CHRIST THE KING
November 22nd, 2026 – 9:30 AM

WELCOME



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.

- ✞ Officiant & Preacher – The Reverend Diane Burkland
- ✞ Liturgists – Dr. Glenn Burkland & Jason Marr

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✞ one God, our dwelling place for all generations, whose compassion never slumbers. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Holy God, **we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved. We trust the voice of our shame and fear, which keeps us from entering fully into relationship with you and others. We are not awake to the coming of your reign. Rouse us and rescue us, that we may enter into your joy. Amen.**

Inherit the riches of God's grace. ✞ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you. **Amen.**

OPENING HYMN: ELW#855 - Crown Him with Many Crowns

Prayer of the Day - 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.**

GOD'S HOLY WORD

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24



11 Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them
out. 12 As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered
sheep, so I will sort 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. 13 I will
bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and 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. 14 I 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. 15 I myself
will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. 16 I will
seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, 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.

[20] Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. [21] Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, [22] I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

[23] I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. [24] And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the LORD have spoken.

The Word of the Lord…**Thanks be to God!**

Psalm 95:1 – 7a



[1] Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

[2] **Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

[3] For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.

[4] **In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.**

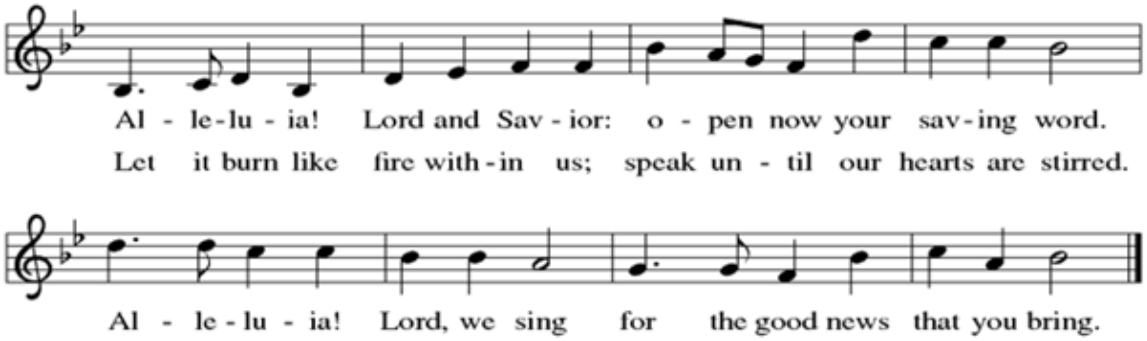
[5] The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.

[6] **Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

[7a] For the LORD is our God,

and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL

A Reading from the Holy Gospel of Matthew 25: 31 - 46; **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. [32] All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, [33] and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. [34] Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, [35] for 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, [36] I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.'

37 Then 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? 38 And when was it that we saw you a
stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw
you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just
as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' 41 Then
he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal
fire prepared for the devil and his angels, 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was
thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I 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.' 44 Then
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?' 45 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.' 46 And
these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord…**Praise to You, Lord Jesus Christ!**

SERMON – Sheep, Goats and our Eternal Inheritance

The Reverend Diane Burkland

***HYMN*: ELW#708 - Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

✞ *We recognize all joining us virtually and give voice to any greetings or prayer requests.*

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation. *A brief silence.*

Prepare your people for your reign to come among us. Where the church is wary, make us bold; where we are complacent, stir us to action; where we are anxious, assure us of your never-ending care. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All the heights, depths, and expanses of the earth belong to you. Deliver every corner of your creation from disaster. Restore lands ravaged by floods, fires, drought, or contamination. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gather all the nations at your side and teach them the ways of your kingdom of wholeness and abundant life. Empower judges, juries, and legal advocates to create and uphold pathways toward transformative justice. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bind up the wounds of all your people. Give courage to all who experience uncertainty, guide all people facing difficult decisions, and lift the spirits of any who are in need. Grace those from our families and community that we now name silently in our hearts, or out loud, with our prayers and your blessings. *(Please name silently or out loud)*.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Accompany communities struggling with conflict. Help us to listen deeply to one another, that we might know one another more fully and release any hurt or anger. Create ways of healing and reconciliation among us. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Guide our congregation in our search for a shepherd to lead Zion with humility, love, and grace. Lord, bless our search process, our call committee and open doors to reveal the right candidate to us. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fill us with the spirit of wisdom and perseverance that you grant to all the saints, and bring us, at the last, into the hope of your promised new day.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved. **Amen.**

OFFERING & OFFERING PRAYER

Almighty God, As we come before you with our offerings, we are reminded of our constant need for you in our lives. You are our provider, our sustainer, and our strength. Without you, we are nothing. May these gifts be a symbol of our dependence on you, acknowledging that all we have comes from your hand. Help us to rely on you more fully in every aspect of our lives, trusting in your unfailing love and care. **Amen.**

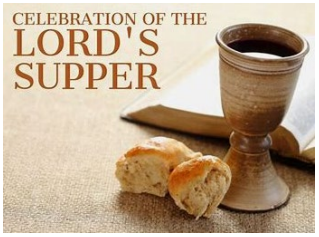
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Jesus said: Behold, I stand at the door and knock. If those who hear my voice open the door, I will come in to them and eat with them, and they with me.

Let us pray: You are holy, O God of majesty and blessed is your Son, our Lord. Born as a King in David's line, he lived with the lowly and cared for the least of your children. His power was revealed in weakness, his majesty in mercy. His captors knelt to mock him, giving him bruises instead of praise, and piercing thorns for a crown. His only earthly throne was a cross on which to die. Even there his arms stretched out to embrace friends and foes in love. From the grave you raised him to your right hand where he rules again from heaven.

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. Keep us faithful in your service until Christ comes in final victory and we shall feast with all your saints in the joy of your eternal realm.

And hear us as we pray the prayer Jesus taught his disciples: **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.**



On the night he was betrayed, our Lord took bread, and after giving thanks he broke it and said, "Take, eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same manner also he took the cup, blessed it and said," This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink this cup, do it in remembrance of me."

The body of Christ, the bread of heaven. The blood of Christ, the cup of salvation. The gifts of God for the people of God. May we partake with thanks.

Invitation to Communion – In bread and cup the reign of Christ is breaking in. Come, receive what Christ has prepared.

OUR TIME OF COMMUNION WITH THE LORD!

COMMUNION HYMNS:

***1*: Majesty**	***2*: Name Above All Names**
Majesty, worship His majesty. Unto Jesus be all glory, honor, and praise. Majesty, kingdom authority Flow from His throne unto His own His anthem raise. So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus. Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King. Majesty, worship His majesty, Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings. © 1981 New Spring, *CCLI License # 22085334*	Jesus name above all names Beautiful Savior, glorious Lord Emmanuel, God is with us Blessed Redeemer living Word. Jesus, loving Shepherd Vine of the branches, Son of God Prince of Peace, Wonderful Counselor Lord of the universe, Light of the world. Praise him, Lord above all lords, King above all kings, God's only Son The Prince of Peace, who by his Spirit Comes to live in us, Savior and Friend *c. 1974, 1978 Universal Music, Brentwood Benson Publishing, CCLI License # 22085334*

COMMUNION HYMN 3: Thou Art Worthy

Thou art worthy, Thou art worthy,
Thou art worthy, O Lord,
To receive glory, glory and honor,
Glory and honor and power.
For Thou has created, has all things created,
Thou hast created all things.
And for Thy pleasure they are created,
Thou art worthy, O Lord.

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Closing Prayer - Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. **Amen.**

Blessing - The holy Trinity, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always. **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN: ELW#723 - O God of Every Nation

Dismissal: Go in peace. Encourage one another. **Thanks be to God.**

Notes: