

# Christ the King



End Times 4 November 20 and 21, 2021

**Today's focus:** *Lord, keep us joyful in our King!* On this last Sunday of the Church Year, we rejoice in the fulfillment of God's plan for our salvation through Christ our King. We also rejoice because Christ our King reigns—the king who once came as a sacrifice; the king who still shepherds us day by day; the king who one day will conquer all our enemies. Rejoice in his reign and look forward to the day when every knee will bow with us before the King of kings and Lord of lords!

Pre-service, Saturday 5:30pm: "Draw Me Close" (by Kelly Carpenter, arr. by Kenon D. Renfrow) Piano: Paula Danekas

#### The Season of End Time

The last four Sundays of the Church Year are designated as the season of End Time. The focus of the season is fulfillment of Christ's promises and encouragement for the Church of the End Times. We live in the last age of this earth, and in this season, Jesus wants us to remember his promise, "Behold, I am coming soon!" The season prepares the Church for these latter days by encouraging faithfulness to the Word, mindfulness of the judgment, watchfulness for Christ's coming, and joyfulness in Christ's reign.

#### **The Sundays**

On each Sunday, the Church prays that God would bestow on her a characteristic necessary for the End Times Church:

<b>Reformation:</b>	Lord, keep us faithful to the Word! (October 30/31)
Last Judgment:	Lord, keep us mindful of the Judgment! (November 6/7)
Saints Triumphant:	Lord, keep us watchful for our triumph! (November 13/14)
Christ the King:	Lord, keep us joyful in our King! (November 20/21)

Good Shepherd Evangelical Lutheran Church 525 63rd Street, Downers Grove 630-852-1519

www.gsdg.org

**An Explanation of Our Communion Practice:** Today we are celebrating the Lord's Supper, or Holy Communion, marked as "The Sacrament" in the worship folder. While some churches invite all who are present to receive the Sacrament ("open communion"), we follow the Biblical and historic Christian practice of "close communion." "Close communion" is adhered to by over 1 billion Christians throughout the world.

**What does this mean?** We invite all who are members of our congregation (Good Shepherd Lutheran) or visitors who belong to our WELS fellowship to receive the Lord's Supper with us. If you have no church membership or belong to a different fellowship, faith, or even a different Lutheran church body (e.g. ELCA, LCMS, etc.), we ask that you please refrain from communing with us for now.

In asking this, we in no way mean to judge your faith or imply that you are not a Christian or "not good enough for us"! Rather, it is because God's Word teaches us to regard Communion as an outward expression of unity in *all* areas of the faith (*see 1 Corinthians 10:17*). In other words, when we commune together, we are confessing publicly that we are all one in what we believe and profess (*all* the teachings of God's Word, not just a few basics).

For those who haven't had a chance to check out all that we teach and believe and declare their unity with us by joining our congregation, we look forward to informing you about what we believe and teach before you enjoy the Lord's Supper with us. We want you to feel comfortable with what we confess, and want you to enjoy the beauty of a deep unity in the faith.

#### There are other reasons for "close communion" as well:

- While God's Word promises that in the Lord's Supper we receive the beautiful gifts of Jesus' body and blood and forgiveness, it also warns that any communicant who does not recognize that the body and blood of Christ really are present in the Sacrament may bring spiritual harm on himself or herself (*see 1 Corinthians 11:27-29*). It wouldn't be loving for us to let that happen—as it might if we offered the Sacrament to all, even to those who may not understand what is involved.
- Scripture also requires that each communicant examine himself or herself spiritually (1 *Corinthians 11:28*) before receiving the Lord's body and blood together with the bread and wine. There are many who are not able to do that due to their youth, lack of instruction, or other reasons.

We believe that it is out of obedience to our Lord and his Word and out of loving concern for everyone present that we practice "close communion." We hope that you understand, and we trust that you will respect our practice. We look forward to any opportunity we may have in the future to share with you the Bible's teachings about Communion, our beliefs as a church, and to establish unity together and to commune together. We are grateful to have you worship with us, and long to grow in the Word together!

## It is the mission of



**Good Shepherd** 

to

Seek the Lost Feed the Flock and Serve our Savior



Good Shepherd Lutheran Church is part of a group of nearly 1,300 churches called the Wisconsin Evangelical Lutheran Synod or WELS. The WELS is a world-wide church with congregations serving in all fifty of the United States, as well as in Mexico and Canada. The WELS also serves over 26 foreign countries through world mission work. We are united in faith and teaching with the other churches of the WELS as well as the members of the Confessional Evangelical Lutheran Conference, consisting of 21 confessional Lutheran church bodies throughout the world.

# We Come into the Presence of God

**Musical Introduction:** (*This is an opportunity to quiet your mind and heart and prepare for the joy of worshipping your God.*)

PreK-Grade 2: "I'm going to the Promised Land"

I'm going to the Promised Land! I'm going to the Promised Land! I'm going to the Promised Land, Yes, Jesus promised me. Yes, Jesus promised me!

Was lost in sin, but now I'm saved! Was lost in sin, but now I'm saved! Was lost in sin, but now I'm saved! Yes, Jesus promised me. Yes, Jesus promised me!

*He lived a perfect life for me, He lived a perfect life for me, He lived a perfect life for me, Yes, Jesus promised me. Yes, Jesus promised me!* 

He died and took away my sin, He died and took away my sin, He died and took away my sin, Yes, Jesus promised me. Yes, Jesus promised me!

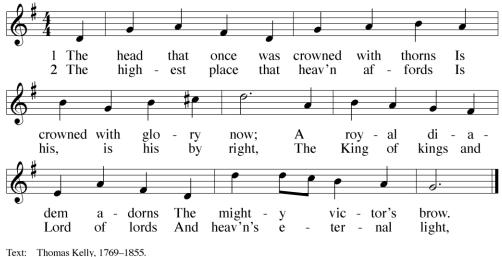
*He rose right up to live again, He rose right up to live again, He rose right up to live again, Yes, Jesus promised me. Yes, Jesus promised me!* 

Because he did, I sure am saved! Because he did, I sure am saved! Because he did, I sure am saved! Yes, Jesus promised me. Yes, Jesus promised me!

I'm going to the Promised Land! I'm going to the Promised Land! I'm going to the Promised Land, Yes, Jesus promised me. Yes, Jesus promised me!

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**Opening Hymn:** #217, verses 1-2 "The Head that Once Was Crowned"



Tune: ST. MAGNUS (CM) Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1674–1707.

#### A Litany of Confession and Praise

Minister: We praise you, O God, we acclaim You as Lord;

#### Congregation: All creation worships You, Father everlasting.

- M: The glorious company of apostles praise you. The noble fellowship of prophets praise you.
- C: The white-robed army of martyrs praise you.
- M: Throughout the world the holy Church acclaims you: Father of majesty unbounded, your glorious, true, and only Son, and the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide.
- C: To you all angels, cherubim and seraphim, sing in endless praise!

- M: When you became man to set us free, you humbled yourself to be born of a virgin.
- C: I confess, O Savior, that it was because of my sin that you had to come to this world. I have thought ungodly thoughts, spoken ungodly words, and done ungodly deeds. At the same time I have failed to think, to speak, and to do the good I ought. I deserve your eternal punishment. Have mercy on me, O Savior!
- M: Do not be afraid! The Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the King of kings and Lord of lords—your Savior Jesus—has forgiven all your sins. By his perfect life, death, and resurrection, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May your King, Jesus, grant you strength to live according to his will.

#### C: You, Christ, are the King of Glory, the Eternal Son of the Father!

- M: You overcame the sting of death and opened the kingdom of heaven to all believers! You sit at the right hand of God in the glory of the Father.
- C: We believe that you will come to be our judge.
- M: Come then, Lord, and help your people bought with the price of Your own blood.

#### C: And bring us with Your saints to glory everlasting.

#### **Prayer of the Day**

- M: Lord Jesus Christ, by your victory you have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim you King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

Hymn: #217, verses 3-4 "The Head that Once Was Crowned"

The joy of all who dwell above, The joy of all below To whom he manifests his love And grants his name to know.

To them the cross, with all its shame, With all its grace, is giv'n; Their name, an everlasting name; Their joy, the joy of heav'n.

## We Listen

First Reading: Daniel 7:13-14

<sup>13</sup>"In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. <sup>14</sup>He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.



Psalm 45 (Spoken responsively; no musical accompaniment.)

- M: My heart is stirred by a noble theme
- C: as I recite my verses for the King.
- M: You are the most excellent of men,
- C: and your lips have been anointed with grace.
- M: Gird your sword upon your side, O Mighty One;
- C: clothe yourself with splendor and majesty.
- M: In your majesty ride forth victoriously;
- C: let your right hand display awesome deeds.
- M: Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever;
- C: a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.
- M: You love righteousness and hate wickedness;
- C: therefore God has anointed you with the oil of joy.
- M: I will perpetuate your memory through all generations;
- C: therefore the nations will praise you for ever and ever.
- M: Great are the works of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- C: Great are the works of the Lord.

## Second Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8

<sup>4b</sup>Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

<sup>7</sup>"Look, he is coming with the clouds,"

and "every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him";

and all peoples on earth "will mourn because of him." So shall it be! Amen.

 $^{8^{\prime\prime}}$  I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty."

#### **The Nicene Creed**

We believe in one God, the Father, the 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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary, and became fully human. 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, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy Christian 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.

### Gospel Reading: John 18:33-37

<sup>33</sup>Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

<sup>34</sup>"Is that your own idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about me?"

<sup>35</sup>"Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?"

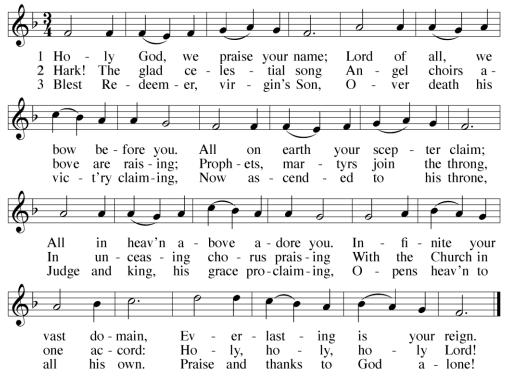
<sup>36</sup>Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place."

<sup>37</sup>"You are a king, then!" said Pilate.

Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

#### Children's Message

Hymn of the Day: #278, verses 1-3 "Holy God, We Praise Your Name"



Text: Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, abr., adapt., st. 1-2, 4; Ruth M. Glaeske, b. 1941, st. 3; tr. Clarence A. Walworth, 1820–1900, st. 1-2, 4, alt. St. 3 © 1993 Ruth Backer Glaeske. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: GROSSER GOTT, WIR LOBEN DICH (78 78 77) Katholisches Gesangbuch, Vienna, 1774, alt.

#### Sermon

# We Respond

**Offering** (In an effort to maintain a safe social distance, please place your offerings in the provided plate when exiting the sanctuary.

If you are a guest in our church, please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. We do not want you to think that God or our congregation is soliciting funds from you. You enrich us simply by being here.)

#### **Prayer of the Church**

### Lord's Prayer

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.

## The Sacrament (Spoken responsively; no musical accompaniment.)

- M: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- M: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them up to the Lord.
- M: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

M: Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing.

He protects and preserves his Church in every age and gives us confidence to lift up our heads and watch for Jesus with joy.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever:

### Holy, Holy, Holy

C: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory. You are my God, and I will exalt you. I will give you thanks, for you have become my salvation. Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of your glory.

### Words of Institution

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

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

- M: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: Amen.

### O Christ, Lamb of God

C: O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.

**Distribution** (*After the distribution, you are invited to dispose of the cups and return to your seats.*)

### Thanksgiving

- C: Thank the Lord and sing his praise. Tell everyone what he has done. Let all who seek the Lord rejoice and proudly bear his name. He renews his promises and leads his people forth in joy with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia! Alleluia!
- M: Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C: Amen.

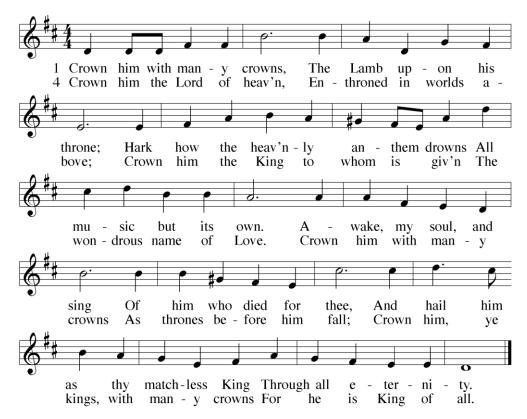
### Blessing

M: Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look on you with favor and (+) give you peace.

C: Amen.

Closing Hymn: #341, verses 1,4 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"



Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–94, st. 1-2, 4, abr., alt.; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 3. Tune: DIADEMATA (SM D) George J. Elvey, 1816–93.

#### Serving in Worship

Pastor: Organist: Pianist (Saturday): Cantors (Saturday):

#### Ushers:

Communion Setup/Cleanup: AV Team:

Jon Bergemann
Jan Henriksen
Paula Danekas
Casey Kippes and
Valerie Adegunleye
Erik Guldberg, Bob Reichert,
and Bill Merchantz
Sarah Rardin and
Joan Richmond
Bob Reichert, Joe Garetto,
Kristen Reynolds, and
Greg Busse

Ion Borgomann

#### **Contact Information**

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Everyone is welcome to join us for BLAST (Believe, Learn and Seek Truth), our Sunday morning Children's Ministry. We begin each Sunday at 9:15a in the library at the end of the school hallway. Email BLAST@gsdg.org

#### Acknowledgements

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