



A Congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church In America

REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY

November 22, 2020 - 10:00 AM



Welcome to Trinity Lutheran Church

As disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, socioeconomic statuses, appearances, family status and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another. All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

The Altar Flowers are given to the Glory of God and in memory of their parents, Don and Jo Millar and Bill and Carolyn Potts by David and Donna Potts.

SERVING TODAY

Presiding Minister

Susan J. Crowell

Preaching and Assisting Minister

Luke Delasin

Pianist

Jim Parham

Cantor

Bob & Sheryl Schirmer

Lectors

Bob Schirmer

Lisa Rehm

Video Direction and Production

Henry Wilcox

GATHERING

PRELUDE

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.

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

**To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet
perfume shall rise with ev'ry morning sacrifice.**

**People and realms of ev'ry tongue dwell on his
love with sweetest song; and infant voices
shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.**

**Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the pris'ners
leap to lose their chains, the weary find
eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.**

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

GREETING AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

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.

Sit

WORD

FIRST READING

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

A reading from Ezekiel.

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.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

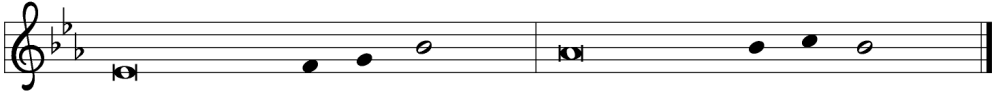
PSALM

The refrain is introduced by the cantor

Psalm 95:1-7a

*Thereafter, the congregation is invited to sing without introduction.**Psalm
Refrain*

We are the peo- ple of God's pas- ture and the sheep of God's hand.

*Psalm
Tone*¹Come, let us sing | to the LORD;

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

²**Let 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 a- | bove all gods.⁴**In your hand are the caverns | of the earth;
the heights of the hills are | also yours. R**⁵The sea is yours, | for you made it,
and your hands have molded | the dry land.⁶**Come, 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. **R**

SECOND READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

A reading from Ephesians.

¹⁵From the time I first heard of your faith in Christ Jesus and your love for all of the holy ones, ¹⁶I have never stopped thanking God for you and remembering you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the God of glory, will give you a spirit of wisdom and of revelation to bring you to a rich knowledge of the Creator. ¹⁸I pray that God will enlighten the eyes of your mind that you can see the hope this call holds for you – the promised glories that God's holy ones will inherit, ¹⁹and the infinitely great power that is exercised for us who believe. You can tell this from the strength of God's power at work in Jesus, ²⁰the power used to raise Christ from the dead and to seat Christ in heaven at God's right hand, ²¹far above every sovereignty, authority, power or dominion, and above any other name that be named – not only in this age, but also in the age to come, ²²God has put all things under Christ's feet and made Christ, as the ruler of everything, the head of the church, ²³and the church is Christ's body; it's the fullness of the One who fills all creation.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Stand as able

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31-46

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Matthew, the twenty fifth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³¹At the appointed time the Promised One will come in glory, escorted by all the angels of heaven, and will sit upon the royal throne, ³²with all the nations assembled below. Then the Promised One will separate them from one another, as a shepherd divides the sheep from the goats.³³The sheep will be placed on the right hand, the goats on the left. ³⁴”The ruler will say to those on the right, ‘Come, you blessed of my God! Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the creation of the world! ³⁵For I was hungry and you fed me; I was thirsty and you gave me drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me; ³⁶I was naked and you clothed me. I was ill and you comforted me; in prison and you came to visit me.’ ³⁷Then these just will ask, ‘When did we see you hungry and feed you, or see you thirst and give you drink? ³⁸When did we see you as a stranger and invite you in, or clothe you in your nakedness? ³⁹When did we see you ill or in prison and come to visit you?’⁴⁰The ruler will answer them, ‘The truth is, every time you did this for the least of my siblings you did it for me.’⁴¹Then the ruler will say to those on the left, ‘Out of my sight, you accursed ones! Into that everlasting fire prepared for the Devil and the fallen angels! ⁴² 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 gave me no welcome; naked and you gave me no clothing. I was ill and in prison and you did not visit me.’⁴⁴Then they in turn will ask, ‘When did we see you hungry or thirsty, or homeless or naked, or ill or in prison and not take care of you?’⁴⁵The answer will come, ‘The truth is, as often as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these, you neglected to do it to me.’⁴⁶They will go off to eternal punishment, and the just will go off to eternal life.’

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.*Sit*

**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 different, lowly way, another's will your aim.
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 different rule of righteousness, a different kind of king.
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 different kind of king.
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 different kind of king!**

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 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

As we are gathered in our homes on this the last Sunday of the church year, let us pray to see God's reign in the church, in the world, and with all in need.

Great God, we praise you for sustaining the church through another year of grace. Continue to shepherd your people with your tender care. Sustain the social ministries of the body of Christ, and increase ecumenical sharing of opportunities for ministry.

You are the great and holy God:

In mercy, receive our prayers.

Sustain the world that you have made, the heights of the hills, the seas and the dry land. Guard the animals during the winter months, and direct our use of creation to provide for the needs of all. Be a source of strength and refuge for all weathering severe storms.

You are the great and renewing God:

In mercy, receive our prayers.

Bring peace to every place where conflict rages, that your reign may be honored throughout the world. Be with the people of Armenia, Ethiopia, and Hong Kong. Bless the work of the United Nations and of agencies that promote the wellbeing of all peoples.

You are the great and peacemaking God:

In mercy, receive our prayers.

Bring a peaceful conclusion to the American national elections. Bless all the newly elected officials with a love of concord and a desire for justice. Turn us away from historic prejudices, and show us your image in each of our neighbors.

You are the great and reconciling God:

In mercy, receive our prayers.

Visit American homes on Thanksgiving Day. When we are separated from loved ones, embrace us with your care. Keep gatherings safe. Even in our reduced celebrations, give us voices to offer thanks to you for your perpetual blessings.

You are the great and generous God:

In mercy, receive our prayers.

We beg you to end the earth's pandemic. Bring healing to the millions who are suffering from the coronavirus – any who are sick, dying, despairing, isolated, unemployed, and all exhausted medical workers. Guide researchers in developing a vaccine.

You are the great and healing God:

In mercy, receive our prayers.

Show your loving power to all who are in need.

Equip us to feed the hungry,
to provide clean water for the thirsty,
to welcome the stranger,
to clothe the naked,
to care for the sick,
to visit the prisoners.

We pray especially for. . . .

You are the great and gracious God:

In mercy, receive our prayers.

We appeal to you, Sovereign God, we who are like both the sheep and the goats, and we ask that in compassion you will hear the prayers of our own hearts.

You are the great and loving God:

In mercy, receive our prayers.

We praise you for all the saints who have died in the faith, especially this week for the hymnwriter Isaac Watts, who gave us words to praise the reign of Christ. At the end of all things, bring us together with all the saints into your kingdom of joy.

You are the great and eternal God:

In mercy, receive our prayers.

Receive our prayers, O triune God: Father of glory, Lord Jesus Christ, and Spirit of wisdom, now and forever.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

Peace be with you.

☞ Peace be with you.

*Worshippers are invited to use their phones to text now or make a call later today
to extend a message of peace to someone you love and care about.*

Sit

OFFERING AND ANTHEM

*Online giving is available by texting TLCGIVE to 73256,
or by following the link on the homepage of the website, www.trinitylutheran.ws.
Offering may also be mailed to the Church Office at 421 North Main St., Greenville, SC 29601.*

*O Christ the Same - LBW 760
Bob and Sheryl Schirmer*

**The trumpets sound the angels sing, the feast is
ready to begin. The gates of heav'n are open wide,
and Jesus welcomes you inside.**

**Tables are laden with good things; oh, taste the
peace and joy he brings. He'll fill you up with love divine;
he'll turn your water into wine.**

**The hungry heart he satisfies, offers the
poor his paradise. Now hear all heav'n and earth applaud
the amazing goodness of the Lord.**

Refrain

***Sing with thankfulness songs of pure delight.
Come and revel in heaven's love and light.
Take your place at the table of the King.
The feast is ready to begin;
the feast is ready to begin.***

Stand as able

Let us pray. 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.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
that we should at all times and in all places
give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -



san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who



comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

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.**

Sit

COMMUNION

All, without exception, are welcome at the table of God's grace and love. Anyone preferring not to receive the wine may receive only the bread, completely trusting that the full benefit of communion — Christ's grace and forgiveness — may be found in either the bread or wine.

Worshippers who gather with family at home are invited to share the bread and wine with each other using these words spoken directly to each person, "The body of Christ given for you," and "The blood of Christ shed for you."

Worshippers who are gathering with the community from their individual homes are invited to receive the bread and wine while saying these words, "The body of Christ given for me," and "The blood of Christ shed for me."

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

**Lord of glory, you have bought us with your life blood
as the price, never grudging for the lost ones that
tremendous sacrifice; and with that have freely given
blessing countless as the sand to the unthankful
and the evil with your own unsparing hand.**

**Grant us hearts dear Lord, to give you gladly, freely,
of your own. With the sunshine of your goodness melt our
thankless hearts of stone till our cold and selfish natures,
warmed by you, at length believe that more happy
and more blessed 'tis to give than to receive.**

**Wondrous honor you have given to our humblest
charity in your own mysterious sentence, "You have
done it all to me." Naked, sick, in prison, hungry
in the least, your face we view, saying by your
poor and needy, "Give as I have giv'n to you."**

**Lord of glory, you have bought us with your life blood
as the price, never grudging for the lost ones that
tremendous sacrifice. Give us faith to trust you boldly,
hope, to stay our souls on you: but, oh, best of
all your graces, with your love our love renew.**

Stand as able

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Amen.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

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

Soon and Very Soon

#439

**Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!**

**No more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more cryin' there, we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!**

**No more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dyin' there, we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!**

**Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King.
Hallelujah, hallelujah, we're goin' to see the King!
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah.**

Please stay close to your screen for the Opening Session of the Annual Meeting of the Congregation.

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE

O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us

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O, Christ the Same

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