



Saint Peter's Lutheran Church

November 23, 2025

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Christ the King Sunday: November 23, 2025

* Indicates to stand as you are able. P=Pastor, C=Congregation, A=Assisting Minister, L=Lector

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

*P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

***C: Amen.**

*P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(Silence for reflection)

Faithful God,

***C: you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.**

*P: Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, ☩ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

***C: Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN Crown Him With Many Crowns v. 1 ELW 855

APOSTOLIC GREETING

*P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. ***C: And also with you.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

*P: O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and

Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

***C: Amen.**

P: This last Sunday of the Christian year, Christ the King, is the climax of the churches liturgical journey through the life of Christ, a bridge between the completed year and the beginning of a new year. Scripture and song guide the journey of Christ.

During the past 12 months, we have travelled through the Christian Church year. Jesus was birthed in a stable, walked the dusty hillsides of Galilee, opened blind eyes, made the lame walk, taught the multitudes, was crucified, and rose again. We celebrated the Holy Spirit and reflected on the mission of the church.

Today we celebrate Christ as past, present, and future king over all the earth.

ADVENT

The church year begins with advent; We hear the silence of the prophets and experience the breathless waiting of the Israelites hoping for a Messiah. We sing the song “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” with longing, not because we seek a Messiah yet to come to the world but because the Christ has come and we long for him to return. The quiet pace of advent is in contrast to the bustling commercialism of the secular holidays. We begin our new year focusing on our need to renew our relationship to this King who shall return.

FIRST READING – Isaiah 40:1-5

40 Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God. ² Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins.

³ A voice cries out: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. ⁴ Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. ⁵ Then the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

CHRISTMAS

In the season of Christmas, the colors are white and gold, a celebration of the purity of the infant who was born in the Manger, and yet a King who dwells with his people. Christmas Day is the culmination of the waiting of the Advent season, and the beginning of the 12 days of celebration as we rejoice in the gift of our Savior and the rebirth of grace in our lives.

SECOND READING – John 1:1-14

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴ in him was life,^[a] and the life was the light of all people. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸ He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹ The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.^[b]

¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world came into being through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to what was his own,^[c] and his own people did not accept him. ¹² But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son,^[d] full of grace and truth.

EPIPHANY

Epiphany means “to make known,” and in this season we remember the ways God comes in Jesus Christ. The Wise Men brought gifts to the infant Jesus and were the first Gentiles to acknowledge Jesus as King and were the first to “show” Jesus to a wider world as the Incarnate Christ. Epiphany

focuses on the mission of the church in reaching others by “showing” Jesus as the savior of all people.

THIRD READING – Isaiah 60:1-6

Arise, shine, for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ² For darkness shall cover the earth and thick darkness the peoples, but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. ³ Nations shall come to your light and kings to the brightness of your dawn.

⁴ Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together; they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried in their nurses' arms. ⁵ Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice,^[a] because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you; the wealth of the nations shall come to you. ⁶ A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

HYMN

We Three Kings Of Orient Are v.1

WOV 646

CHILDREN'S SERMON

LENT

With the ashes of Ash Wednesday on our foreheads, the sanctuary colors of Lent turned to a somber violet and then to black at the end of Passion Week. Throughout the six weeks of Lent, we walk the length of Jesus's three years of ministry. Lent calls us to look at our life in the light of Christ-likeness and humble ourselves before God. The season of Lent culminates in “Passion Week” deriving from a Latin word that means “to suffer” and begins with Palm Sunday and the joyful entry of Israel's Messiah-King into Jerusalem. It ends with the same crowd crying “crucify him, crucify him.” In between these two days, the week's events are remembered on Maundy Thursday and Good Friday.

FOURTH READING – Mark 8:31-38

³¹ Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes and be killed and after three days rise again. ³² He said all this quite openly.

And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. ³³ But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, “Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

³⁴ He called the crowd with his disciples and said to them, “If any wish to come^[a] after me, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. ³⁵ For those who want to save their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel,^[b] will save it. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? ³⁸ Those who are ashamed of me and of my words^[c] in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

HYMN

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross v.1

ELW 803

EASTER

As morning dawns, Mary Magdalene weeps at the tomb until she is told the good news “He is not dead! He has risen!” A message that echoes through the corridors of time; “Christ has risen! Christ has risen indeed!” - year after year on the highest and holiest day of the Christian calendar. Easter lilies adorned the sanctuary, the colors change to the brightness of white and gold to portray purity and kingliness of our Risen Savior. There is no joy compared to an Easter Sunday following Good Friday. We wept with Peter on the night Jesus was crucified, and on Easter we are awed anew by the great news that He lives! The 50 days of Easter ring jubilantly with the new life and new hope that the Risen Savior brings to us, to our world, and to all people.

FIFTH READING – 1 Corinthians 15:1-4, 20-22

15 Now I want you to understand, brothers and sisters, the good news^[a] that I proclaimed to you, which you in turn received, in which also you stand, ² through which also you are being saved, if you hold firmly to the message that I proclaimed to you—unless you have come to believe in vain.

³ For I handed on to you as of first importance what I in turn had received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the scriptures ⁴ and that he

was buried and that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the scriptures

²⁰ But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died.^[a] ²¹ For since death came through a human, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human, ²² for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ.

Please stand.

HYMN

Thine is The Glory v.1-3

ELW 376

Please be seated.

PENTECOST

Red is the color of Pentecost as we remember the great rushing wind, the dancing flames of fire, and the words of Jesus, baptizing his disciples with the Fire of the Spirit. The disciples of Jesus were huddled in fear in a small upper room. The Holy Spirit came in power and they rushed into the streets, telling everyone about the good news in ways that all could understand.

SIXTH READING – Acts 2:1-12

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. ² And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. ³ Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

⁵ Now there were devout Jews from every people under heaven living in Jerusalem. ⁶ And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. ⁷ Amazed and astonished, they asked, “Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? ⁸ And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, ¹¹ Cretans and Arabs—in our own

languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." ¹² All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

HYMN

Spirit of Gentleness v.1-2

ELW 396

CHRIST THE KING

It is Christ the Savior King who presides over the table as we gather, "neither Jew nor Greek, male or female, slave or free," but one in Christ to receive the Body and Blood of our Lord. On Christ the King Sunday, we are reminded that God is with us through all the seasons of life. As we gather around the table today, may you feel the freedom, the joy, and the strength of Jesus's presence in your spirit. Remember his words; "Look, I am with you always; yes, to the end of time." (Matthew 28:20 NJB)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

***A:** Glorious God, in confidence and hope we lift our needs and hopes to you in anticipation of your response as we pray for the church the world and all of creation.

Clothe your church with humility and grace, that the sacrificial love of Jesus may course through every mission comma every ministry comma every program comma and every faithful servant. Hear us, O God.

***C: Your mercy is great.**

Help our nation to use wisely the blessings of our history, our geography, our industry, our culture, and our people, so that we might find common purpose and meaning in ensuring the well-being of all who call this land home. Hear us, O God.

***C: Your mercy is great.**

Move through every heart of this assembly and open us up to the possibilities of your love and excite us for the sake of your ministry. Hear us, O God.

***C: Your mercy is great.**

You have placed Christ over all Creation, help us to ensure that the goodness with which it was formed might be preserved and sustained that he might reign over a plentiful and beautiful earth. Hear us, O God.

***C: Your mercy is great.**

Christ knew suffering on the cross, may He be present with those who are suffering now and walk with them into the peace and wholeness of his ever-present love. We pray especially for Guy & Betty Puckett, Jim & Phyllis Cornelison, Jerry Sides, Ernie & Linda Cooper, Phil & Carol Boyette, Brenda H. Trexler, Judy Peeler, Lynn DeBerry, Marcia Ritchie, Jean Holshouser, Phyllis Trexler, Sue Misenheimer, Thelma Barger, Ethan DeBerry, Buddy Waller, Amy Cozart, Jaxon Webster, the Puckett Family, Friends of St. Peter's, and those we hold in our hearts or lift before you now... *(Pause so names can be said out loud)*. Hear us, O God.

***C: Your mercy is great.**

Relieve us from the fear of death and grant us entrance into God's glorious eternal presence when our mortal journey has ended. Hear us, O God.

***C: Your mercy is great.**

*P: You have made Christ our Lord and His name is the name at which every knee shall bow, yet even in his glory he is grace, humility, and love. Help us to walk his path and be his faithful servants, through the same Christ who abides with you and the Holy Spirit, now and always.

***C: Amen.**

PEACE

*P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

***C: And also with you.**

*P: Let us share the peace with one another.

THE OFFERING

Anthem

Offering Hymn

We Are an Offering

ELW 692

We Are An Offering

ELW 692

We lift our voic - es, we lift our hands, we lift our
 lives up to you: we are an of - fer - ing. Lord, use our
 voic - es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
 lives, they are yours: we are an of - fer - ing.
 All that we have, all that we are,
 all that we hope to be, we give to you, we
 give to you. We lift our voic - es, we lift our
 hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
 of - fer - ing, we are an of - fer - ing.

OFFERING PRAYER

***A:** Let us pray. God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever.

***C:** Amen.

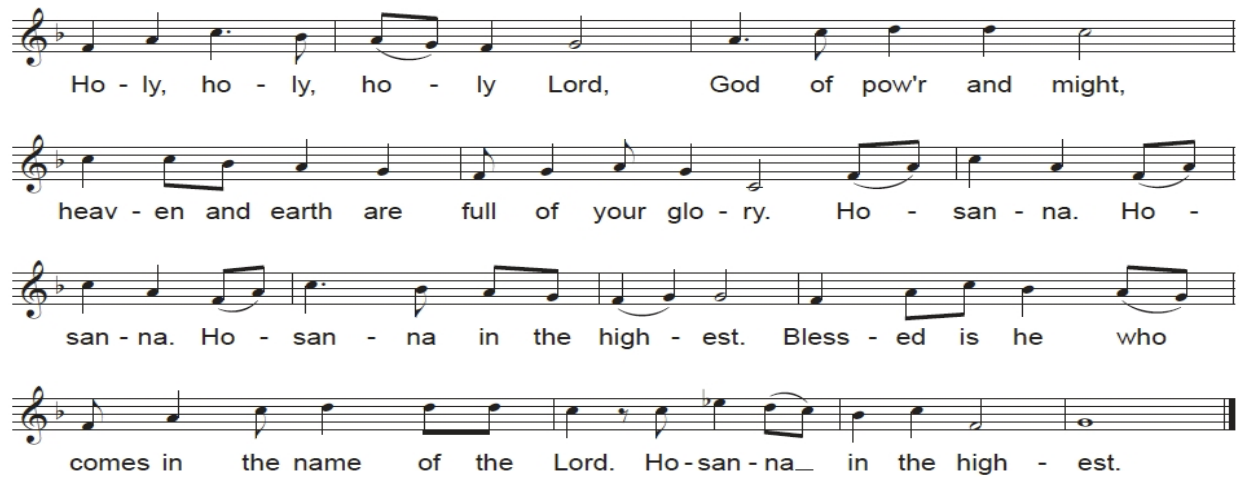
MEAL

PREFACE DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

***P:** It is indeed our duty and our joy... and join their unending hymn:

***C: Holy, Holy, Holy**



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

***P:** Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught.

***C: 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.**

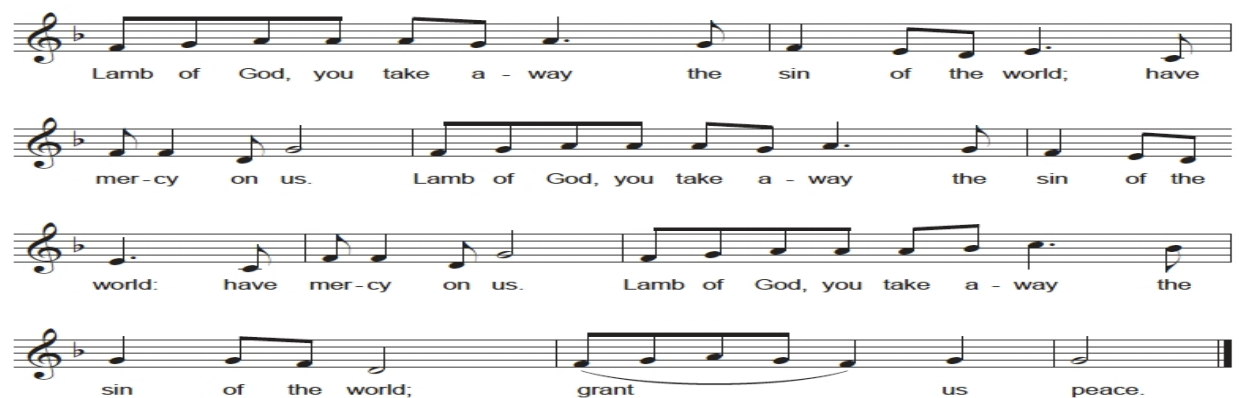
INVITATION TO COMMUNION

***P:** There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that
does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

***C: Thanks be to God.**

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

LAMB OF GOD



COMMUNION BLESSING

*P: The body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, strengthen you and keep you in God's grace. Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

*A: Let us pray. God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

***C: Amen.**

SENDING OF GOD'S PEOPLE

BLESSING

*P: The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you ☩ and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever.

***C: Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN Crown Him With Many Crowns v. 3-5 ELW 855**

THE DISMISSAL

*A: Rooted in the love of Christ

***C: We grow in grace and joyfully branch into a broken World!**

*P: Go in peace. Share the harvest.

***C: Thanks be to God.**

**Silent Prayer and Chiming of the Trinity Postlude*