    4:30 pm                      Youth Confirmation (D)  
    6:30 pm                      Friday Fellowship

**Su (10)**                      **9:00 am**                      **Sunday School and Bible Class**  
    **10:30 am**                      **Worship**  
    11:30 am                      Coffee Hour  
    **3:00 pm**                      **Worship and Communion in Poltimore**



## **Divine Word**

### **Evangelical Lutheran Church**

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