Christ the King **November 22, 2026**

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE ***All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*** PRENTISS

CONFESSION AND 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.**

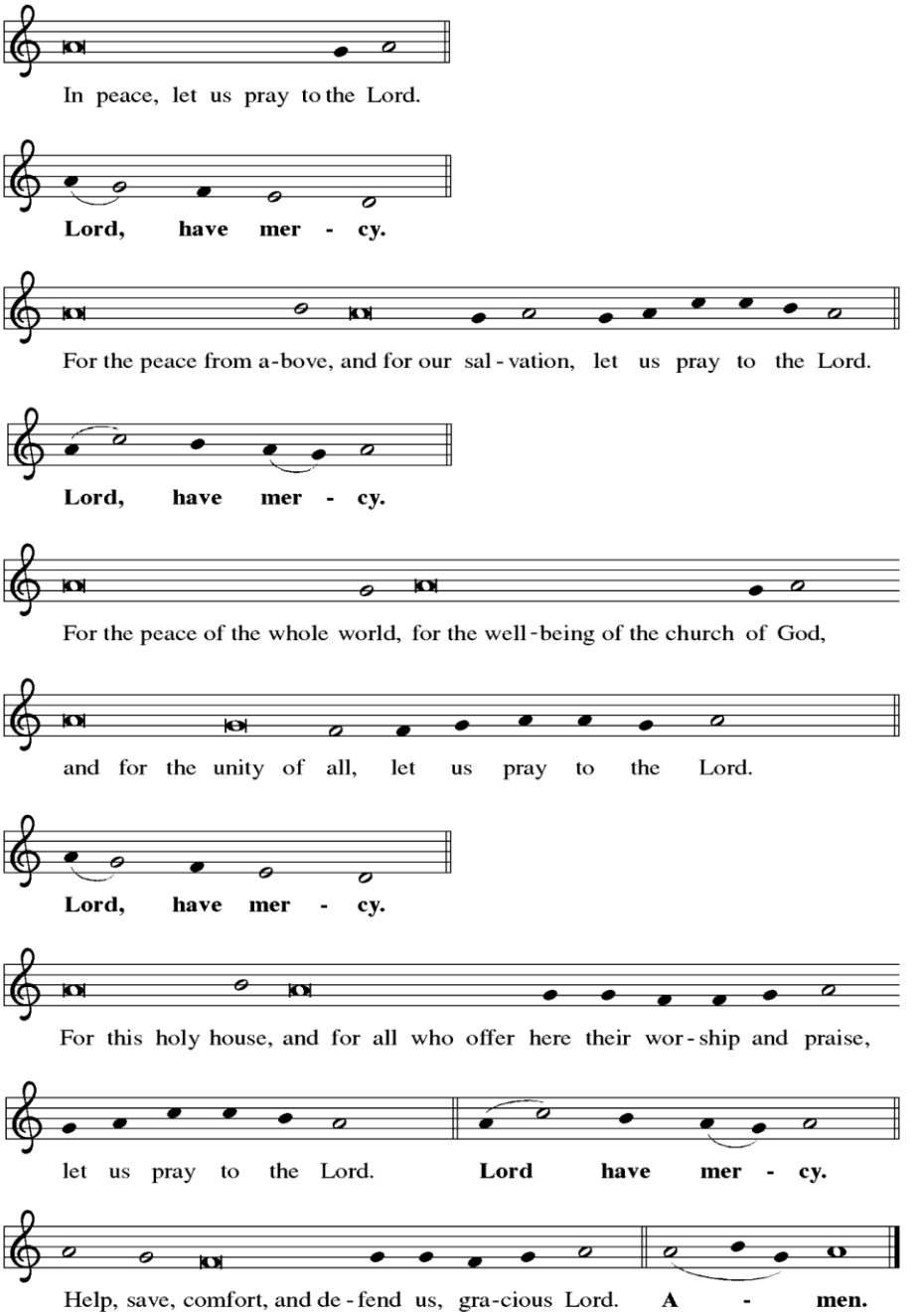
Inherit the riches of God's grace. ☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy. You are forgiven. Blessed are you.

HYMN #634 ***All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!*** CORONATION

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all! **And also with you.**

KYRIE ELEISON [LORD, HAVE MERCY] and **WORTHY IS CHRIST**




Assisting minister
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu - ia.
All
1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and
strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.
Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu - ia.
2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the
hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.
Final refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain
has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together. 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.**

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 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.

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 *(sing responsively)*



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 a- | bove 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.

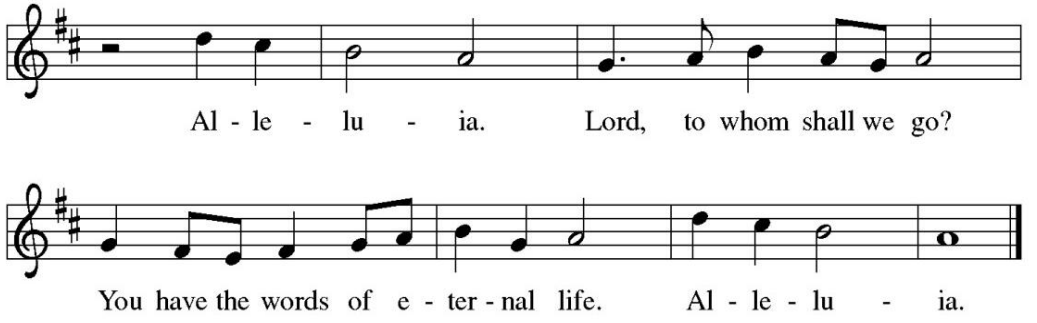
SECOND READING: Ephesians 1: 15-23

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

[15] I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason [16] I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, [17] 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, [18] so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, [19] and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. [20] God 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, [21] far 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. [22] And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, [23] which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



HOLY GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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.

[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, O Christ.**

SERMON *Pastor Tucker O'Leary, n/OLF*

HYMN #826 ***Thine the Amen*** THINE

APOSTLES' CREED
With voices united, let us confess our faith
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.

THE PRAYERS
United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation

A brief silence.

…*God, in your mercy,* **hear our prayer.**

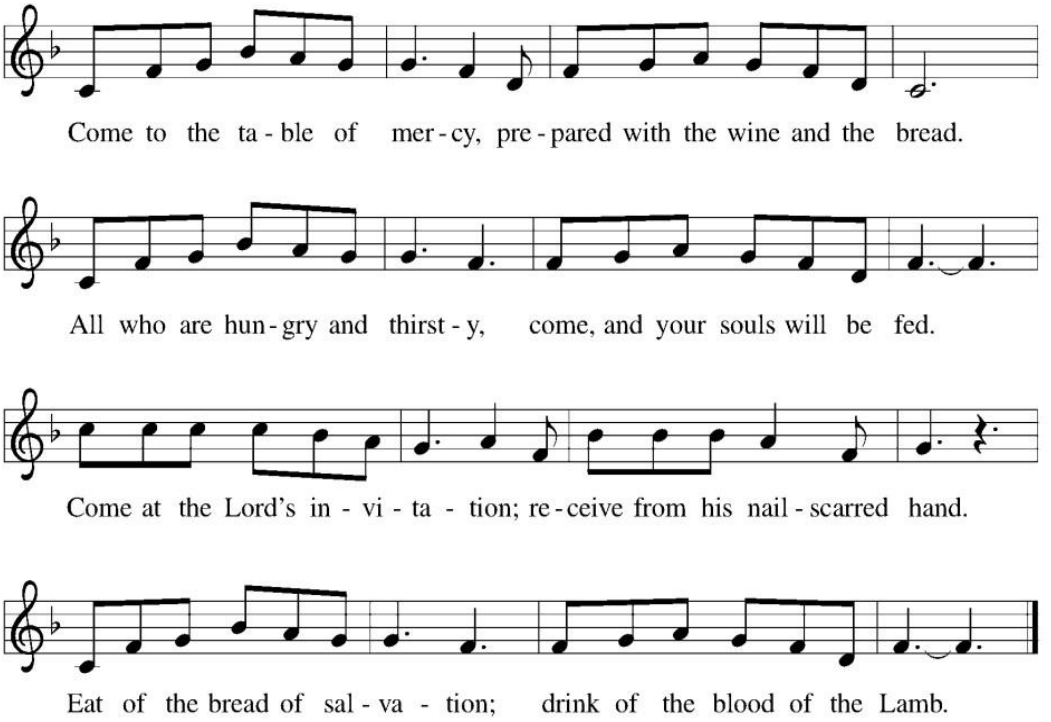
Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved. **Amen.**

CHILDREN'S SERMON

PASSING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING (8:15) ***Lord, I Am Not Worthy*** CALLAHAN
(10:45) Senior Choir ***Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us*** ARTMAN
with Crystal Clark on Flute

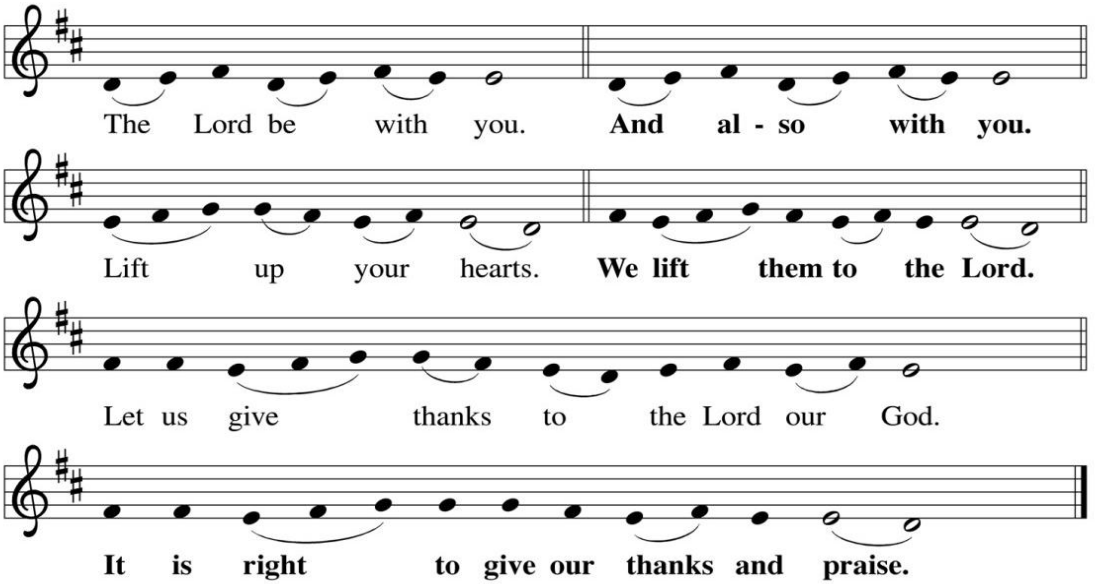
OFFERTORY #481 ***Come to the Table of Mercy*** COME TO THE TABLE



OFFERING PRAYER

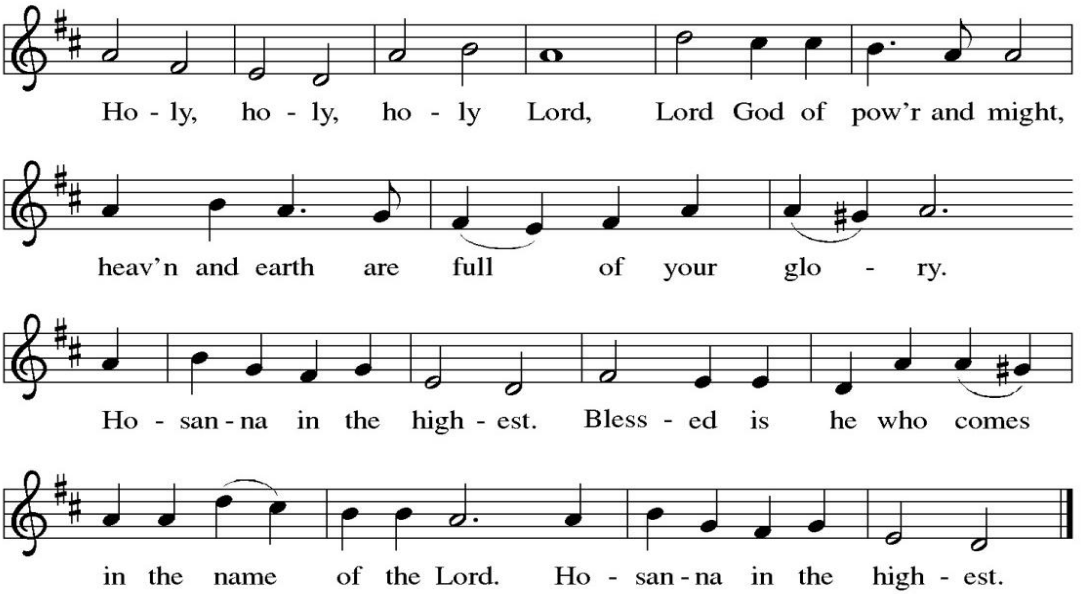
Let us pray. Eternal God, **our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you. Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until we hunger no more, and all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SANCTUS [HOLY, HOLY, HOLY]



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

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

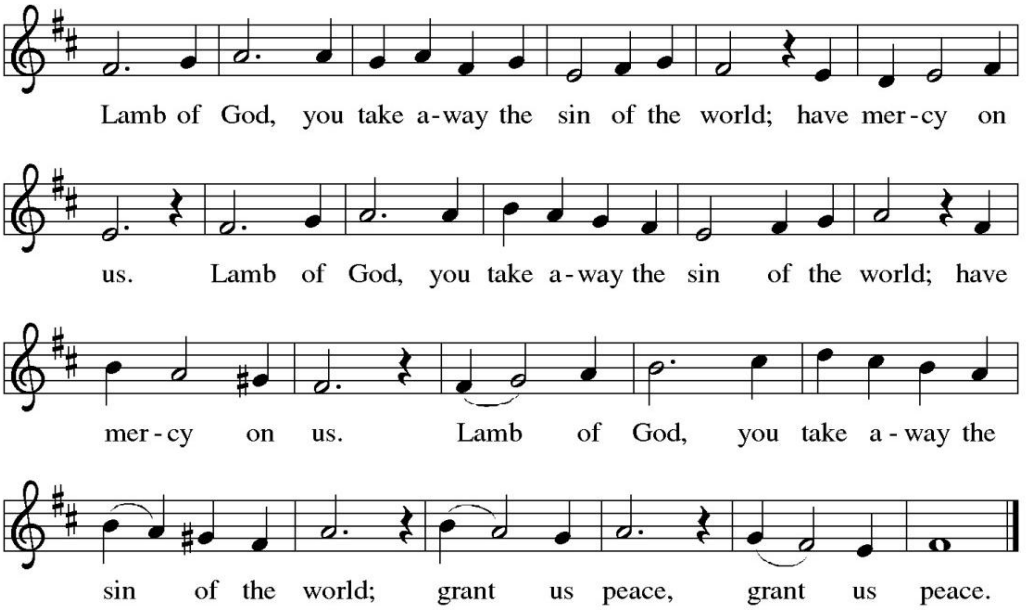
Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

AGNUS DEI [LAMB OF GOD]



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

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER
Let us pray. 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**.

SENDING HYMN #264 ***Prepare the Royal Highway*** BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

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

POSTLUDE ***Jesus Shall Reign*** KELLEY

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First Lutheran

Sunday Worship 8:15 & 10:45

Jesus Shall Reign

Welcome to First Lutheran Church. During our services of Holy Communion, we follow Jesus' teachings that all people are welcome to his table. This meal of faith, hope, and love is meant for all people for the forgiveness of sins. Feel free to come forward and receive the bread, or wheat-free and gluten-free wafer, along with a small cup of wine or grape juice. If you wish to receive a blessing instead of communion, simply cross your arms over your chest as a sign of your preference

WE ASK EVERYONE to complete the "Footprints" and list if you are communing or have a prayer request. You may write your prayer request(s) on the back. Please check YES for the name to be included in the bulletin or NO if you want the name to be known only to the prayer teams. We strive for confidentiality, so be sure you have the person's permission, or use only the first name. There are activity bags for our young worshippers. Please ask an usher for assistance.

THE ALTAR FLOWERS THIS MORNING are given to the glory of God by Sandra Burnside in loving memory of her husband Jon.

IN THE HALLWAY be sure to stop by the table and write down something you're thankful for! God has given us as individuals and as a congregation so much and this is a time to remember. Please write on a colored leaf what you're thankful for, place it in the basket, and it will be put on the board. We are thankful for YOU!

PROJECT PIKIPIKI Calla Gilson Burns, the Director of Community and Global Engagement for NWO Synod is here to speak today about this project to provide motorbikes to church workers in Tanzania, who often have to travel 15-20 miles between communities on foot to minister.

GIVING TUESDAY! Make Your Gift to First Lutheran Church Go Further on Giving Tuesday! On Tuesday, December 1, Thrivent is offering up to $3 million in matching funds to boost online donations made through their giving platform. Anyone can participate—you do not need to be a Thrivent member—and Thrivent covers 100% of the processing fees so your full gift goes directly to First Lutheran Church. Visit Thrivent.com on December 1 and search for First Lutheran Church to make your boosted gift!

THE NEW 2027 FLOWER CHART is up in the hallway, across from the church office. There is a full year of Sundays that need flowers to brighten not only the altar, but also either your home or the home of a shut-in. Please consider this ministry as a way to share God's love for His people.

MILITARY MINISTRY Social Ministry is trying to keep the Military Ministry active and going. This would involve contacting families of our military and getting updated photos and addresses. Please pray about trying to help with this project and contact the office or Social Ministry committee if you are willing to assist with this very valuable ministry. Thank you.

THE THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE will be held jointly with St. John's, Trinity Arcadia, and Trinity Findlay at Trinity Lutheran Church here in Findlay, November 25th at 7pm with a combined choir and handbell choir.

52 WEEKS WITH WOMEN OF THE BIBLE
The Monday morning Bible Study will be using the book ***52 Weeks with the Women of the Bible*** by Ann Spangler & Jean E. Sysweda. If you would like to know a bit more about Tamar (week 8), Abigail (week 20), or maybe Herodias (week 42) come join the group whenever you can, of course we'd like to see you there every week. We meet in the church lounge on Monday morning at 10:30 am. If you want to purchase the book it is available on many sites online. If you need additional information call Marilynn Dunn 419.722.8543.

PRAYER Pastor Tucker will be offering two prayer opportunities Monday through Thursday, Morning Prayer (Matins) at 9:30am, Midday Prayer (Sext) at 11:30am, and on nights when committees will meet, he will offer Evening Prayer (Vespers) at 6:00pm.

SEVERE STORMS, HURRICANES, AND NATURAL DISASTERS across the United States have left many without power and/or without homes. With your support our church stands ready to walk with our neighbors as they rebuild. Your gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response ensure that survivors don't have to face the road to recovery alone. Through these disasters and others across the United States and around the world, Lutheran Disaster Response accompanies communities for as long as the recovery process takes. Together we follow Christ's call to share hope and healing with our neighbors in need. There are Lutheran Disaster Response envelopes in the narthex or you may mark your gift Lutheran Disaster Response.

A CARD WRITING MINISTRY has been set up on a table outside the Narthex! The Social Ministry Committee encourages everyone to write a note to an At-Home member, to a member having a birthday, or just to someone you haven't seen in a while! Addresses for At-Home members and a list of monthly birthdays is available on the table. If you put the card in the basket available, the mailing will be handled by the office!