

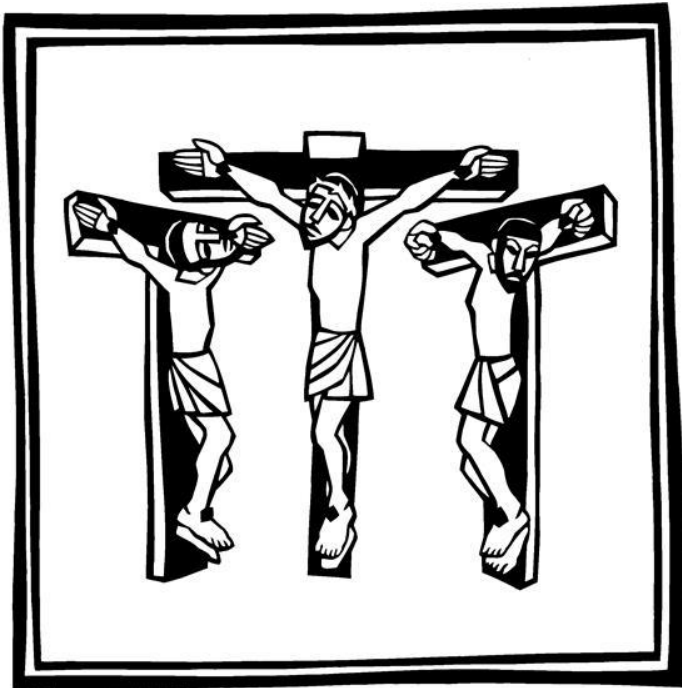
ST. LUKE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Christ the King Sunday

Thank-Offering & Blessing of Families

November 23, 2025

HOLY COMMUNION



Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

***Call to Worship**

P. Christ is the image of the invisible God.

C. In Christ all the fullness of God is pleased to dwell.

P. In Christ all things in heaven and on earth were created;

C. Christ reigns over thrones and dominions and rulers and powers.

P. Christ is the head of the Body, the church.

C. Through Christ all things are reconciled to God, making peace by his love on the cross.

This is the love we adore, the love we worship, the love we serve.

***Confession & Forgiveness**

P. In the name of the Father, and of the ✠ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C. Amen.

P. Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

C. Amen.

P. Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence for reflection and self-examination

P. Most merciful God,

C. we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

P. God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of ✝ Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

C. Amen

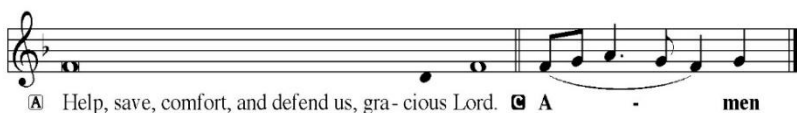
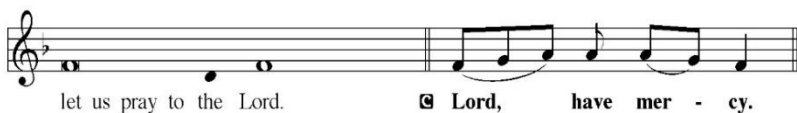
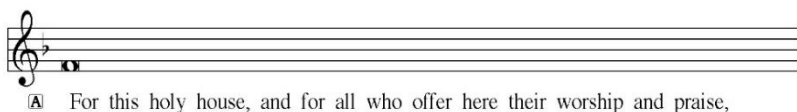
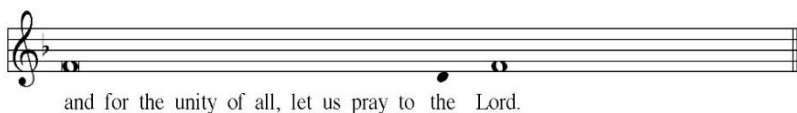
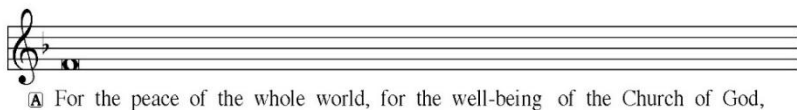
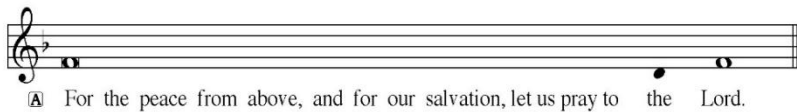
***Gathering Hymn Crown Him With Many Crowns LBW 170**

***Apostolic Greeting**

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

C. And also with you.

*Kyrie



*Hymn of Praise

A Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth.

B Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father:

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God:

You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

You are seated at the right hand of the Father; receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,

you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

in the glory of God the Father. Amen

P. The Lord be with you.

C. And also with you.

P. Let us pray:

***Prayer of the day** (Celebrate)

Special Music

Heidi Eck-Violin

Feed The Birds by Robert Sherman

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching & song

First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

L. The word of the Lord.

C. Thanks be to God

Psalm Reading: Psalm 46

Second Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

L. The word of the Lord.

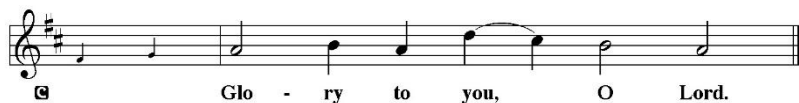
C. Thanks be to God.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp). The first staff begins with a common time signature 'C' and contains the melody for 'Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?'. The second staff continues the melody with 'You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.' and ends with a double bar line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

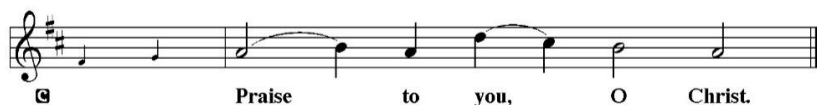
You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

P. The Holy gospel according to **St. Luke 23:33-43**



The reading of the Holy Gospel

P. The gospel of the Lord.



Sermon

The Rev. Angela Hammer

Hymn of the Day

Jesus Shall Reign

LBW 530

***Thank-offering Litany-Women of the ELCA**

L (Faith Thunberg): Today as we gather on Thank-offering Sunday, let us keep in mind our Savior's promise: that where two or three come together in Christ's name, he is here with us. For generations, Lutheran women have gathered to give thanks to God for all the blessings of our lives, and particularly the blessings that come to us through this community of women. Let us reflect on the blessings that come to us and the blessings we pass on through our Thank-offering.

R1 (Sue Hettinger): A blessing that comes to us through our community of women is the opportunity to grow in faith.

R2 (Anna Mae Grubb): A blessing that comes to us through our community of women is the opportunity to affirm our gifts.

R3 (Sharon Reber): A blessing that comes to us through our community of women is our commitment to support one another in our callings.

R4 (Sue DeLong): A blessing that comes to us through our community of women is our commitment to ministry and action.

R5 (Bev Hoffman): A blessing that comes to us through our community of women is our commitment to promoting healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.

R6 (Betsy Rights): The blessings passed on through our Thank-offerings include the work of our Women of the ELCA partnered with Lutheran World Relief, Lutheran Disaster Response, the Women's Funding Network, and ministries of the larger ELCA such as ELCA World Hunger and Global Mission.

R7: (Heidi Eck): Our Thank-offerings are our response in gratitude to all the blessings that come to us and flow through us. Our Thank offerings make all this possible. Let us bless the Lord, and in gratitude bless the church, the society, and the world through our generosity. Let us pray: Generous God,

C: we thank you further that you entrust us with passing on your gifts to others. Grant us grace always to act with bold and fearless generosity, seeing the face of your Son in all of your beloved children throughout the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

*Sharing of Peace

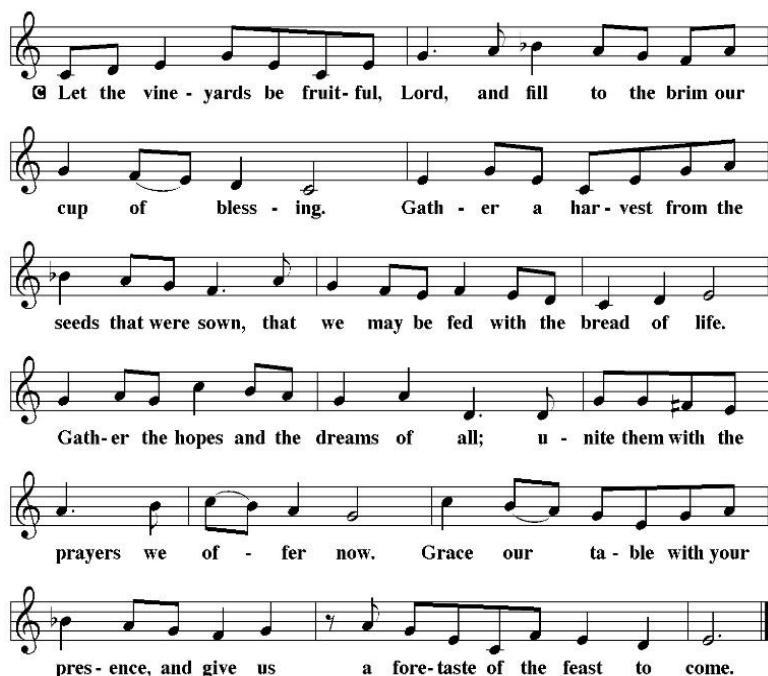
P. The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C. And also with you.

The Offering

Sr. Choir Anthem
Jesus Is King by, Lloyd Larson

*Offertory



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our
cup of bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the
seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.
Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u - nite them with the
prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your
pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*Communion Prayer

P. God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever.

C. Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

***Great Thanksgiving**

P. The Lord be with you:

C. **And also with you.**

P. Lift up your hearts:

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

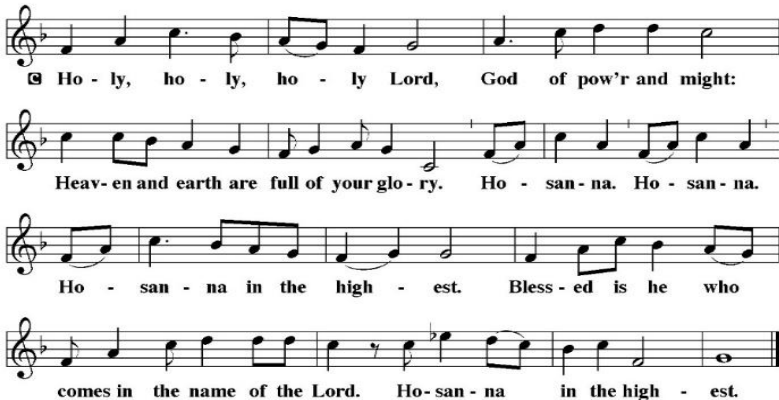
P. Let us give thanks to the Lord our God:

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

***Preface for Pentecost**

P. It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. Fulfilling the promise of the resurrection, you pour out the fire of your Spirit, uniting in one body people of every nation and tongue. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

***Sanctus**



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho - san - na.
Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

***Eucharistic Prayer**

Holy, mighty, and merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who reached out to heal the sick and suffering, who preached good news to the poor, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

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.

Remembering, therefore, his death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory.

Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever.

C. Amen.

***Lord's Prayer**

P. God, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

C. 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

P. There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

*Lamb of God



☞ Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the
world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

Communion Music

Let Us Break Bread Together

1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees;
2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees;
3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees;

let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees.
let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees.
let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees.

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing
sun, O Lord, have mer-cy on me.

Text: African American spiritual
Music: BREAK BREAD TOGETHER, African American spiritual

*Communion Blessing

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

C. Amen.

*Prayer After Communion

P. God of field and flower, wheat and grape, you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name.

C. Amen.

***Prayers for the Blessing of the Church Family and Individual Families**

P: Prayer is not so much our effort to find God, but a response to God finding us. God is always with us, embracing us with love and mercy, and is blessing us so that we be a blessing to others. Let us strive to recognize and live into God's relationship with us. Therefore, let us pray:

God our creator, inspire the church family near and far to diligently search and find those missing in the chaos of this world-the homeless, the addicted, the ill, the immigrant, the aged, the rejected, the grieving, and the lonely-that we welcome them into our households of faith. Lord, in your love and mercy,

C: hear our prayer and embrace them.

For all who are far from home, they will live in safety, for all who are alienated from us and who stay away from this table, that they may return to this faith home, and that we are prepared to greet them. Lord, in your love and mercy,

C: hear our prayer and embrace them.

For the sick, the aged, the lonely, and any who cannot be with us this day, especially those we now name in voice and heart,...that they may know of our concern for them and feel your healing embrace. Lord, in your love and mercy,

C: hear our prayer and embrace them.

Lord Jesus, you lived among us as part of a particular family and the larger family of faith to enrich both with your blessings. We humbly ask for your favor and protection on our community of faith. Make this congregational home and every member's home a place where the Holy Trinity is worshiped in peace-filled joy and awe. Lord, in your love and mercy,

C: hear our prayer and embrace us.

Jesus, through your own obedience you make your own family the model of prayer, love, and obedience to God's will. Bind all families together in the bonds of peace, faithfulness, and love for one another. Lord, in your love and mercy,

C: hear our prayer and embrace us.

O God, you created the Church in love and mercy. Through the bond of marriage you have established the family and willed that it become a sign of Christ's love for his Church. Shower your blessing on this faith family and each family gathered here this day. Enable us who are joined by one love to support one another in fervor of spirit and devotion to prayer. Make us responsive to the needs of our community and be witnesses of your Son in all we say and do. Lord, in your love and mercy,

C: hear our prayer and embrace us.

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

C: Where there is hatred, let us sow love;

Where there is injury, pardon;

Where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith;

where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light;

where there is sadness, joy.

Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life.

Amen.

SENDING

God sends us boldly into the world to share the good news

***Blessing**

P. The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✙ give you peace.

C. Amen.

***Sending Hymn**

Beautiful Savior

LBW 518

***Dismissal**

P. Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C. Thanks be to God!

Postlude

WORSHIP LEADERS

The Ministers:

St. Luke Community

The Pastor:

The Rev. Angela Hammer

Music:

JP Welliver

Lay Reader:

Faith Thunberg

Worship Assistant:

Betsy Rights

