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Christ the King
November 22, 2020
 REV. BARB SPAULDING, PASTOR

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go out to show his reign in our loving words and deeds.

(* please stand as you are able) **(Congregation reads bold print)**

Note: Hymns are printed on pages 7-10.

Welcome

***Confession and Forgiveness**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God,
 in whose image we are made,
 who claims us and calls us beloved.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,

we confess that we are not awake for you.

We are not faithful in using your gifts.

We forget the least of our siblings.

We do not see your beautiful image in one another.

We are infected by sin

that divides your beloved community.

Open our hearts to your coming,

open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,

open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children,
 and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through † Jesus you are forgiven,
 by Jesus you are welcome,

in Jesus you are called to rejoice!
Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world. **Amen.**

Opening Hymn "Oh Worship the King"

***Greeting**

The grace of our King, 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.**

First Reading: Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 20-24

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the LORD will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The LORD will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

¹¹Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

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

Psalm: Psalm 95:1-7a

- ¹Come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
- ²Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.
- ³For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.
- ⁴In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.
- ⁵The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.
- ⁶Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.
- ^{7a}**For the LORD is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.**

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I 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, ¹⁸so 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, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God 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, ²¹far 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. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

Kids' Time (especially for our livestream viewers)

***Special Music/Gospel Acclamation "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (piano: Kaleb Brasee)**

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the 25th Chapter. **Glory to You, O Lord.**

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then 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; ³⁵for 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, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷Then 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? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And 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.' ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I 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.' ⁴⁴Then 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?' ⁴⁵Then 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.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to You, O Christ.**

Message

Hymn of the Day "Rejoice for Christ is King"

Blessing for "Chosen Together" confirmation learners and families
(see page 12 for names and pictures)

***Prayers of Intercession**

Looking for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need. *A brief silence.*

Train our ears to hear your cry in the needs of those around us. Bless all social ministries through which we seek to serve others. (silence) Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

Direct our use of creation to provide for the needs of all people in ways that are sustainable for the earth. (silence) Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Bring peace to every place where conflict rages, especially in the hard realities of COVID-19. Move in opportunities to unify and reconcile earthly powers too often divided. Hear us, O God. (silence) **Your mercy is great.**

Heal the sinful systems of oppression and prejudice. Restore our capacity to see your image in those whose dignity we easily overlook. (silence) Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Pour out the gifts of your Spirit on children and youth throughout the church as they grow. Empower Kids' Zone, cross-generational faith formation here, and ministries at colleges and camps where the gifts of young people are nurtured. (silence) Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**
Guide the hearts of your people as willing servants moved by your Spirit in our nominations process and every decision impacting our present connections, witness and outreach. (silence) Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Thank you for those before us and today who have fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and tended to the sick. Inspire us by their example of Christlike charity. (silence) Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, until that day when you offer our full inheritance of the kingdom you have prepared. **Amen.**

***Peace**

Offering (Your gifts are received in the basket on the usher's table)

Offering Prayer

God of all goodness,
generations have turned to you,
gathered around your table,
and shared your abundant blessings.
Number us among them
that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance,
and give thanks for your rich blessings,
we may feast upon your very self
and care for all that you have made,
through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant. **Amen.**

***Words of Institution**

***Lord's Prayer**

***Invitation to Communion**

There is a place for you at the banquet.
Here and now, feast on Christ, the King, who gives you life.

Communion (at our seats)

In silence, with time allowed to assist each other in your family, all remove the seal on the wafer. Pastor says, "The body of Christ, given for you" and all partake together. Then all remove the seal from the cup. Pastor says, "The blood of Christ, shed for you," and all partake together. The hymn follows:

Communion Hymn "Beautiful Savior"

Blessing and Prayer after Communion

Lord Jesus,
in this simple meal you have set a banquet.
Sustain us on the journey,
strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,
and give us glad and generous hearts
as we meet you on the way. **Amen.**

***Sending Blessing**

May the God of all creation,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved,
who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!
The blessing of God,
Sovereign, ✚ Savior, and Spirit,
be with you today and always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Dismissal

Beloved of God,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

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Worship is livestreamed weekly on FB. Our thanks to Jill & Casey for streaming and projection help today.

Communion in worship will be today and 29th. It will also be available those Sundays in the entryway at 10:30. Number limited to 8. Please contact the office if you wish to attend.

Pastor’s sermons are posted (see "Sermons" tab at the bottom of the homepage) weekly—on Mondays--on the TLC website.

Birthdays this week: Today- Susan Christiansen, Mark Kennedy; 23- Mike Hannah, Scott Rumohr; 24- Annette Alfredson; 26- Alan Koehler; 27- Gina Jepsen; 28- Jacob Steffen, Sidney Steffen

No anniversaries this week.

Oh, Worship the King

1 Oh, wor - ship the King, all - glo - rious a - bove.
 2 The earth with its store of won - ders un - told,
 3 Your boun - ti - ful care what tongue can re - cite?
 4 Frail chil - dren of dust, and fee - ble as frail,
 5 O mea - sure - less might, in - ef - fa - ble love,

Oh, grate - ful - ly sing God's pow - er and love;
 Al - might - y, your pow'r has found - ed of old;
 It breathes in the air, it shines in the light,
 in you do we trust, nor find you to fail;
 while an - gels de - light to hymn you a - bove,

our shield and de - fend - er, the An - cient of Days,
 es - tab - lished it fast by a change - less de - cree,
 it streams from the hills, it de - scends to the plain,
 your mer - cies, how ten - der, how firm to the end,
 the hum - bler cre - a - tion, though fee - ble their lays,

pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor, and gird - ed with praise.
 and round it has cast, like a man - tle, the sea.
 and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.
 our mak - er, de - fend - er, re - deem - er, and friend.
 with true ad - o - ra - tion shall sing to your praise.

Text: Robert Grant, 1779–1838, alt.
 Music: HANOVER, William Croft, 1678–1727

Rejoice, for Christ Is King!

1 Re - joice, for Christ is king! Your Lord and king a - dore;
2 Our Sav - ior Je - sus reigns, the God of truth and love;
3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
4 He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub - mit

re - joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove:
the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n:
and bow to his com - mand and fall be - neath his feet:

Refrain

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; re -

joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: LAUS REGIS, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

Beautiful Savior



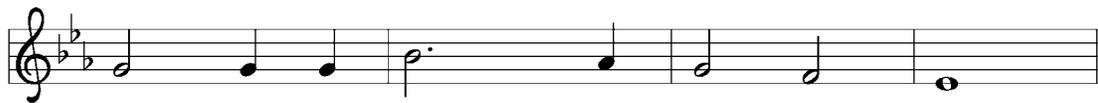
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er,
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

Text: *Gesangbuch*, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904
 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

Crown Him with Many Crowns

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave
 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,

hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
 whose arm those crim - son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
 and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
 No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.
 but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
 thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4
 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893



GIVING TREE 2020 Project

CAA -- 40 names / wrap gifts

LSI -- 10 names / do not wrap gifts

Interested donors, please contact Gloria: Call (873-5107) or text (870-1406) or email

healyfarms@wiatel.net. She will make suggestions considering the donor's wishes (siblings, family units, boy/girl, etc.) and reply with name/gift information.

Please bring gifts to the church library any time up to Sunday, December 13.

For LSI, unwrapped gifts can be brought in a box or shopping bag with name of child. For CAA, gifts can be wrapped with the name/code.

Rather not shop? Gloria is willing to shop online for gifts using gift cards or cash from you—WalMart or per her suggestions. **Rather not wrap?** For those not wanting to wrap the gifts for CAA, a 'wrapping' party is an option (using supplies from the youth fundraiser)

In Our Prayers:

Active military: for friend of TLC, Adam Wiskus, deployed in Africa, and his wife Kasey and daughter Danika; for Bryce Butters and Brady Butters, deployed.

CHRISTMAS CARE PACKAGES FOR THE THREE ABOVE SERVICE MEMBERS WILL BE SENT BY DEC. 1. Please check with the office for details if you wish to include a non-perishable snack, gift or greeting. A box is labeled for your donations. Thank you! If you would like to donate towards postage, it's \$20 for the flat rate.

We also pray for Reed Mitchell at Basic Training in San Antonio.

For those in ongoing cancer treatment: Denise Arpino; Joel Bryan; Doug & Eve Dahlke; "Freddie" Dahmer (Becky Butters' mom)-radiation; Mike Hannah (recovering from and facing more brain surgery); Coni Latimer (Scoop's mother)-radiation; Ryan Mahoney; Staci McNett (Dave Schweder's sister); Lee Novak (Diane Dreves' brother-in-law); Marj Sanderson (weekly treatments)

We also pray for Amber Bock; Carla Boggs; Barb Kunkel; Drake Malm; Tucker Malm; Kelly Martin; those in addictions/recovery, all who are grieving, victims of Covid 19—Skip & Janice Stoddard-- and other illnesses, of natural disasters, and of violence and human trafficking; TLC's nominations process; our local, state and national elected officials.

Our First year "Chosen Together" Confirmation students and parents:



Dylan M.; Carson & Amy C.; Jewel & Pat S.; Natalie, Chris, & Carrie S.; Leah & Mark C.; and Brody & Shannon N.

Not pictured: Ava & Rebecca B., Cameron & Jenny C., Hunter, Payton & Staci L.

Our Second year "Chosen Together" Confirmation students and parents:



Kylie & Becky T; C.J. & Jessie J; Ava & Mike O; Cade & Cindy P; Axton & Rodney L.

Not pictured: Kendra & Kim M.

Offering envelopes for 2021 are on the counter in the office. Please stop and pick yours up.

Pastor's Office hours begin at 10 AM, M- Th and Sat. Your visits at church or elsewhere for check-in, support or prayer are welcome—drop in or by appointment.

Teresa's office hours are: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday 9-2

The building will be closed for disinfecting weekly. A sign will be posted on the front door during these closures.

November Worship Assistants

Scripture Reader: Kim Steffen
Organist: Ruth Chartier

Altar Guild: Cindy & Gail Ploen
Accountants: Kim Steffen & Denny Bain

December Worship Assistants

Scripture Reader: Bret Hayworth
Organist: Ruth Chartier

Altar Guild: Roger & Susan
Christiansen
Accountants: Steve & Lisa Rippke

This Week's Events: Nov 22-28

Sun. Volunteers: Rebecca Brockhaus and Cindy Ploen
9:00am Christ The King- Worship with Communion & Social Distancing
Nominating committee meets following service
10:30am Individual Communion by appointment
11:00am Fellowship on Zoom. Drop in to check in!

Tues. 7:00pm AA (Contact person is Larry S. 712-251-4207)

Wed. NO Kids' Zone
NO "Chosen Together" confirmation

Thurs. A Blessed Thanksgiving!
We won't gather for worship, but Pastor's Thanksgiving message will be available online and the text posted on our website. Thanksgiving offerings go to the general fund.

Fri. Office closed

Next Week's Events: Nov 29-Dec 5

Sun. Volunteers: TBA
9:00am 1st Sunday in Advent Worship with Communion & Social Distancing
10:30am Individual Communion by appointment
11:00am Fellowship on Zoom. Drop in to check in!

Tues. 7:00pm AA (Contact person is Larry S. 712-251-4207)

Wed. 6:00 on Zoom- Kids' Zone
5:45-6:30 (6:45-7:30 if needed) "Chosen Together" confirmation
Advent service- Pastor will record a message- further information in next week's bulletin

Fri. Office closed

**"Gather, Grow & Go!"
7 p.m., Wednesdays, Nov. & Dec. 2020**

WHAT: "Gather, grow, and go!"
Adult Faith Exploring Luther's Small Catechism

WHEN: Wednesdays, 7 p.m., Nov. 18; Dec 2, 9, 16

WHERE: ZOOM - Ask your pastor for Zoom link.

HOW: Gather together, grow & deepen our faith; go strive to live following Jesus.

LOOKING AHEAD TO DECEMBER: We will provide monthly information (mini-newsletter) by the first week in December rather than weekly announcements.

Ongoing recycling project: The Community Basket is collecting any size plastic lids from bottles or food containers. (except **black**) The Elks Club turns them into picnic tables. A box is labeled by the coat rack in the entryway, or drop them off at the thrift shop on Main St. during their posted hours. Thank you!

Note: If you have any notes/messages for the bulletin, please submit them to the church office by Thursday morning at 10 a.m. Thank you!

On Ushers' Table:

- Basket for offerings
- Christ in Our Home devotionals October-December

God's work. Our gifts.— Our budget needs each week.... \$2,816.00

General Offerings	\$ 1,245.00
Electronic Giving	\$ 180.45
<u>Mission Support</u>	<u>\$ 0.00</u>
Our gifts to God—Total	\$ 1,425.45

Thank you to all who support with prayers and gifts the ministry we share!

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Facebook: Trinity Lutheran Church, Merville Website: www.trinitylutheranmerville.org

E-mail: teresa.at.trinity@gmail.com or tlchurch@wiatel.net

Baptized believers sent into God's world to share God's love and grace.
