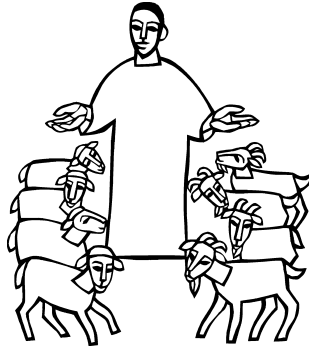


CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY



Christ Our Shepherd Lutheran Church
Peachtree City, Georgia
November 26, 2023
8:30 & 11:00 A.M.

Fritz Wiese, Senior Pastor Miriam Beecher, Pastor
Larry Peterson, Director of Worship and Music

☐ = Pastor ☒ = Lector [reader] ☑ = Congregation *ELW=Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red hymnal)*
⤴ Please stand as you are able.

PRELUDE *This Is My Father's World/He's Got the Whole World in His Hands, Sarah Juhasz, saxophone*
Welcome to worship! Today's worship includes the sacrament of communion. Communion is offered by intinction: you may receive a wafer and dip it in the chalice with wine or white grape juice. Or you may pick up a prefilled communion "kit" on the altar rail as you approach the altar. Please tell an usher if you need a communion kit brought to you where you sit.

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Miriam

⤴ EXCHANGING THE PEACE

☐ The peace of the Lord be with you always

☑ **And also with you.**

We share a sign of God's peace.

⤴ GATHERING HYMN: *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

ELW Hymn 855

- 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 virgin's Son, the God incarnate born,
whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn;
fruit of the mystic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
the root whence mercy ever flows, the babe of Bethlehem.**
- 4 **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.**
- 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 and glory shall not 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.

☞ **And also with you.**

↑ HYMN OF PRAISE: *This is the Feast*

ELW pg. 140

Refrain-This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. *to Refrain*

Power, riches, wisdom and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are his. *to Refrain*

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. *to Refrain*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun his reign. Alleluia. *to Refrain*

↑ PRAYER OF THE DAY

☞ 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.**

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

see insert

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

see insert

↑ GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: *Jesus Shall Reign*

ELW Hymn 434

**1 Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our king;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.**

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.
Text in the Public Domain

↑ GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

see insert

SERMON

Pastor Miriam

↑ HYMN OF THE DAY: *O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us*

ELW Hymn 431

**1 O Christ, what can it mean for us to claim you as our king?
What royal face have you revealed whose praise the church would sing?
Aspiring not to glory's height, to power, wealth, and fame,
you walked a diff'rent, lowly way, another's will your aim.**

**2 You came, the image of our God, to heal and to forgive,
to shed your blood for sinners' sake that we might rise and live.
To break the law of death you came, the law of love to bring:
a diff'rent rule of righteousness, a diff'rent kind of king.**

**3 Though some would make their greatness felt and lord it over all,
you said the first must be the last and service be our call.
O Christ in workplace, church, and home, let none to power cling;
for still, through us, you come to serve, a diff'rent kind of king.**

**4 You chose a humble human form and shunned the world's renown;
you died for us upon a cross with thorns your only crown.
But still, beyond the span of years, our glad hosannas ring,
for now at God's right hand you reign, a diff'rent kind of king!**

Text: Delores Dufner, OSB, b. 1939
Text © 2001, 2003 GIA Publications, Inc., Used by permission. OneLicense #A-701929

↑ OUR PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

- P** Let us confess our baptismal faith together.
- C** **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 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 THE CHURCH

*When the petition concludes "Hear us, O God," please respond, "Your mercy is great."
 The prayers are ended with these words, "We offer our spoken prayers ... through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord." Please respond, "Amen."*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

We acknowledge that you may have already offered your gifts electronically or by mail. Thank you.

Link to give: <https://coslutheran.org/give/>



MUSICAL OFFERING (8:30) *Sarah Juhasz*
 (11:00) *Let All the World in Every Corner Sing, William Mathias, Sanctuary Choir*

↑ THE 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.**
- P** It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of pow'r and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna. Hosanna. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.** —ELW page 144

↑ WORDS OF INSTITUTION

↑ THE LORD'S PRAYER

- C** **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 DISTRIBUTION

*Please approach the altar using the diagonal aisles and return by the side or middle aisles.
 You will be offered a wafer, which you may dip in either the chalice of wine or the white grape juice.
 You may also choose a packaged cup with wine or grape juice, or a gluten-free wafer with wine.*

- C** **Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.** —ELW page 146

COMMUNION HYMN: *The King of Love My Shepherd Is*

ELW Hymn 502

- 1** **The King of love my shepherd is, whose goodness faileth never;
 I nothing lack if I am his and he is mine forever.**

Hymn continues next page.

4

2 **Where streams of living water flow, my ransomed soul he leadeth
and, where the verdant pastures grow, with food celestial feedeth.**

5 **Thou spreadst a table in my sight; thine unction grace bestoweth;
and, oh, what transport of delight from thy pure chalice floweth!**

6 **And so, through all the length of days, thy goodness faileth never.
Good Shepherd, may I sing thy praise within thy house forever.**

Text: Henry W. Baker, 1821-1877
Text in the Public Domain

↑ PASTORAL BLESSING and BENEDICTION

☞ The God of glory, ✝ Jesus Christ, name above all names,
and the Spirit who lives in you, bless you now and forever.

☞ Amen.

↑ SENDING HYMN: *Rejoice, for Christ Is King!*

ELW Hymn 430

1 **Rejoice, for Christ is king! Your Lord and king adore;
rejoice, give thanks, and sing, and triumph evermore:**

Refrain

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

2 **Our Savior Jesus reigns, the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above: *Refrain***

3 **His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
the keys of death and hell are to our Jesus giv'n: *Refrain***

4 **He sits at God's right hand till all his foes submit
and bow to his command and fall beneath his feet: *Refrain***

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788, alt.
Text in the Public Domain

↑ SENDING

☞ Go in peace. God is at work in you. Invite all to join in connecting to Jesus' pathway of joy and life.

☞ Thanks be to God.

↑ POSTLUDE

Copyright © 2023 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS000345.
All scripture this day from the HOLY BIBLE: EASY-TO-READ VERSION ©2014 by Bible League International. Used by permission.
Revised Common Lectionary, Copyright © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts, administered by Augsburg Fortress. Used by permission.

Altar Guild: Pat Oliver, Pat Frye

Lector: (8:30) Sue Blackburn

(11:00) Richard King

Tech crew: (8:30) Davida Kilgore, Dakota Atkins

(11:00) Joni Siefert, Linda Volckmann, Brad Milburn

Usher: (8:30) Stephen Gundersen

(11:00) Pat Oliver

THE LESSONS

Sunday, November 26

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

The Old Testament reading is from Ezekiel , the 34th chapter.

¹¹ The Lord GOD says, “I myself will be their Shepherd. I will search for my sheep and take care of them.

¹² If a shepherd is with his sheep when they begin to wander away, he will go searching for them. In the same way I will search for my sheep. I will save them and bring them back from all the places where they were scattered on that dark and cloudy day.

¹³⁻¹⁴ I will bring them back from those nations. I will gather them from those countries and bring them back to their own land. I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the streams, and in all the places where people live. ¹⁵ Yes, I will feed my flock, and I will lead them to a place of rest.”

¹⁶ “I will search for the lost sheep. I will bring back the sheep that were scattered and put bandages on the sheep that were hurt. I will make the weak sheep strong, ...

but I will destroy the fat and powerful shepherds. I will feed them the punishment they deserve.²⁰⁻²¹ I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the thin sheep! I will say to them: ‘ You push with your side and shoulder. You knock down all the weak sheep with your horns. You push until you have forced them away, ²² so I will save my flock. They will not be caught by wild animals anymore.

²³ Then I will put one shepherd over them, my servant David. He will feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴ Then I, the LORD, will be their God. I, the LORD, have spoken.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

The Old Testament reading is from Ephesians , the 1st chapter.

¹⁵⁻¹⁶ That is why I always remember you in my prayers and thank God for you. I have done this ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all of God’s people. ¹⁷ I always pray to the great and glorious Father, the God of our Lord Jesus Christ.

I pray that he will give you the Spirit, who will let you know truths about God and help you understand them, so that you will know him better.

¹⁸ I pray that God will open your minds to see his truth. Then you will know the hope that he has chosen us to have.

I pray that you will know that the blessings God has promised his holy people are rich and glorious. ¹⁹ And you will know that God’s power is very great for us who believe.

CONGREGATION: It is the same as the mighty power ²⁰ he used to raise Christ from death!

And he put Christ over all rulers, authorities, powers, and kings. He gave him authority over everything that has power in this world or in the next world.

CONGREGATION: ²² God put everything under Christ’s power and made him head over everything for the church. ²³ The church is Christ’s body. It is filled with him. He makes everything complete in every way.

📖 The Word of the Lord.

🙏 Thanks be to God

Gospel on the back ►

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

📖 The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the 25th chapter. 🎙️ **Glory to you, O Lord.**

PASTOR: ³¹“The Son of Man will come again with divine greatness, and all his angels will come with him. He will sit as king on his great and glorious throne. ³²All the people of the world will be gathered before him. Then he will separate everyone into two groups. It will be like a shepherd separating his sheep from his goats. ³³He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. ³⁴“Then the king will say to the godly people on his right,

LECTOR: ‘Come, my Father has great blessings for you. The kingdom he promised is now yours. It has been prepared for you since the world was made. ³⁵It is yours because when I was hungry, you gave me food to eat. When I was thirsty, you gave me something to drink. When I had no place to stay, you welcomed me into your home. ³⁶When I was without clothes, you gave me something to wear. When I was sick, you cared for me. When I was in prison, you came to visit me.’

PASTOR: ³⁷“Then the godly people will answer,

CONGREGATION: ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and give you food? When did we see you thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸When did we see you with no place to stay and welcome you into our home? When did we see you without clothes and give you something to wear? ³⁹When did we see you sick or in prison and care for you?’

PASTOR: ⁴⁰“Then the king will answer,

LECTOR: ‘The truth is, anything you did for any of my people here, you also did for me.’

PASTOR: ⁴¹“Then the king will say to the evil people on his left,

LECTOR: ‘Get away from me. God has already decided that you will be punished. Go into the fire that burns forever—the fire that was prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴²You must go away because when I was hungry, you gave me nothing to eat. When I was thirsty, you gave me nothing to drink. ⁴³When I had no place to stay, you did not welcome me into your home. When I was without clothes, you gave me nothing to wear. When I was sick and in prison, you did not care for me.’

PASTOR: ⁴⁴“Then those people will answer,

CONGREGATION: ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty? When did we see you without a place to stay? Or when did we see you without clothes or sick or in prison? When did we see any of this and not help you?’

PASTOR: ⁴⁵“The king will answer,

LECTOR: ‘The truth is, anything you refused to do for any of my people here, you refused to do for me.’

PASTOR: ⁴⁶“Then these evil people will go away to be punished forever. But the godly people will go and enjoy eternal life.”

📖 The Gospel of the Lord.

🎙️ **Praise to you, O Christ.**