

NOVEMBER 22, 2020

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

WELCOMING WORD On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

C: Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.

L: Come, let us worship and bow down, Let us kneel before the LORD our maker.

C: For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

OPENING HYMN #328 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! (vs. 1-3)

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all.

Crown him, you martyrs of our God, who from his altar call;
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod, and crown him Lord of all.
Extol the stem of Jesse's rod, and crown him Lord of all.

O seed of Israel's chosen race, now ransomed from the fall,
Hail him who save you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who save you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.
Amen.

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: Faithful God,

C: 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.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

INVOCATION

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 of power and might,

C: 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.

FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24 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.

SECOND LESSON: Ephesians 1:15-23 ¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I 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, ¹⁸so 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, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God 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, ²¹far 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. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46 [Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹“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. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then 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; ³⁵for 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, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then 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? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And 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.’ ⁴¹Then 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; ⁴²for 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 did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴Then 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?’ ⁴⁵Then 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.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

MESSAGE Pastor John Twiton

HYMN #423 Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service

Lord, whose love in humble service bore the weight of human need.
Who upon the cross, forsaken, worked your mercy's perfect deed.
We, your servants, bring the worship, not of voice alone, but heart,
Consecrating to your purpose ev'ry gift which you impart.

Still your children wander homeless; still the hungry cry for bread;
Still the captives long for freedom, still in grief we mourn our dead.
As you, Lord, in deep compassion, healed your sick and freed the soul.
By your Spirit send your power to our world to make it whole.

As we worship, grant us vision, till your love's revealing light,
In its height and depth and greatness dawns upon our quickened sight.
Making known the needs and burdens, your compassion bids us bear,
Stirring us to ardent service, your abundant life to share.

CONFESSION OF FAITH

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 catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and the life everlasting. Amen.

OFFERTORY PRAYER 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

P: Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

P: Sovereign of all, train our ears to hear your cry in the needs of those around us. Bless all ministries of the church through which we seek to serve others as we ourselves have been served. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: You cause rain to fall on the just and unjust alike. Direct our use of creation to provide for the needs of all people in ways that are sustainable for the earth. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Bring peace to every place where conflict rages. Grant opportunities for ending divisions among us and usher in your reign of unity and reconciliation. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Send your healing spirit to us anew. Help to heal the brokenness all around our world, and within each one of us. Bring strength and hope to those we hold before you in prayer this day (*especially*) Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Pour out the gifts of your Spirit on children and youth throughout the church. Sustain those who work in children's ministry, youth ministry, outdoor ministries, and campus ministry as they nurture the gifts of young people. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Thank you for saints now departed who fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and tended to the sick. Inspire us by their example, that we may see your presence in those in need around us. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

C: Amen.

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. 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.

BENEDICTION *May the blessing of God our creator, the love of Jesus Christ our redeemer, and the presence of the Holy Spirit the comforter, surround you and sustain you until we gather again*

CLOSING HYMN: #170 Crown Him with Many Crowns (vs. 1-4)

Crown him with many crowns, the Lord upon his throne.
Hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless king through all eternity.

Crown him the virgin's Son; the God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn.
Fruit of the mystic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows, the babe of Bethlehem.

Crown him the Lord of love, who triumphed o'er the grave,
And rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
No angels in the sky can fully bear that sight
But downward bend their burning eyes at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high,
Who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS:

Agnes Robertson (friend of Holly Thompson)
Nick Sydow (friend of Connie Curran's sons)
Brian Marshall (friend of Kim Kelliher)
Jeannie U'Ren
Mike Olson (Wendy Rasmussen's brother)
Irene Bruflat
Connie Fausett (sister of Diane Twiton & Jean Bower)
Harlan Oimoen
Grace Aavang
Dianne Haskins (friend of Char Smith)
Richard Schuhler (friend of Ron & Bonny Kellogg)

Delores Bryant
Makenzee Smith
Brock Howe
Mary Krantz
Ruth Ann Nemet
Sally Gaard (friend of Margie Kahl)
Laurie Duden (Brenda Martin's aunt)
Bill Steinhauer
Peter Toniazzo
Shirley Thompson
Dorothy Twiton



ANNOUNCEMENTS

MT. HOREB GIVING TREE Pick up tags at Miller's or online (mhgivingtree.weebly.com/). Drop off gifts/donations at United Methodist Church Saturdays from 10:30am until noon or Wednesdays from 3:30-5pm.

2021 CONTRIBUTION ENVELOPES will be arriving in the mail this year. Big thanks to Bob and Sharon Schiefelbein for preparing the mailing!

BUCKY BOOKS - ONLINE ONLY - Thank you for supporting our fundraiser this fall. We were informed that Bucky Books can still be available for online orders, through our link below till mid-January. Please share the link with family and friends. Books are shipped directly to your home. Books sell for \$35 each. Profits help our youth with future summer programming. Thank you for continued support.

*** ORDER ONLINE AT: <https://www.buckybook.com/evangelical-lutheran-church-mt-horeb>

SUNDAY SCHOOL on ZOOM- Join us on ZOOM, 9:00 - 9:30 am, each Sunday morning. Youth, who are 3 years old - 8th grade are invited to participate. It is great seeing their faces each week. Lessons are also emailed, if you are unable to attend our ZOOM time. Email brenda.martin@elcmhoreb.org for the zoom link.

ELC 'COFFEE TIME' on ZOOM - Join us on Wednesdays at 10 AM each week to catch up with our church family. Time to connect and see each other! Zoom link is emailed each week. If you need the link, contact Pastor John, Tamara or Brenda.

NO CONFIRMATION - 11/25 There will be no Confirmation class on Wednesday, Nov 25th. Happy Thanksgiving. Class on ZOOM will resume on Dec 2, at 7 PM.

ELC BINGO - Dec 10th at 7 pm - Spiritual Growth and Fellowship Committee will be hosting more Virtual Bingo Games. Everyone is welcome to join us for the fun, family friendly events. Winners will be awarded gift cards for local businesses. Join us!

DEVOTIONS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 22, 2020

SHARE: What was a high point of your day? What was a low point?

READ: Read the following daily readings to deepen your understanding

Monday, Psalm 7, A plea for help

Tuesday, Esther 8:3-17, Esther saves the Jews

Wednesday, John 5:19-40, The authority of the Son

Thursday, Psalm 80:1-7, Prayer for restoration

Friday, 1 Thessalonians 4:1-18, The coming of the Lord

Saturday, Micah 2:1-13, Denouncing evils in society

TALK: Consider some of these ideas: *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.'* Matthew 25:45. Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

- Does the thought of 'judgement day' come to mind often for you?
- How does your faith in Jesus change how you act toward others?
- Do we 'see' the hungry, lonely, sick around us, or do we try to avoid them?
- How likely are you to give help when confronted by need?

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.

BLESS: May you see Jesus in the face of those you meet this day. Amen!