



*Palentine*  
Lutheran Church

## **CHRIST THE KING (Lectionary 34)**

November 22, 2020

*Reaching Out in Christian Love to All*

1375 Highway 210

Huxley, IA 50124

**Pastor: Eric Klimpel**

Pastor's Email: [ericklimpel@gmail.com](mailto:ericklimpel@gmail.com)

Pastor's Office: 515-597-2620

Pastor's cell phone: 936-444-3895

Youth Liaison: Nels Dovre

Secretary's Office: 515-597-2624

Church Email: [palestinelutheran@gmail.com](mailto:palestinelutheran@gmail.com)

Church Website: [www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com)

## Christ the King (Lectionary 34)

November 22, 2020

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 forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

\*=Stand as you are able **Bold Print** = congregation responds

**ELW**=Red Evangelical Lutheran Worship

Ringling of the Bell and Prelude

**GATHERING** *The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.*

### \*THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
the fountain of living water,  
the rock who gave us birth,  
our light and our salvation.

**Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism,  
we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness.  
Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism.

*Water may be poured into the font as the presiding minister gives thanks.*

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery

into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit.

By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever.

**Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG    Beautiful Savior                    ELW 838 (v 1.4)**

Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904  
Music: Silesian folk tune, 19th cent. Public domain.

## 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!  
 robbed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;  
 bright in 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: Gesavahrvá, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823-1904  
 MUSIC: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

## **\*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**

Let us pray.

**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** *God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

### **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.*

<sup>11</sup>Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As 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. <sup>13</sup>I 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. <sup>14</sup>I 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. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup>I 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.

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

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

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

#### **PSALM: Psalm 95:1-7a**

<sup>1</sup>Come, let us sing to the LORD;

**let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.**

<sup>2</sup>Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving

**and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

<sup>3</sup>For you, LORD, are a great God,

**and a great ruler above all gods.**

<sup>4</sup>In your hand are the caverns of the earth;

**the heights of the hills are also yours.**

<sup>5</sup>The sea is yours, for you made it,

**and your hands have molded the dry land.**

<sup>6</sup>Come, let us worship and bow down,

**let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

<sup>7a</sup>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.*

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

The word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## **\*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.*

The holy gospel according to Matthew the 25<sup>th</sup> chapter.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] <sup>31</sup>“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. <sup>32</sup>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, <sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>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; <sup>35</sup>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, <sup>36</sup>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.’ <sup>37</sup>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? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ <sup>40</sup>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.’ <sup>41</sup>Then 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; <sup>42</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>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.’ <sup>44</sup>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?’ <sup>45</sup>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.’ <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE – *Please stay in your pews***



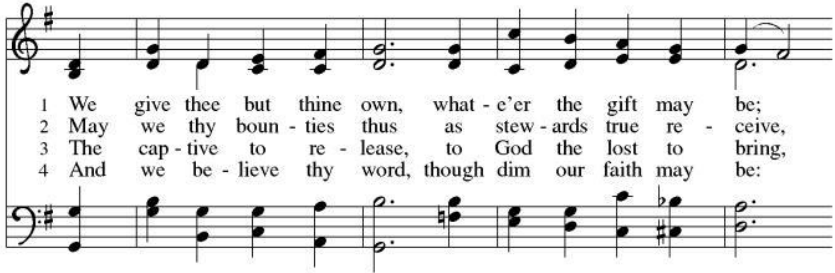
## SERMON

## HYMN OF THE DAY

ELW 686 (v. 1,2)

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.; Music: L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850. Public domain.

### We Give Thee but Thine Own



1 We give thee but thine own, what-e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun-ties thus as stew-ards true re-ceive,  
3 The cap-tive to re-lease, to God the lost to bring,  
4 And we be-lieve thy word, though dim our faith may be;



all that we have is thine a-lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad-ly, as thou bless-est us, to thee our first-fruits give.  
to teach the way of life and peace—it is a Christ-like thing.  
what-e'er we do for thine, O Lord, we do it un-to thee.

Text: William W. How, 1823-1897, alt.  
Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, *Cantica Lauda*, 1850

## \*APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

**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 INTERCESSION**

Longing 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.*

Sovereign of all, train our ears to hear your cry in the needs of those around us. Bless all social ministries of the church through which we seek to serve others as we ourselves have been served.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

You cause rain to fall on the just and unjust alike. Direct our use of creation to provide for the needs of all people in ways that are sustainable for the earth.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Bring peace to every place where conflict rages. Grant opportunities for ending divisions among us and usher in your reign of unity and reconciliation.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Heal the sinful divisions we erect between us and release us from systems of oppression and prejudice. Restore our capacity to see your image in those whose dignity we have stripped away.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Pour out the gifts of your Spirit on children and youth throughout the church. Sustain those who work in children’s ministry, youth ministry, and campus ministry as they nurture the gifts of young people.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Please watch over those in need of our prayers, especially:

<b>Prayer Requests:</b>	Dianne Blackmer	Anita Brendeland
Dick Brown	Penny Brown	Joan Carson
Alisha Cox	Bev Echtenkamp	Lowell Elliott
Jackie Greene	Dolores Hauge	Christa Hartsook
Warren Johnson	Dick Kepler	Kevin Klingbeil
Alvina Larson	Ardell Lundgren	Merlin Lyon
Mary Martin	Loree Ness	Deidre Qual
Shannon Tope	Joyce Volz	Sarah JoAnn Young
Phil Zeller		
<b><i>Emergency workers, health workers, neighbors</i></b>		

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

Thank you for saints now departed who fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and tended to the sick. Inspire us by their example, that we may see your presence in those in need around us.

Hear us, O God.

**Your mercy is great.**

We especially pray for those recently departed from us:

Family & friends of Angie Claude, Arlene Wee, Judy Smith, Sharon Mortenson, Valerie Brendeland, Sue Ihle, Ralph Kalsem, Dean Simmons, Charles Brendeland, Tanner Houseman, Rev. LeRoy Dobbe, Jimmy Young, Darrell Rout, John Maier, Elaine Pote, Travis Ellis, John Johnson, Mae Rivard, Doris Ness, Nathan Stupka

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

**Amen.**

## **Presentation of the Bible**

*Rex Clark, Avery Dykstra, Trice Elliott,  
Samantha Ewing, Drake Klingbeil, Eden Richter*

*A representative of the congregation may present a Bible to each person. These or similar words may be spoken:*

## **Milestone Ministry – Presentation of Bibles**

One of the promises that parents and sponsors make during baptism is to place in their children's hands the Holy Scripture. Today our third graders step over another milestone of faith development as they receive "adult" Bibles. These Bibles will serve them in their personal use, Sunday School, Confirmation and group Bible study.

## **Presentation**

Each child's family will gather at the baptismal font. A member of the Education Committee gives the Bible to the parents who hand the Bible to the child.

**Instruction** (spoken by Pastor Eric) 2 Timothy 3:16-17 (NRSV)

All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

**Encouragement** (spoken by parents & sponsors as a group)

Receive this Bible. As we promised when you were baptized, we place God's Word in your hands.

Hear God's Word with us. Learn and tell the stories of this marvelous book.

**Blessing** (spoken by Congregation)

**May God bless this Bible which is given to you today. Discover its mysteries, depth, and wonders as you grow. Rejoice in its good news of love and grace. May God's life-giving Word inspire you and make you wise and faithful all your days. Amen.**

**\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

**OFFERING**

**\*OFFERING PRAYER**

Let us pay.

**Blessed are you, O God, ruler of heaven and earth. Day by day you shower us with blessings. As you have raised us to new life in Christ, give us glad and generous hearts,**

ready to praise you and to respond to those in need,  
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.**

**\*LORD'S PRAYER**

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

**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.**

**SENDING** *God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.*

**\*BLESSING**

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.

**Amen.**

**SENDING SONG**

**Soon And Very Soon**

**ELW 439 (v. 1,4)**

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945; Music: Andraé Crouch; Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing. Reprinted under CCLI #2551458

## Soon and Very Soon



- 1 Soon and ver - y soon
- 2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
- 3 No more dy - in' there,
- 4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dy - in' there,  
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon  
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,  
no more dy - in' there,  
soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

*Coda after stanza 4*



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

Duplication in any form prohibited without permission or valid license from copyright administrator.

## **\*DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is with you.

**Thanks be to God.**

Ringing of the Bell

Postlude

For streaming and printing:

Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS025376.

New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved. OneLicense A708142 and CCLI #2551458

### **Those Serving in Today's Service**

Pastor: Eric Klimpel

Accompanist: Mindy DeVries

Youth Liaison: Nels Dovre

*Technicians:* Brent Emerson, Austin Klimpel

### **This Week at Palestine**

Today, November 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2020 Christ the King Sunday

8:00 a.m. ZOOM Dawn Dialog

9:30 a.m. Worship;

Tuesday, November 24th, 2020

6:30 p.m. ZOOM Bible study

Wednesday, November 25th, 2020

7:00 a.m. Men's Bible Study

12:00 noon ZOOM Prayer time

1:00 p.m. Quilters

No Confirmation

Sunday, November 29, 2020 *First Day of Advent*

8:00 a.m. ZOOM Dawn Dialog

9:30 a.m. Worship

Advent wreath kits available to pick up (*Donations welcome*)

Lectionary texts: Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37



### Thank you for your Gifts for Ministry

THANK YOU!!! We celebrate your generosity and thank you in advance for your support as we strive to reach our average weekly offering goal of \$4,427 for current expenses and \$68 for benevolence.

### Prayer from Southeastern Iowa Synod E-News:

Ask for God's mercy and forgiveness when we fail to respect our neighbor, care for their needs and love them as Jesus loves us. Pray that our faith will shine in the world through bold yet humble acts of justice, mercy, empathy, advocacy, care and love.

## Tithes & Offering

Palestine will accept your offering!

1. **Bring** to worship service with you and place in offering plates.
2. **Mail** check to:  
Palestine Lutheran Church  
1375 HWY 210  
Huxley, IA 50124
3. **Give online through Easy Tithe.**

Go to our website [www.plchuxley.com](http://www.plchuxley.com) and click on the bright red ONLINE GIVING tab on the right located above our "Reaching out in Christian love to all" statement.

*Thank you. Continue to pray and know God is with us.*



Virtual event this year!  
**Deadline for Videos to be  
submitted is  
Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup>!**





## **Christmas Extravaganza**

**Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup>**

**9 a.m. – noon**

**Drive-through style!**

The R.O.C.K. Group is still planning on having their annual Christmas Extravaganza but it will look a little different this year.

Unfortunately, we will not be able to have vendors and "cookie shopping" like we usually do, but will still be selling pre-boxed cookies of different varieties and sizes.

We plan to have a cookie drive through/pick up. Come to the west side under the portico and someone will greet you to take your order!

**Pricing: \$5 small box, \$10 medium box, \$20 large box**

**Please have exact change or make check**

**payable to ROCK Group.**

**Some Nut-free boxes will be available also!**

**Donations requested from the congregation!** Let McKenzie know how many and what kind of baked goods you would like to donate - [kenziek399@gmail.com](mailto:kenziek399@gmail.com), 515-203-0301. We have some amazing bakers in our congregation and always look forward to what you create for us to share! Please bring donated items to the church kitchen by Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup>!

## **ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT PALESTINE**

### **Midweek Advent Services:**

- Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> @ 7:30 p.m.  
*Service of Lament and Hope*
- Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> @ 7 p.m.  
*Blue Christmas*
- Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 p.m. *Fear Not! – A Service for Advent*
- Wednesday, December 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 7:30 p.m.  
*Service of Hope and Expectation*

### **Christmas Eve:**

*Nativity of Our Lord; Holy Communion*

- |        |                                       |
|--------|---------------------------------------|
| 3 p.m. | <i>3 services to allow for social</i> |
| 5 p.m. | <i>distancing. Stay tuned for</i>     |
| 7 p.m. | <i>further details.</i>               |

### **Christmas Day:**

*Nativity of Our Lord; Holy Communion*

Living room Worship (pre-recorded) to post by 1 p.m.

**Advent Special Offerings support the Palestine Confirmation class Youth for their confirmation trip. Due to COVID-19 fundraising for this trip has been depleted. Thank you!**

**Welcome to Worship!** We're glad you're here (physically or virtually), guests and members alike, and pray that you will find in our worship an opportunity to praise God and hear God's Word.

### **Action and Reflection (Based on Matthew 25)**

The story of the sheep and the goats in Matthew 25 begins with the Son of Man on a throne. It is an image of a king sitting in judgment. In any era of human history, this image of an all-powerful ruler sitting in judgement would be consistent with our images of power and authority. What follows runs against all of our expectations. The king connects his presence to the people who are poor and oppressed. This does not fit our human practices of power. Even a benevolent leader is not seen in the presence of the least among us.

Though Jesus makes this connection, it is easy to read this story and get hooked into the power dynamics of judgment. We may wonder if we are a sheep or a goat and think about this status in an eternal sense as it relates to our relationship with God. This heavy reflection may lead us to think we might somehow have to earn our way into God's grace.

The theology of the cross finds Jesus exercising his kingship through the weakness of the cross. From the resurrection that follows this death, we receive the gift of life. This gift comes with the freedom to leave aside worries about eternity in favor of attending to faithful living today. If Jesus frees us from concern about our relationship with God, the story of the sheep and the goats becomes more of a checklist for grace-filled living than a scorecard for eternity. It becomes an invitation and a guide rather than an indictment.

Included in this invitation is an opportunity for reflection. Neither the sheep nor the goats realize how their actions have or have not been faithful. In this way the story gives us a simple gift by which to measure our path in faith and reflect on the ways we spend our days.