

# Christ the King Sunday

November 26, 2023



## Peace Evangelical Lutheran Church

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During our pastoral vacancy:

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Elder Keith Clemens	<a href="mailto:mkclemens@gmail.com">mkclemens@gmail.com</a>	610-220-6446

## THE SERVICE – SETTING ONE

**THREAD:** *The Christian waits: Joyful in our King.*

### Hymn: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

CW 708



1 Come, thou Fount of ev - 'ry bless - ing, tune my heart to  
2 Hith - er - to thy love has blessed me, thou hast drawn me  
3 Oh, to grace how great a debt - or dai - ly I'm con -



sing thy grace; streams of mer - cy, nev - er ceas - ing,  
to this place; and I know thy hand will lead me  
strained to be! Let thy good - ness, like a fet - ter,



call for songs of loud - est praise. Teach me some me - lo - dious  
safe - ly home by thy good grace. Je - sus sought me when a  
bind my wan - d'ring heart to thee: prone to wan - der, Lord, I



son - net, sung by flam - ing tongues a - bove. Praise his  
stran - ger, wan - d'ring from the fold of God; he, to  
feel it, prone to leave the God I love; here's my



name, I'm fixed up - on it, name of God's re - deem - ing love.  
res - cue me from dan - ger, bought me with his pre - cious blood.  
heart, O take and seal it; seal it for thy courts a - bove.

In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

### Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just**

**and will forgive us our sins**

**and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

**Holy God, gracious Father,**

**I am sinful by nature**

**and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.**

**I have not loved you with my whole heart;**

**I have not loved others as I should.**

**I deserve your punishment both now and forever.**

**But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins**

**with his innocent suffering and death.**

**Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

*Silence for meditation and reflection*

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

## **Lord, Have Mercy**

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

**Lord, have mercy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

**Amen.**

## **Glory Be to God on High**

CW 157



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



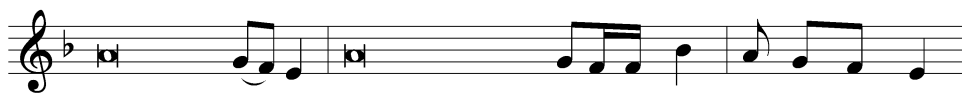
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,




God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.

For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the

Ho-ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

## THE WORD

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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.

**Amen.**

### First Reading

Ezekiel 34:11-16,23-24

*Since the time of King David, Israel had called its kings "shepherds". In this passage, God himself talks about shepherding his people. He describes this in first-person pronouns. I will guide them; I will guard them; I will seek them; I will find them. If that's not enough, he goes on to say that he will raise up a greater son of David who will be their Good Shepherd, their Shepherd King.*

<sup>11</sup>“For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. <sup>12</sup>As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. <sup>13</sup>I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. <sup>14</sup>I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. <sup>16</sup>I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

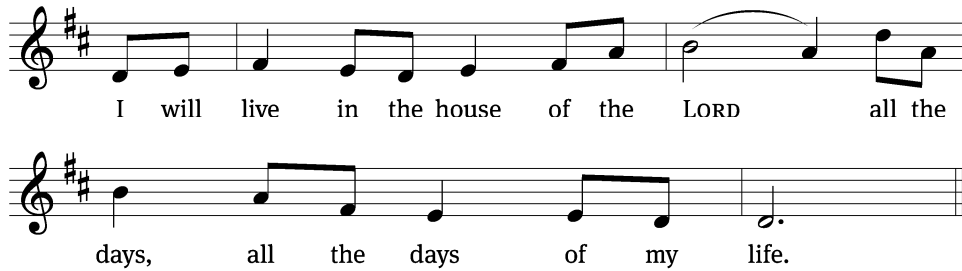
<sup>23</sup>I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the LORD have spoken.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm: I Will Live in the House of the LORD

Psalm 23A

### Refrain



I will live in the house of the LORD all the  
days, all the days of my life.

### Tone



The LORD is my / shepherd,  
I lack / nothing.

He makes me lie down in green / pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet / waters,  
he refreshes / my soul.

He guides me along the right paths for his / name's sake.  
Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no / evil,  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they / comfort me. **Refrain**

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my / enemies.

You anoint my head with oil; my cup / overflows.  
Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days / of my life,  
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD for- / ever.

**Glory be to the Father and / to the Son  
and to the Holy / Spirit,  
as it was in the be- / ginning,**

**is now, and will be forever. / Amen. Refrain**

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## Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:20–28

*What did Jesus do? His death on the cross wasn't the end. The resurrection wasn't the end. The ascension wasn't the end. In the end, Christ the King will come and put all things under him. Then he will give the Church and all things to God the Father, including himself, that God may be all in all.*

<sup>20</sup>But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup>For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. <sup>22</sup>For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. <sup>23</sup>But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. <sup>24</sup>Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. <sup>25</sup>For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be destroyed is death. <sup>27</sup>For he “has put everything under his feet.” Now when it says that “everything” has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. <sup>28</sup>When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Gospel Acclamation

Revelation 19:12,16

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

On his head are many crowns, and on his robe this name is written:

**KING OF KINGS AND LORD OF LORDS.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

## Gospel

Matthew 27:27-31

*Can you imagine the scene leading to the resurrection! Jesus is God. He created everything. Yet he allowed petty little men to mock him and torture him in order that he might save us. He could have swept them away with a word. Instead, he traded his death for our life. Rejoice in Christ the King, who came as our sacrifice.*

<sup>27</sup>Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. <sup>28</sup>They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, <sup>29</sup>and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand. Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. <sup>30</sup>They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. <sup>31</sup>After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## Hymn of the Day: The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns

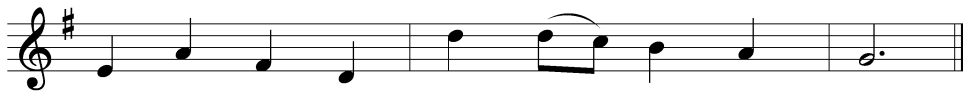
CW 531



1 The head that once was crowned with thorns is  
2 The high - est place that heav'n af - fords is  
3 The joy of all who dwell a - bove, the  
4 To them the cross, with all its shame, with



crowned with glo - ry now; a roy - al di - a -  
his, is his by right, the King of kings and  
joy of all be - low, to whom he man - i -  
all its grace, is giv'n; their name, an ev - er -



dem a - dorns the might - y vic - tor's brow.  
Lord of lords and heav'n's e - ter - nal light;  
fests his love and grants his name to know.  
last - ing name, their joy, the joy of heav'n.

- 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.
- 6 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.

## Jesus, Our Divine King, Shepherds Us

- A. With his searching love
- B. With his lavish love

*Sermon by Rev. Gregg Bitter, adapted. Used by permission  
Ministering Elder: Jim Dietz*

*Stand and turn toward the aisle as we encourage one another in our shared faith*

### Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.**

**The third day he rose again from the dead.**

**He ascended into heaven**

**and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.**

**From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Christian Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

### Prayer of the Church for Christ the King Sunday

Lord Jesus Christ, blessed are you, the King who comes to set your people free.

**Reign over us in your abundant mercy.**

While we long for your final coming, we rejoice that you lengthen these end times so that many may hear of your saving work and believe.

**Send your Spirit on us that we may use the gift of time to share our faith with others.**

Lord and King, defend all who are imprisoned or insulted because of your name. Come to help those whose Christian faith is mocked as foolish or naïve, and rescue those who are straying from the faith.

**Lead us to those who need help, guide us in our works of service, and strengthen us with a firm resolve to follow you in obedience.**

Lord of the Church, develop in us a new awareness of the gifts you give us to use in our callings, that your kingdom of grace may flourish.

**Bless and preserve Christian churches everywhere and raise up another generation of faithful workers.**

Both in humiliation and glory you extended your loving hand to the weak and the hurting. Speak to those who are confused and wondering. Defend those who are oppressed and put down. Comfort those who are enduring pain or struggling with sadness. Abide with the aged who are alone as they die and protect pregnant mothers and their unborn children.

**Move us to see your face in them, Lord Jesus and to help them as we serve you.**

Mighty King, look with mercy on this land, its government, and all the kingdoms of the world. Relieve us from war, bloodshed, and rebellion.

**Grant us wisdom as we deal with a changing economy. Provide for the unemployed and their families. Open the hearts of those who prosper to be generous and willing to share.**

*Special prayers and intercessions may follow.*

... Lord, in your mercy,

**Hear our prayer.**

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

*Silent prayer*

Coming King and Savior of the world, keep us faithful to the end as we watch and wait for your return.

**Amen.**

**Offering** – *The mail at church is being collected. Offerings may be mailed to:*

*Peace Ev. Lutheran Church, 200 E. Beidler Road, King of Prussia, PA 19406*

## Offering Hymn

CW 750



1 We give thee but thine own, what-e'er the gift may be;  
2 May we thy boun-ties thus as stew-ards true re-ceive



all that we have is thine a-lone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.  
and glad-ly, as thou bless-est us, to thee our first-fruits give.

Let us pray:

God, we thank you for teaching us the things you want us to believe and do. Help us by your Holy Spirit to keep your Word in pure hearts that we may be strengthened in faith, guided in holiness, and comforted in life and in death, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

## Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.**

**Give us today our daily bread.**

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those  
who sin against us.**

**Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours  
now and forever. Amen.**



## Hymn: The King of Love My Shepherd Is

CW 552



1 The King of love my shep - herd is, whose  
2 Where streams of liv - ing wa - ter flow, my  
3 Per - verse and fool - ish oft I strayed, but  
4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill with



good - ness fails me nev - er; I noth - ing lack if  
Sav - ior gent - ly leads me, and where the ver - dant  
yet in love he sought me and on his shoul - der  
you, dear Lord, be - side me, your rod and staff my



I am his, and he is mine for - ev - er.  
pas - tures grow, with food ce - les - tial feeds me.  
gent - ly laid and home, re - joic - ing, brought me.  
com - fort still, your cross be - fore to guide me.

- 5 You spread a table in my sight,  
a banquet here bestowing;  
your oil of welcome, my delight;  
my cup is overflowing!
- 6 And so through all the length of days  
your goodness fails me never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing your praise  
within your house forever!

## Blessing

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.

**Amen.**

## Closing Hymn: O God from God, O Light from Light

CW 629



1 O God from God, O Light from Light, O Prince of  
2 For deep in proph - ets' sa - cred page, and grand in  
3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, that death of  
4 Then sing to Christ a might - y song; ex - tol his



Peace and King of kings, to you in heav - en's  
po - ets' wing - ed word, slow - ly in type, from  
pain mid hate and scorn— these all are past, and  
name, his mer - cies tell! Sing, heav'n - ly hosts, your



glo - ry bright the song of praise for - ev - er rings.  
 age to age the na - tions saw their com - ing Lord;  
 now a - bove he reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.  
 praise pro - long, and all on earth, your an - them swell!



To him who sits up - on the throne, the Lamb once  
 till through the deep Ju - de - an night rang out the  
 Lift up your heads, you heav'n - ly gates! So sang his  
 All hail, O Lamb for sin - ners slain! For - ev - er



slain but raised a - gain, be all the glo - ry  
 song, "Good will to men!" What an - gels sang in  
 hosts, un - heard by men. Lift up your heads, for  
 let the song as - cend! To Christ the King, en -



he has won, all thanks and praise! A - men, a - men.  
 heav'n - ly light re - ech - oes now, "Good will!" A - men.  
 you he waits. We lift them up. A - men, a - men.  
 throned to reign, all glo - ry, pow'r! A - men, a - men.

**Silent prayer – Announcements**

**Acknowledgments:**

Setting One from Christian Worship

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