

November 22, 2020 - Christ the King Sunday, the Last Sunday of the Church Year

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Prelude: “Song for Sienna,” & Top 50 Praise Songs Disc 3, Song # 13 “**Lord I lift your Name on High**”

Welcome & Announcements

Prayer of Confession

P: Let us pray...Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of Your Holy Spirit that we may perfectly love You and worthily magnify Your holy name, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen**

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. (brief silence)

L: Most merciful God

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen

Absolution: Words of Comfort and Forgiveness

Hymn of **Thanksgiving and Praise:** 100 Best Loved Hymns Disc 2, **Song #16 “Now Thank We All Our God”**

Psalm of the Day: Psalm 95 A Call to Worship and Obedience (please read the bold lines responsively)

¹ O come, let us sing to the LORD; **let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

² Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving; **let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!**

³ For the LORD is a great God, **and a great King above all gods.**

⁴ In His hand are the depths of the earth; **the heights of the mountains are His also.**

⁵ The sea is His, for He made it, **and the dry land, which His hands have formed.**

⁶ O come, let us worship and bow down, **let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**

⁷ For He is our God, **and we are the people of His pasture,**

and the sheep of His hand. **O that today we would listen to His voice!**

Prayer of the Day: **O God of power and might, your Son shows us The Way to love and serve our neighbors with thanksgiving in our hearts. In Jesus, the Good Shepherd, we inherit the ability to be gracious to all. Give us wisdom to discern what is right and the strength to live out service in this World, through the risen Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Invitation to participate in the prayers of the church:

L: “Forgiven through grace and filled by the Spirit, let us join the whole people of God in Christ Jesus by praying for the church, our nation, the world, those in need, and all of God’s creation. Let us bring our hopes and needs to our God who listens.” (brief silence)

P: Mighty Counselor, we lift to you all nations of the world, that they will come to the knowledge of your Peace that surpasses human understanding, that leaders would be wise in decision-making, and strive to protect the

innocent and helpless. Let us be instruments of “justice that flows like water”. *Lord in your mercy.* C: **Hear our prayer.**

Gracious Heavenly Father, for all our brothers and sisters in need, teach us how to best tend to their wounds, hurts, and challenges, bringing them healing, hope, and the loving comfort of their faith community. We especially pray for (list). *Lord in your mercy.* C: **Hear our prayer.**

Ever-present God, for our congregation, and all who seek your face, we pray that in the midst of plague and pandemic we may worthily proclaim your love, joy and peace in our families, neighborhoods, and community. We especially uphold the families of Marian Larson, Phyllis Larson, Wayne Larson, Marty & Michelle Levin, & James & Jamie London. *Lord in your mercy.* C: **Hear our prayer.**

Gentle Savior, for all your mercies, your guidance, and the inspiration of all the faithful who have gone before us, we give you thanks and praise. We especially thank you for those we mention silently before you now. (pause) *Lord in your mercy.* C: **Hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, receive our prayers asking for protection and guidance, as well as thanksgiving. You are our hope for the future. In you is our Joy and Peace, through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Hymn in **Preparation to Hear** the Word: Best Loved Hymns CD 1 song #8 “**The Lord is My Shepherd, I’ll Not Want.**” Blue hymnal #694

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-24 “The True Shepherd”

For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹² 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. ¹³ **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. ¹⁴ 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. ¹⁵ **I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will give them rest, says the Lord GOD.** ¹⁶ **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.

¹⁷ As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord God: I shall judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and goats: ¹⁸ Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, but you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture? When you drink of clear water, must you foul the rest with your feet? ¹⁹ And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have fouled with your feet?

²⁰ Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹ Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²² I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³ I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David’s son, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴ **And I, the LORD, will be their God,** and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23 “Paul’s Prayer”

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

for the church, ²³ which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

“Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.” Psalm 119:105 Songs 4 Worship Song #2 Blue Hymnal #184

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46 (NRSV)

“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. ³² 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, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

³⁴ 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; ³⁵ 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, ³⁶ 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.**’

³⁷ 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? ³⁸ And **when** was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And **when** was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’

⁴⁰ 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.’

⁴¹ 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; ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ 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.’

⁴⁴ 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?’

⁴⁵ 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.**’

⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

P: The Word of the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God**

Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.”

CHILDREN’S SERMON/SERMON

Hymn of Faith:100 Best Loved Hymns Disc 1, **Song 5 “Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us”** P. 688 blue hymnal

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and Earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day, he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

P: THE PEACE OF THE LORD BEWITH 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. **C: It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is truly right and salutary ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn...

“Awesome God” Songs 4 Worship CD song #3

Words of Institution (Jesus own sermon to us)

The Lord’s Prayer

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.

L: The body of Christ given for you; the blood of Christ shed for you. C: **Amen**

Distribution Songs John Michael Talbot song # 1 **“Table of Plenty”** plays during the distribution.

By Dan Schutte

Come to the feast of heaven and earth! Come to the table of plenty!

God will provide for all that we need, here at the table of plenty.

O come and sit at my table, where saints and sinners are friends.

CD #8 John Michael Talbot, **“One Bread, One Body”** John Michael Talbot.

One bread, one body; One Lord of all. One cup of blessing which we bless.

And we, though many; Throughout the earth. We are one body in this one Lord: Gentile or Jew

Servant or free; Woman or man, no more (repeat)

The Communion Blessing & Benediction

P: Our Shepherd is alive, and God is with us! **C: And that makes all the difference!**

Closing Hymn: Best Loved Hymns CD 2, song #8 "O God Our Help in Ages Past" Words in Blue Hymnal p. 686.

P: Go in Peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks Be to God.**

Recessional: Long Play Thanksgiving Song #1 **“He has Made Me Glad/The Lord is King”** #214 Blue Hymnal