



Sunday, November 23, 2025
Christ the King Sunday

St. Stephen Lutheran Church

Rooted in our Tradition, Open to Yours

Welcome and Prelude

Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who forgives all our sin,
whose mercy endures forever.

Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Faithful God,

you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths.

**We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom
of your faithful promises.**

We ignore our neighbors.

We exploit the earth.

We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.

**Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and
bring us to new life.**

Amen.

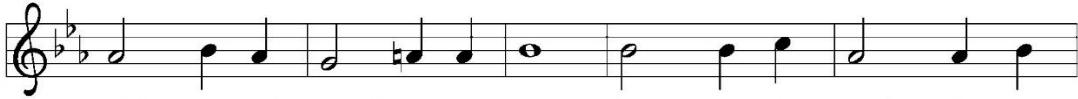
Hear the good news:

God the Faithful One loves you, ☩ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,
and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.

Amen.



1 Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and pow'r, wis - dom and
 2 Let all the heav - ens sound forth Je - sus' name; let all the
 3 Ev - er as - cend - ing the song and the joy, ev - er de -
 4 Give we the glo - ry and praise to the Lamb! Take we the



rich - es and strength ev - er - more, be to the Lamb who our
 earth sing his glo - ry and fame. O - cean and moun - tain, stream,
 scend - ing the love from on high; bless - ing and hon - or and
 robe and the harp and the palm; sing we the song of the



bat - tle has won, whose are the king - dom, the crown, and the
 for - est, and flow'r ech - o his prais - es and tell of his
 glo - ry and praise— this is the theme of the hymns that we
 Lamb who was slain, dy - ing in weak - ness and ris - ing to



throne; whose are the king - dom, the crown, and the throne!
 pow'r; ech - o his prais - es and tell of his pow'r.
 raise; this is the theme of the hymns that we raise.
 reign; dy - ing in weak - ness and ris - ing to reign!

Greeting

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

Assisting minister



Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.

All



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther,



we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glo - ry.



Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of God,



you take a - way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us;



you are seat - ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.



For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are the Lord,



you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it,



in the glo - ry of God the Fa - ther. A - men.

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?" ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." ⁴³ He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

~ Please remain seated until the Meal ~



- 1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
- 2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,
- 3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—
- 4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm - wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
 hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
 go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
 Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
 The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.
 Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

- 5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
 on this terrestrial ball
 to him all majesty ascribe
 and crown him Lord of all.
- 6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
 we at his feet may fall!
 We'll join the everlasting song
 and crown him Lord of all.

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 People

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church in the world, its leaders, and its mission to share the good news of healing and restoration. **Inspire us to embody the beloved community in ways that faithfully witness to the Holy Spirit.** Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We pray for the trembling mountains and glad streams of creation. Preserve and renew your coastlines, deep seas, forests, and grasslands. **Guide all who tend flocks or care for creatures of all kinds.** Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for leaders and advocates in government, civic life, and public safety. **Support equity across the globe, and heal division with accountability and truth.** Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for any who are hungry, living in poverty or desperation, weary in body or spirit, or sick, especially Elaine Hedrick, Carla Ringer, Bud Crookshank, Carolyn Pogany, Ginny Dorsey, Doris Dickman, Diana Gerber, Janet Bergstrom, Dan & Mary Gleghorn, John & Tacy Raymaley, Beth, and all those we hold in our hearts. Comfort all in need of your tender care. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for this part of the body of Christ gathered around word and sacrament. **Bring us into authentic community where all ages are valued and experience God's faithfulness together.** Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We give thanks for all who have died in faith. **May we remember them faithfully until we are gathered with you in the paradise you promise.** Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

The Sharing of the Peace

Special Music

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot"

Dawn Zinsmeister

Prayer of Consecration

We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by Your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

You are our refuge and our fortress, our God, in whom we trust.

We rejoice, O God, that through the baptism of your Son by John and anointing of the Holy Spirit, by the baptism of His death and resurrection, you have set us free from the power of sin and death and raise us up to life in you.

You are our refuge and our fortress, our God, in whom we trust.

Today, O God, we re-affirm our lives to walking together as your redeemed and reconciled people. Lead us in the weaving of your love within a fragmented world, to nurture and feed each other, to reach out and embrace with your Shalom all people in the name of Jesus Christ.

You are our refuge and our fortress, our God, in whom we trust.

Guide us, O God through your Holy Spirit that St. Stephen Lutheran Church will increase as a sanctuary for the stranger, a house of welcome and comfort for the poor, a consolation to the distressed and a witness of salvation for the sinner. Guide us as a light for our youth, a consolation in old age, a place of reconciliation in the midst of brokenness, a growing place for all.

You are our refuge and our fortress, our God, in whom we trust.

Stir us, O God, in our growing conviction and commitment to your call. Manifest and animate your sacred and holy plans through our pledges of money, time and talents which we make today and each day as we walk with you. Consecrate these commitments as you daily consecrate us to a newness and freshness of life in you.

You are our refuge and our fortress, our God, in whom we trust.

Amen.

Meal

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

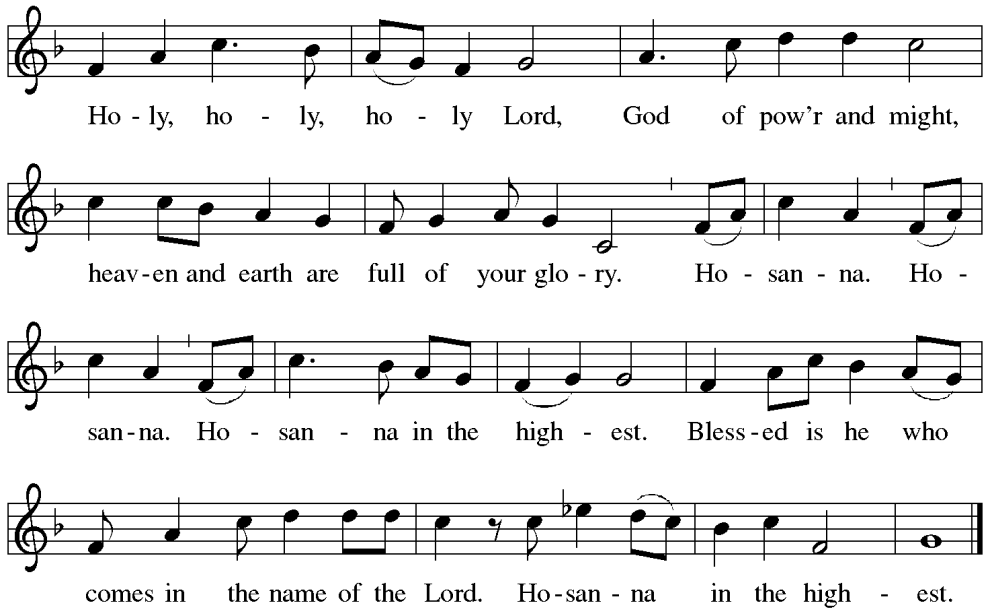
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

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; who on this day overcomes death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opens to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



The Words of Institution

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

The 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.

Communion

All baptized Christians are welcome to participate in Holy Communion. We ask children who have not had First Communion instruction, or adults who do not wish to receive communion, to keep their hands folded and they will receive a blessing.

**Gluten free and apple juice options are available.*

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.

Post-Communion Prayer

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.

Amen.

Crown Him with Many Crowns

ELW 855 vs 1,3,5



- 1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
- 2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
- 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
- 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave
- 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them draws all mu - sic but its own.
whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.
but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

Blessing

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.

Thanks be to God.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.