

First Lutheran Church, Morris MN

Order of Worship for Sunday, November 22, 2020: Christ the King Sunday

Gathering

“For where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there among them.” —Matthew 18:20

Welcoming & Announcements

Litany of Thanksgiving and Praise

P: O God, we gather today as your people, from many backgrounds, and family situations. We are challenged in our lives and we have many hopes and fears, sorrows and joys.

C: Lord, please receive us wherever we find ourselves in the journey of life! And receive our praise for your abundant goodness and blessings!

P: Abba, Father, Holy Mystery, Mothering God, you are all of these and more. You have made us stewards of your love. You have created and nurtured all of creation, including our lives, our parents and grandparents, our children, the birds of the air, the wildlands and fields.

C: Air and soil, streams and rivers, lakes and oceans, fields and gardens, butterflies and birds...

P: You have given us seed time and harvest, abundant food and clothing, faith community and schools.

C: You grant us wealth in talents, time, treasure, family, community, and spiritual values; you have given us the knowledge of your ways through the Holy Scriptures and our faith communities throughout the generations. May we use our knowledge, our skills, our wealth, and live out our relationships as stewards of your love.

All: In gratitude for life, for faith, for community, for family and friends, for food and fuel, for Christ Our Savior, and all that you have abundantly blessed us with, we offer our praise and thanks! Amen.

Hymn: “Now Thank We All Our God” #839

1. Now thank we all our God
with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mother’s arms,
has blest us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.
2. Oh, may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
and keep us all in grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all harm
in this world and the next.
3. All praise and thanks to God
the Father now be given,
the Son, and Spirit blest,
who reigns in highest heaven,
the one eternal God,
whom earth and heav’n adore;
for thus it was, is now
and shall be evermore.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, Music: Johann Cruger. Public Domain

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.

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.

Word

Reading: Psalm 95:1-7a

Come, let us sing to the Lord; **let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.**

Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving **and raise a loud shout to the Lord with psalms.**

For you, Lord, are a great God, **and a great ruler above all gods.**

In your hand are the caverns of the earth; **the heights of the hills are also yours.**

The sea is yours, for you made it, **and your hands have molded the dry land.**

Come, let us worship and bow down, **let us kneel before the Lord our maker.**

For the Lord is our God, **and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.**

Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Gospel Acclamation Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia. Alleluia.

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46 (*response after announcement of Gospel: **Glory to you, O Lord***)

"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are

accused, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

*(response after reading of Gospel: **Praise to you, O Christ**)*

Hymn: “Let All Things Now Living” #881

1. Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise,
who fashioned and made us, protected and stayed us,
who still guides us on to the end of our days.
God’s banners are o’er us, God’s light goes before us,
a pillar of fire shining forth in the night,
till shadows have vanished and darkness is banished,
as forward we travel from light into light.
2. God rules all the forces; the stars in their courses
and sun in its orbit obediently shine;
the hills and the mountains, the rivers and fountains,
the deeps of the ocean proclaim God divine.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing;
with glad adoration a song let us raise,
till all things now living united in thanksgiving:
“To God in the highest, hosanna and praise!”

*Text: Katherine K Davis, Music: Swedish folk tune. ©1939, 1966 E.C. Schirmer Music Company.
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Message Pastor Dee Pederson, SW Minnesota Synod Director for Evangelical Mission

Hymn: “Crown Him with Many Crowns” #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.
3. Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bend their burning eyes at mysteries so bright.
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.

Text: Matthew Bridges, Music: George J Elvey. Public Domain.

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 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 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.

Offering/Offertory "Create In Me a Clean Heart" #188

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from me.
Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free spirit.

Music: J.A. Freylinghausen. Public Domain

Prayers

Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Peace *Please share a sign of peace with one another*

Sending

Commitment Time and Benediction Pastor Dee Pederson

Go in peace, serve the Lord!

Thanks be to God!

Remember in your prayers

Mick Rose, those affected by COVID-19, those who serve in the military, families of victims of war, terrorism and violence, those in our nursing homes and those who are homebound. Continue to pray for the overseas missionary we support. Pastor Alex LaChappelle serving as a pastor of Nairobi International Lutheran in Kenya, Africa. Note: you may honor a loved one and support Pastor LaChappelle in Kenya. Contact the church office for information.