



**Christ the King**

# CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH | Lodi, California

*November 22, 2020*

## WELCOME TO WORSHIP

Welcome to Christ Lutheran Church. We pray that your soul will be strengthened by the good news about God's grace, love, and forgiveness given to us. If you would like to learn more about our church, please speak with our pastor or one of our members after the service.

- **Bathrooms** are located in the fellowship hall. A changing table is located in the women's bathroom.

## WORSHIP THEME

Lord, keep us joyful in Christ 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. And we rejoice because our 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!

# OPENING HYMN

341 Crown Him with Many Crowns



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on his  
2 Crown him the Lord of love— Be - hold his hands and  
3 Crown him the Lord of life, Who tri - umphed o'er the  
4 Crown him the Lord of heav'n, En - throned in worlds a -



throne; Hark how the heav'n - ly an - them drowns All  
side, Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In  
grave And rose vic - to - rious in the strife For  
bove; Crown him the King to whom is giv'n The



mu - sic but its own. A - wake, my soul, and  
beau - ty glo - ri - fied. No an - gel in the  
those he came to save. His glo - ries now we  
won - drous name of Love. Crown him with man - y



sing Of him who died for thee, And hail him  
sky Can ful - ly bear that sight, But down - ward  
sing Who died and rose on high, Who died e -  
crowns As thrones be - fore him fall; Crown him, ye



as thy match-less King Through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
bends his won-d'ring eye At mys - ter - ies so bright.  
ter - nal life to bring And lives that death may die.  
kings, with man - y crowns For he is King of all.

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.

## INVOCATION

M: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

**C:** And also with you.

## CONFESSION OF SINS

**M:** We have come into the presence of God, who created us to love and serve him as his dear children. But we have disobeyed him and deserve only his wrath and punishment. Therefore, let us confess our sins to him and plead for his mercy.

**C:** **Merciful Father in heaven, I am altogether sinful from birth. In countless ways I have sinned against you and do not deserve to be called your child. But trusting in Jesus, my Savior, I pray: Have mercy on me according to your unfailing love. Cleanse me from my sin, and take away my guilt.**

**M:** God, our heavenly Father, has forgiven all your sins. By the perfect life and innocent death of our Lord Jesus Christ, he has removed your guilt forever. You are his own dear child. May God give you strength to live according to his will.

**C:** **Amen.**

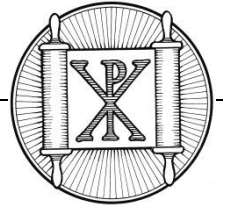
**M:** In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

**C:** Oh, taste and see that the Lord is good. Bless - ed are  
they who take ref - uge in him. Your Word, O Lord, is e -  
ter - nal; it stands firm in the heav -  
ens. Your faith - ful - ness con - tin - ues for -



## The Service of the Word

*Having just received absolution for their sins, believers now gather around the Word of God to find encouragement and peace for their lives on earth.*



### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Almighty God, Your Son willingly endured the agony and shame of the cross for our redemption. Grant us courage to take up our cross daily and follow him wherever he leads; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen

The **Collect** (also known as the "Prayer of the Day") is a concise prayer which "collects" the thoughts of the day and presents them to God in his mercy. Many of these prayers have been in use in the church for more than 1,500 years.

### FIRST LESSON

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 23,24

*God expected his kings to gently lead his people by their godly words and actions. Instead, they exploited the people for their own purposes. God intervened. He said, "I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David." Jesus is that perfect Shepherd-King.*

<sup>11</sup> "For this is what the Lord GOD says: See, I myself will search for my flock and look for them. <sup>12</sup> As a shepherd looks for his sheep on the day he is among his scattered flock, so I will look for my flock. I will rescue them from all the places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and total darkness. <sup>13</sup> I will bring them out from the peoples, gather them from the countries, and bring them to their own soil. I will shepherd them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the land. <sup>14</sup> I will tend them in good pasture, and their grazing place will be on Israel's lofty mountains. There they will lie down in a good grazing place; they will feed in rich

pasture on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup> I will tend my flock and let them lie down. This is the declaration of the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup> I will seek the lost, bring back the strays, bandage the injured, and strengthen the weak, but I will destroy<sup>[a]</sup> the fat and the strong. I will shepherd them with justice.

<sup>23</sup> I will establish over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will shepherd them. He will tend them himself and will be their shepherd.

<sup>24</sup> I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David will be a prince among them. I, the LORD, have spoken.

## PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 47

### *Refrain*



Let the peo - ple praise you, O God.



Let all the peo - ple praise you.

### *Psalm tone*



Clap your hands, all you nations;  
 shout to God with cries of joy.  
 How awesome is the LORD Most High,  
 the great King over all the earth!  
 God reigns over the nations;  
 God is seated on his holy throne.

### *Refrain*

God has ascended amid shouts of joy,  
 the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.  
 Sing praises to God, sing praises;  
 sing praises to our King, sing praises.  
 For God is the King of all the earth;  
 sing to him a psalm of praise.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.  
*Refrain*

## SECOND LESSON

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

*Christ's bodily resurrection from the dead is the guarantee that we will rise after him to be with him as he reigns.*

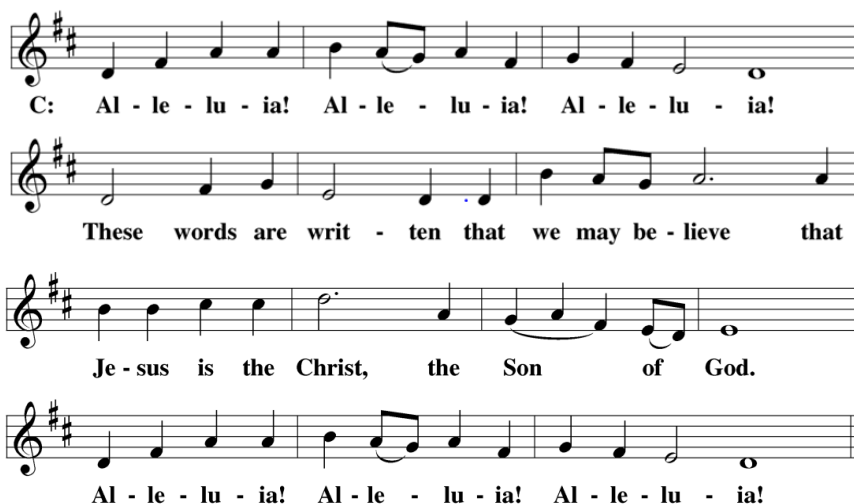
<sup>20</sup> But as it is, Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup> For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead also comes through a man. <sup>22</sup> For just as in Adam all die, so also in Christ all will be made alive.

<sup>23</sup> But each in his own order: Christ, the firstfruits; afterward, at his coming, those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup> Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, when he abolishes all rule and all authority and power. <sup>25</sup> For he must reign until he puts all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup> The last enemy to be abolished is death. <sup>27</sup> For **God has put everything under his feet.**<sup>[a]</sup> Now when it says “everything” is put under him, it is obvious that he who puts everything under him is the exception. <sup>28</sup> When everything is subject to Christ, then the Son himself will also be subject to the one who subjected everything to him, so that God may be all in all.

## VERSE OF THE DAY

Revelation 22:13

**Alleluia. I am the Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Alleluia.**



## THE GOSPEL

Matthew 27:27-31

*Jesus is King. Unlike other kings, our Savior is a King who conquers by allowing himself to be conquered.*

<sup>27</sup>Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the governor's residence and gathered the whole company<sup>[a]</sup> around him. <sup>28</sup>They stripped him and dressed him in a scarlet robe. <sup>29</sup>They twisted together a crown of thorns, put it on his head, and placed a staff in his right hand. And they knelt down before him and mocked him: "Hail, king of the Jews!" <sup>30</sup>Then they spat on him, took the staff, and kept hitting him on the head. <sup>31</sup>After they had mocked him, they stripped him of the robe, put his own clothes on him, and led him away to crucify him.

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise be to you, O Christ!

## HYMN OF THE DAY

217 The Head that Once Was Crowned





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  
 5 They suf - fer with their Lord be - low; They



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 -  
 reign with him a - bove, Their pro - fit and their



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

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855.

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

## SERMON

1 Corinthians 15:20-28

## I Guarantee It

## CONFESSION OF FAITH

## Jesus' Return and the Judgment

M: What does Scripture lead us to believe, teach, and confess about the return of Christ?

**C: We believe that Jesus, true God and true man, who rose from death and ascended to the right hand of the Father, will come again. He will return visibly, in the same way as his disciples saw him go into heaven (Acts 1:11).**

M: In his Word, what does Jesus teach us about the timing of his return?

**C: We believe that no one can know the exact time of Jesus' return. This knowledge is hidden even from the angels in heaven (Matthew 24:36). Nevertheless, our Lord has given signs to his believers to keep them in constant expectation of his return (Matthew 24:4-14). He has told them to be alert and to watch so that day will not come upon them unexpectedly (Luke 21:34).**

M: The people of this world believe that their own efforts may preserve this world and prevent its eventual ruin. What do you believe about this world and the world to come?

**C: We believe that at Jesus' return this present world will come to an end. "In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness" (2 Peter 3:13).**

M: Christ our King continues to build his church through his Gospel in Word and Sacrament. What do you believe that encourages our Christian proclamation today?

**C: We believe that when Jesus returns and his voice is heard throughout the earth, all the dead will rise, that is, their souls will be reunited with their bodies (John 5:28,29). Together with those still living, the resurrected will appear before his throne of judgment. The unbelievers will be condemned to an eternity in hell. Those who by faith have been cleansed in the blood of Christ will be glorified and will live with Jesus forever in the blessed presence of God in heaven (Philippians 3:21).**

## OFFERING

*Of all the gifts God gives to us, forgiveness in Jesus Christ is the most precious. No gift we could give back to God for what he did through his Son Jesus Christ could ever balance the debt we owe for what our Lord accomplished for us on the cross. Yet Jesus says the debt we owe has been canceled, that means that we do not give out of obligation but as an act of worship and thanks to God. The offerings of the members of Christ Lutheran are gathered at this time. Guests need not feel obligated to give an offering.*

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

**M:** Lord God, you created the heavens and the earth.

**C:** Every animal of the forest is yours as well as the cattle on a thousand hills.

**M:** Lord, from your hand come boundless blessings.

**C:** We thank you, Lord, for making us your stewards. We pray that you will grant us faith so we can please you in our stewardship.

**M:** Lord, help us to see the time, the talents, and the financial resources we have are a sacred trust from you.

**C:** We ask for your help, Lord, to use all our resources in worthwhile activities that will give you honor and praise.

**M:** Lord, help us to spend time in your Word and in prayer that you might nourish the faith you give us.

**C:** Please change us, Lord, from fear and selfishness to trust and generosity.

*Special prayers and petitions may be offered here.*

**M:** Help us, Lord, to be wise and fruitful stewards of the opportunities that you give us to use our gifts.

**C:** Amen.

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

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.

## **HYMN**

721 If Christ Had Not Been Raised from Death

## 721 If Christ Had Not Been Raised From Death



1 If Christ had not been raised from death,  
 2 If Christ still lay with - in the tomb,  
 3 If Christ had not been tru - ly raised,



Our faith would be in vain, Our preach - ing but a  
 Then death would be the end, And we should face our  
 His Church would live a lie; His name should nev - er -



waste of breath, Our sin and guilt re - main.  
 fi - nal doom With nei - ther guide nor friend.  
 more be praised; His words de - serve to die.



But now the Lord is ris'n in - deed. He  
 But now the Sav - ior is raised up, So  
 But now our great Re - deem - er lives; Through



rules in earth and heav'n: His gos - pel meets a  
 when a Chris - tian dies We mourn, yet look to  
 him we are re - stored; His Word en - dures, his



world of need— In Christ we are for - giv'n.  
 God in hope— In Christ the saints a - rise!  
 Church re - vives In Christ, our ris - en Lord.

*The hymn writer brings to mind the implications of Christ not being raised from death that Saint Paul delineates in his famous resurrection chapter, 1 Corinthians 15.*

Text: Christopher M. Idle, b. 1938 © 1985 The Jubilate Group (admin. Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188). All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Tune: UNION CITY (CM D) Phillip Magness, b. 1963 © 2003 Phillip Magness. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

## PRAYER

M: O Lord God, our heavenly Father, pour out the Holy Spirit on your faithful people.  
Keep us strong in your grace and truth, protect and comfort us in all temptation, and  
bestow on us your saving peace, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns  
with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

## THE BLESSING

*Numbers 6:22-27*

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

M: 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.

*The  **blessing** of Aaron has been spoken over God's people for 3,500 years. The Lord said, "So I will put my name on them, and I will bless them."*



C: A - men. A - men. A - men.

*Be seated*

## CLOSING HYMN

731 The King Will Come at Age's End

## 731

## The King Will Come at Age's End



1 The King will come at age - 's end,  
 2 The book of life will name its names,  
 3 All - glo - rious on his gleam - ing throne,  
 4 And nights of tears, though late and long,  
 5 A - men, a - men! Lord Je - sus, come!



The trum - pets trill, the heav - ens rend,  
 Each bought by cross - 's bit - ter pain,  
 The King will claim his saints, his own,  
 Will dis - ap - pear in splen - did dawn,  
 My Sav - ior fair, come bear me home.



Un - veil - ing new Je - ru - sa - lem.  
 Each inked in blood and sealed in flame.  
 And with them dwell and make a home.  
 And deeps of death will all be gone.  
 For you are King of kings a - lone!



Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia!  
 Al - le - lu - ia!

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