

Order of Service

Christ the King Sunday

November 22, 2020

"With one mind and one voice glorify God the Father."

[P = Pastor C = Congregation]

Opening Hymn: ELH 12 vs. 1, 2

"Come, Thou Almighty King"

**Come, Thou almighty King;
Help us Thy name to sing;
Help us to praise.
Father all glorious,
O'er all victorious,
Come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.**

**Jesus, our Lord, descend;
From all our foes defend,
Nor let us fall;
Let Thine almighty aid
Our sure defense be made:
Our souls on Thee be stayed;
Lord, hear our call.**

The Confession and Absolution

P: Almighty God—the Father, the Son +, and the Holy Spirit—we come to worship You and to hear Your holy Word.

C: We confess to You all our sins and iniquities with which we have ever offended You. We have justly deserved Your punishment. But we are truly sorry for them and sincerely repent of them. Be gracious and merciful to us, for the sake of the suffering and death of our Lord Jesus Christ.

P: Almighty God, our Father in heaven, has been merciful to us. He gave His only Son to carry our sins upon His body on the cross, therefore I declare to you that all your sins are forgiven through Jesus Christ your Savior. Amen.

Congregational Response: ELH 435: 1, 5

“All Praise to God Who Reigns Above”

**All praise to God, who reigns above,
The God of all creation,
The God of wonders, pow’r, and love,
The God of our salvation!
With healing balm my soul He fills,
The God who ev’ry sorrow stills—
To God all praise and glory!**

**Ye who confess Christ’s holy name,
To God give praise and glory!
Ye who the Father’s pow’r proclaim,
To God give praise and glory!
All idols under foot be trod,
The Lord is God! The Lord is God!
To God all praise and glory!**

Prayer for the Day

P: Lord Jesus Christ, by Your victory You have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim You King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory.

C: We pray this through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our living Lord, who reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

Psalm 47

P: Clap your hands, all you nations; shout to God with cries of joy.

C: How awesome is the LORD Most High, the great King over all the earth.

P: Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

C: For God is the King of all the earth; sing to him a psalm of praise.

Old Testament Lesson: Ezekiel 34: 11-16, 23-24

(God expected Israel's kings to gently lead his people by their godly words and actions. Instead, they exploited the people. God had to intervene. He would tend his flock in their best interests. He said, "I will place over them a shepherd, my servant David." David, the shepherd-king, had been dead for four centuries. This is a prophecy of the Son of David, our Lord Jesus Christ, who would be the perfect Shepherd-King.)

¹¹ "For this is what the Sovereign Lord says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. ¹² As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. ¹⁴ I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.

¹⁵ I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign Lord. ¹⁶ I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice....

²³ I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd.

²⁴ I the Lord will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the Lord have spoken.

Congregational Response: ELH 371 vs. 1 & 4

The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;

He makes me down to lie

In pastures green; He leadeth me

The quiet waters by.

(hymn continues on page 4)

Goodness and mercy, all my life,

Shall surely follow me,

And in God's house forevermore

My dwelling place shall be.

The Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 15: 20-28

(Christ's bodily resurrection from the dead is the guarantee that we will rise after him to be with him as he rules over all things)

²⁰ But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²² For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive.

²³ But each in his own turn: Christ, the first fruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. ²⁴ Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power.

²⁵ For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶ The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷ For he "has put everything under his feet." Now when it says that "everything" has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. ²⁸ When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

Congregational Response: ELH 49 vs. 1

**All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name!
Let angels prostrate fall;
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all.
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown Him Lord of all.**

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 27:27–31

(Never was pagan mockery more prophetic! Jesus is king of a Kingdom not of this world. Unlike other kings, our Savior is a King who conquers by allowing himself to be conquered.)

Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole cohort of soldiers around him. ²⁸They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him. ²⁹ They twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand, knelt in front of him, and mocked him by saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰ They spit on him, took the staff, and hit him repeatedly on his head. ³¹ After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

Confession of Faith — Explanation of Second Article of Apostles' Creed: (by all)

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver, but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

Hymn: 42: 1, 3 *“God, We Praise You”*

God, we praise You! God, we bless You!

God we name You sov'reign Lord!

Mighty King whom angels worship,

Father, by Your Church adored:

All creation shows Your glory;

Heav'n and earth draw near Your throne,

Singing, “Holy, holy, holy,

Lord of hosts and God alone!”

Jesus Christ, the King of glory,

Everlasting Son of God,

Humble was Your Virgin Mother,

Hard the lonely path You trod:

By Your cross is sin defeated,

Hell confronted face to face,

Heaven opened to believers,

Sinners justified by grace.

Sermon: Matthew 27:27–31 *“Is Your King a Joke?”*

Hymn: CW 239 vs. 1-3 alt.

“Glory Be to God the Father”

**Glory be to God the Father,
Glory be to God the Son,
Glory be to God the Spirit,
God Eternal, Three in One!
Glory, glory, While eternal ages run!**

**Glory be to Him who loved us,
Washed us from each spot and stain;
Glory be to Him who bought us,
Made us kings with Him to reign!
Glory, glory, To the Lamb that once was slain!**

**Glory to the King of angels,
Glory to the Church's King,
Glory to the King of nations;
Heaven and earth, Your praises bring!
Glory, glory, To the King of glory sing!**

Offering Prayer - Prayer(s)

The Prayer of the Church

P: Almighty, everlasting God, Yours is the kingdom, the power, and the glory.

C: Accept our thanks for Your loving care of all people.

P: Especially do we thank You for choosing us to be in Your kingdom.

C: We were straying, lost, weak, and aimless, but You have returned us to Your fold.

P: We give You thanks for Your great mercy extended to us through Christ, Your Son.

C: Forgive us when we take Your mercy and blessing for granted.

P: May your Holy Spirit move us to share the good news with other people about Jesus, our Savior and Shepherd King.

C: Move us to support the good news with gifts for Your work through our church and our synod.

P: Keep us alert and prepared for the day when Jesus will come as King to judge all nations.

C: Keep us in faith in Jesus as our Savior and King, who paid for all our sins and opened the gates of heaven for us.

Special prayers and intercessions may follow.

P: Hear us Lord, as we bring to you our private petitions.

Silent Prayer

P: Gracious Father, we pray boldly as Jesus taught, with the confidence that you will hear and respond for our welfare.

C: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer: *(spoken by all)*

**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.**

The Benediction:

P: The Lord bless you.... and give you peace +.

C: *(spoken)* Amen

Closing Hymn: ELH 393: 1,2

"The Head That Once Was Crowned"

**The Head that once was crowned with thorns
Is crowned with glory now;
A royal diadem adorns
The mighty Victor's brow.**

**The highest place that heav'n affords
Is His, is His by right,
The King of kings, and Lord of lords,
And heav'ns eternal Light.**