Festival of Christ the King

Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 24, 2024 – 10:30 a.m.

Lutheran Service Book, Divine Service, Setting Four



## **Prayer before worship:**

As we come into your presence, O God, bless this time of worship. Unite our prayers and praises with your whole Church on earth and in heaven. By the power of your Holy Spirit, help us to worship you in spirit and in truth; through your Son, Jesus Christ our King. Amen.

**Pre-Service Music** 

"Meditation" (John S. Dixon)

**Ringing of the Bells** 

Welcome

### **Confession and Absolution**

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their baptism

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- **G** Amen.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- © who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.** *Psalm 130:3-4*
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy
  - of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner. [Luke 18:13]

Please kneel or be seated for a time of silent prayer and confession, as able

- P Almighty God,
- have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.
- P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of [John 20:19-23] the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

#### C Amen.

#### Service of the Word



"Crown Him with Many Crowns" (LSB 525)



- 1 Crown Him with man y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;
- 2 Crown Him the vir - gin's The God Son, in - car - nate born,
- 3 Crown Him the Lord His hands and Be - hold love. 4 Crown Him the Lord of life, Who tri-umphed o'er the grave
- 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav'n, En-throned in worlds



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: vis - i - ble a - bove, In Rich wounds, yet beau - ty glo - ri-fied. rose vic - to - rious in the strife For those He came to save. Crown Him the king to whom is giv'n The won-drous name of Love.



A - wake, my soul, and sing the mys-tic rose, Fruit of No an - gels in the sky glo - ries now we sing, Crown Him with man - y crowns

Of Him who died for thee, And Yet of that rose the stem, Can ful - ly bear that sight. But Who died and rose on high, As thrones be - fore Him fall;



thy match-less king Through all hail as e - ter - ni - ty. root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, The babe of Beth - le - hem. down-ward bend their won-d'ring eyes At mys - ter - ies bright. SO e - ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die. ye kings, with man - y crowns, For He is king all. Him. of

Text (sts. 1–3, 5): Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, alt.; (st. 4): Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903

## **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.



Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!

O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.

For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing—Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry, You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

## **Salutation and Collect of the Day**

**P** The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

# **C** And also with you.

P Let us pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, so govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your glorious return, we may persevere in both faith and holiness of living; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

## Children's Message

## **Old Testament Reading**

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

Please join in reading aloud the **highlighted portion** of Scripture and consider committing this passage to memory in the week ahead.

<sup>9</sup>As I looked, thrones were placed, and the Ancient of days took his seat; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames; its wheels were burning fire. <sup>10</sup>A stream of fire issued and came out from before him; a thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him; the court sat in judgment, and the books were opened [...] <sup>13</sup>I saw in the night visions, and behold, with the clouds of heaven there came one like a son of man, and he came to the Ancient of Days and was presented before him. <sup>14</sup>And to him was given dominion and glory and a kingdom, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him; his dominion is an everlasting dominion, which shall not pass away, and his kingdom one that shall not be destroyed.

**I** This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

# Psalm (read responsively)

Psalm 93

- The LORD reigns; he is robed in majesty; the LORD is robed; he has put on strength as his belt. Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved.
- Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.
- **I** The floods have lifted up, O LORD, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring.

- Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the LORD on high is mighty!
- Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.

**Epistle** Revelation 1:4b-8

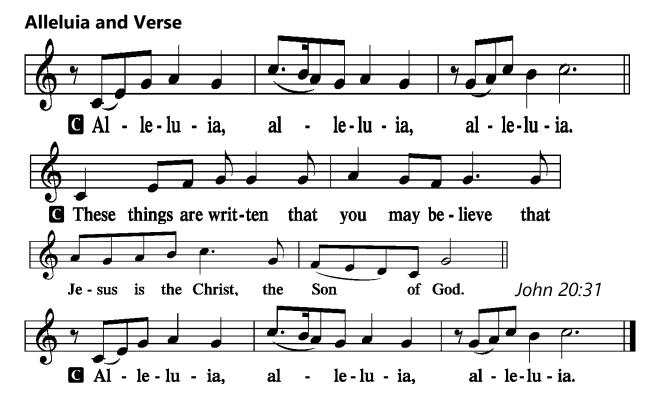
Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood <sup>6</sup> and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. <sup>7</sup>Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen.

<sup>8</sup>"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

## **C** Thanks be to God.



Holy Gospel John 18:33-37

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the eighteenth chapter.

# **G** Glory to You, O Lord.

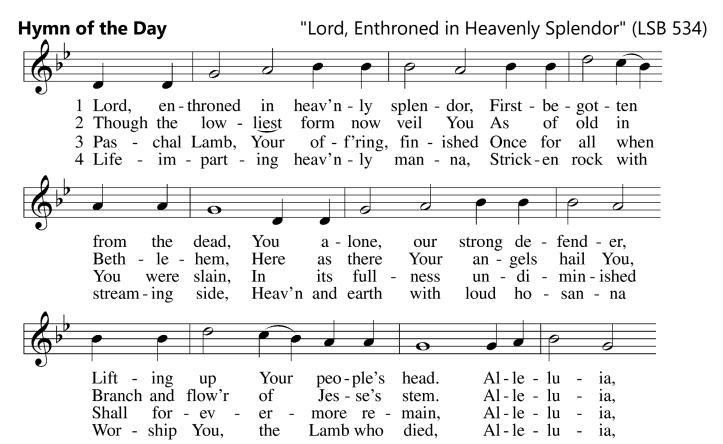
<sup>33</sup>Pilate entered his headquarters again and called Jesus and said to him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" <sup>34</sup>Jesus answered, "Do you say this of your own accord, or did others say it to you about me?" <sup>35</sup>Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own nation and the chief priests have delivered you over to me. What have you done?" <sup>36</sup>Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would have been fighting, that I might not be delivered over to the Jews. But my kingdom is not from the world." <sup>37</sup>Then Pilate said to him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this purpose I was born and for this purpose I have come into the world—to bear witness to the truth. Everyone who is of the truth listens to my voice."

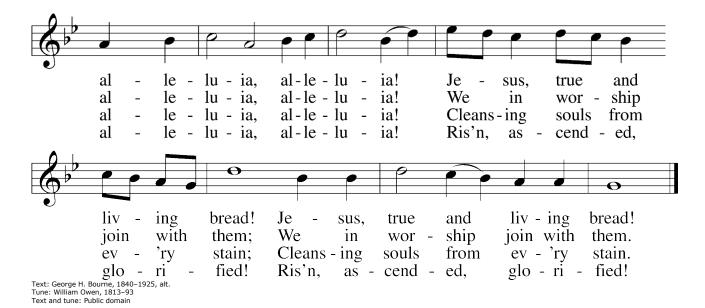
**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

## Praise to You, O Christ.

#### Sermon

"Crib, Cross and Crown"





#### **Profession of Faith**

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, + and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **Prayer of the Church**

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

P Seeking the renewal of the Holy Spirit in our communities and in our world, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's creation.

Special prayer requests are announced followed by a brief silence for private prayer.

During the season after Pentecost each petition ends with the phrase:

| 7 |

# "Lord, in your mercy." Please respond by saying "Hear our prayer."

## The prayers end with the words:

P Into your hands, holy God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your abundant mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior.

#### C Amen.

Following the prayers, the people may stand and greet one another in the name of the Lord, saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of reconciliation and of the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace

(Matt. 5:22–24; Eph. 4:1–3).

#### **Announcements**

## **Offertory Prayer**

- **L** Merciful God,
- we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#### **Service of the Sacrament**

#### **Preface**

P The Lord be with you.

2 Timothy 4:22

- C And also with you.
- **P** Lift up your hearts.
- **G** We lift them to the Lord.

[Colossians 3:1]

- **P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- **C** It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

[Psalm 136]

It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, for the countless blessings You so freely bestow on us and all creation. Above all, we give thanks for Your boundless love shown to us when You sent Your only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, into our flesh and laid on Him our sin, giving Him into death that we might not die eternally. Because He is now risen from the dead and lives and reigns to all eternity, all who believe in Him will overcome sin and death and will rise again to new life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and singing:





## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

P Blessed are You, O Lord our God, king of all creation, for You have had mercy on us and given Your only-begotten Son that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have eternal life.

In Your righteous judgment You condemned the sin of Adam and Eve, who ate the forbidden fruit, and You justly barred them and all their children from the tree of life. Yet, in Your great mercy, You promised salvation by a second Adam, Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord, and made His cross a life-giving tree for all who trust in Him.

We give You thanks for the redemption You have prepared for us through Jesus Christ. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may faithfully eat and drink of the fruits of His cross and receive the blessings of forgiveness, life, and salvation that come to us in His body and blood.

Hear us as we pray in His name and as He has taught us:

Lord's Prayer Matthew 6:9-13

**©** 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.

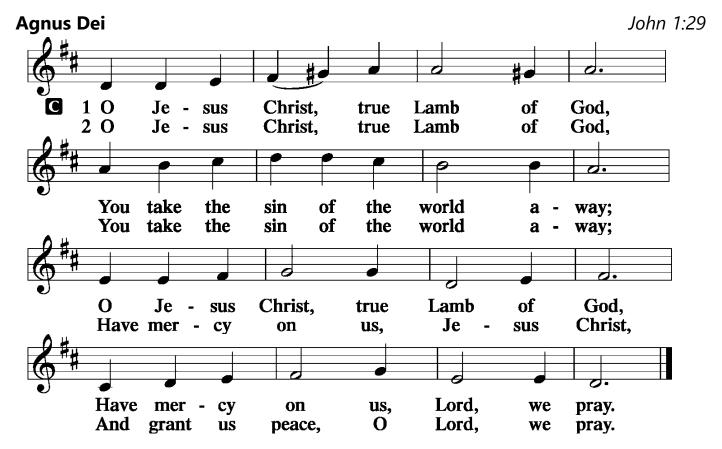
#### The Words of Our Lord

Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

- P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My → body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."
- P In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My → blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

Pax Domini John 20:19

- **P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C Amen.



Please be seated

#### **Distribution**

Lutheran Christians believe and teach that in the Sacrament of the Altar, Christ's body and blood are given to those who receive the bread and wine. With the bread and wine, the gifts of His body and blood are given to Christ's people for forgiveness of sins, strength for our journey of faith, and a foretaste of the heavenly banquet. All who have been baptized into Christ's death and resurrection, and who trust His words that these gifts are given and shed for you for the forgiveness of sins, are invited to receive the Eucharist.

Please follow the direction of the ushers to come to the Lord's Table. The bread will be distributed first. **Gluten-free wafers** are available for those who may need these. Please indicate this to the pastor at the distribution. The wine is then received by individual glasses only. Non-alcoholic grape juice is available for those who for medical or recovery purposes must abstain from alcohol.

Children who do not receive the Sacrament are invited to come forward and receive a blessing. Please cross arms over chest so the pastor and lay assistant are able to distinguish children who do commune from those who do not yet receive the Sacrament.

For additional self-preparation to receive the Sacrament, please see "Christian Questions with Their Answers" beginning on page 1351 in the pew Bible.

#### **Music at Distribution:**

"Jesus, the King" (Lloyd Larson)
Choir of St. John's

Now to the Lord, the noble King, with all our hearts and voices sing. "All praise to His eternal name." Let songs in boundless joy proclaim: That Jesus is King!

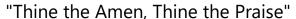
Hosanna to the King of all glory. Hosanna to the King of all Kings. Hosanna to the King of the ages. Hosanna to Jesus the King!

In Jesus Christ, the Lord of all, our hearts in gratitude recall the joy of finding Christ, the King.

With voices strong we thankfully sing: That Jesus is King!

Hosanna! King of all glory! The King!





(WOV 801)



Text: Herbert F. Brokering, b. 1926 Music: Carl Schalk, b. 1929 © 1983 Augsburg Publishing House

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#### **Dismissal**

#### **Nunc Dimittis**



#### **Post-Communion Collect**

## **L** Let us pray:

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

## C Amen.

#### **Benedicamus and Benediction**

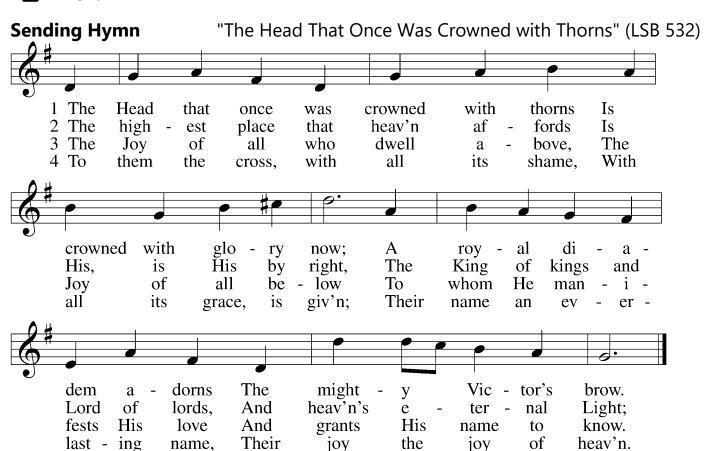
- **L** Let us bless the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

[Psalm 103:1]

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

C Amen.



- 5 They suffer with their Lord below, They reign with Him above, Their profit and their joy to know The myst'ry of His love.
- The cross He bore is life and health,
  Though shame and death to Him:
  His people's hope, His people's wealth,
  Their everlasting theme.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855 Tune: Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1674–1707 Text and tune: Public domain

**Postlude** 

"Christ the King" (James Bersey)

## **Our Ministry Of Worship**

Officiant/Preacher Pastor Meehan

Welcome & Children's Message Jennifer Hills, Director of Discipleship

Lay Assistant Stacey Crosson

Communion Lay Assistant Jeff Crosson

Organist/Pianist David Leahey, Director of Music

Acolyte Jenna Swale

Crucifer Giulianna Vazquez

Ushers Joe Godwin

Barbara Pate

Altar Care Barbara Pate

AV Operators Scott Budzien

Jim Haugen

Welcome Host Debbie Haugen

Nursery Anne Weikart

Jodie Pleisch

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To **Give** to St. John's Lutheran Church



This weekend's **altar flowers** are given by donations to the flower fund.



To **download** our SJLC app



To **view** the current **Midweek Update** 



## **Acknowledgments**

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# St. John's Lutheran Church 5952 Franconia Road Alexandria, VA 22310



A member congregation of the Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod

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Director of Music David Leahey

Office Administrator Michelle May

Finance Administrator Jennifer Smith

Communication Specialist Jacqueline Fuller

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ECEC Administrator Kari Wells

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