



Resurrection Lutheran Church

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Pastor Mitch Phillips • Pastor Ryan Bailey

Christ the King Sunday, November 22, 2020

*Resurrection is a congregation of the
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.*

**Welcome to Worship
At Resurrection Lutheran Church**



Our HOLY PURPOSE

It is our holy purpose as Resurrection People to respond to God's grace by being instruments of transformation and love in our surrounding community. We are called to welcome ALL people, nurture them in faith, equip them for the shared work of ministry, and serve others that ALL may know God's love.

We welcome you to our community of faith. Many things are different from our usual during this time of pandemic precautions. We ask that you follow all precautions that we have put in place as we strive to follow Jesus' command to love our neighbor and be mindful of the needs of the most vulnerable among us.

Children are welcome in church! God's people come in all shapes and sizes – it is a gift to our whole community when the youngest of us are present. Sitting alongside of parents and other adults and learning to treasure times of worship together builds strong faith. We will re-open our nursery at some point in the future, but it is not safe for us to do so yet.

We ask that after worship concludes that you not congregate in the sanctuary or in the narthex. If you wish to visit with other worship participants, please do so outside of the building.

HOLY COMMUNION

Evangelical Lutheran Worship
Setting One

Christ the King Sunday
November 22, 2020

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.

GATHERING

Prelude

Upon entering the sanctuary, we help to create a worshipful environment by keeping movement and noise to a minimum. The time may be used for prayer, pre-reading the Scriptures or hymns for the day, or simply preparing the soul for an encounter with God.

Welcome and Greetings

Invocation

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

- ☞ Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
who calls us into an everlasting hope,
who guides us to springs of the water of life,
who enlightens us with the spirit of wisdom.
- ☞ Amen.

Prayer of the Day

The Presiding Minister “collects” the thoughts for the main theme of today’s worship in this historic ecumenical prayer also called “The Collect,” appointed for this day.

☐ Let us 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.**

WORD

First Lesson

Ezekiel 34:1-16, 20-24

Because Israel’s kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The Lord will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, “my servant David,” who will feed and care for the people.

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.

☐ Word of God, word of life.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:31-46

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.

P The Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

C **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[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.”

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon

Pastor Ryan Bailey

Hymn of the Day

Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart!

While we cannot sing as a congregation, we share these words for your reflection.

- 1 Rejoice, ye pure in heart!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing;
your festal banner wave on high,
the cross of Christ your king.

Refrain

Rejoice! Rejoice!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!

- 2 With voice as full and strong
as ocean's surging praise,
send forth the sturdy hymns of old,
the psalms of ancient days. *Refrain*
- 3 With all the angel choirs,
with all the saints on earth
pour out the strains of joy and bliss,
true rapture, noblest mirth. *Refrain*
- 4 Still lift your standard high,
still march in firm array,
as pilgrims through the darkness wend
till dawns the golden day. *Refrain*
- 5 At last the march shall end;
the wearied ones shall rest;
the pilgrims find their home at last,
Jerusalem the blest. *Refrain*
- 6 Praise God who reigns on high,
the Lord whom we adore:
the Father, Son, and Spirit blest,
one God forevermore. *Refrain*

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1821-1891, alt.

Apostles' Creed

**☩ I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

Prayers of the Church

We gather our individual and communal intercessions and thanksgivings, remembering our connection to the universal Church on earth and in heaven. During indicated times of silence, we may remember names in silence or speak them aloud in the assembly of God's people. After each "Hear us, O God" all may respond with "Your mercy is great."

The Peace

After the exchange of Peace with the pastor and the online congregation, worshipers are invited to make a pandemic appropriate gesture of Peace – a wave, "air hug," etc. – with each other.

MEAL

Holy Communion

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

P In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your reign and teach us to pray:

C **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.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and forever. Amen.**

Distribution

P There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.

The Lord's Table is open to all Christians. Adults and children who do not commune are invited to come forward for a blessing, indicated by crossing their arms across their chest. The flow for distribution is intended to ensure that nobody speaks or stands over the communion elements without a face covering. Allow the pastor to drop the bread into your outstretched hands. Help yourself to an individual cup of wine and then step into the open space to remove your mask and consume the bread and wine. Place your empty cup in the basket as you return to your seat. (WHITE grape juice is in the center of each tray.)

SENDING

Post-Communion Blessing

P The body and the blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C Amen.

Post-Communion Prayer

P Lord Jesus,
in this simple meal you have set a banquet.
Sustain us on the journey,
strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,
and give us glad and generous hearts
as we meet you on the way.

C Amen.

Blessing

☐ May the God of all creation,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved,
who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!
The blessing of God,
Sovereign, ✠ Savior, and Spirit,
be with you today and always.

☑ **Amen.**

Dismissal

We are dismissed in joy and peace, exiting the door of the church as a “servant’s entrance” into our work in the world.

☐ Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

☑ **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Acknowledgements

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