

HOLY CROSS LUTHERAN CHURCH



CHRIST THE KING
NOVEMBER 23, 2025

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.

Weekly Update

1090 Sterling Road, Herndon, VA 20170
www.HolyCrossHerndon.org



HOLY CROSS
LUTHERAN CHURCH



Sunday, November 23, 2025

VISITORS: It is a joy to have you with us this morning. If you are looking for a church family, we hope you will consider Holy Cross. For more information, you can fill out a visitor form in the narthex, speak to an usher, or scan the QR code to the right.



FAMILIES: Children are always welcome at our worship services! There's also a small play area in the Narthex where you can hear the broadcasted service.

WEEKLY PRAYER LIST

For additions/changes, email the office: admin@holycrossherndon.org
Names will be removed after one month unless advised otherwise.

OUR CONGREGATION

Juliana Roe Beck | Bonnie Burton | Terry & Linda Butler
Joy Caveney | Joel Flegal | Roy Geiger | Otto Jacobson
Jared Lem | Reed Morgan | Mike Muller | Craig Reichow
Jeremy Shoop | Tuula Toney | Cherie Weatherhead

THOSE SERVING IN THE MILITARY

Riley Morgan | Thomas Newcomb | Collin Reichow

RELATIVES AND FRIENDS OF THE CONGREGATION

Erin Barden (sister of Andrew Barden)
Randy and Shirley Beamer (friends of Pam Darby)
Debbie Bowman (niece of Betty Skelton)
Joy Brown (friend of Kate Flegal)
Symphony Calvillo & her two boys (friend of Kate Flegal)
Jane Campbell (friend of Cheryl Smith)
Gianna Carter (granddaughter of Sam & Sharon Carter)
Don and Liz Gober (friends of Craig Reichow)
Jason Greenwalt (friend of Cheryl Smith)
Madilyn Gross (cousin of Desirae Peral)
Matt Kim (friend of John & Tammy Breene)
Georgia Kirby and Cain Mason (friends of Cherie Weatherhead)
Phyllis Krapf (wife of Dick Krapf)
Don Kress (friend of Helen and Gary Wolfe)
Dale, John, and Jeff MacPherson (friends of Jared Lem)
Sharon Massen (friend of Craig Reichow)
Lisa Nolf (friend of Jared Lem)
Jim Pollock (godfather of Andrew Barden)
Anne Marie Berardi Rabinowitz (friend of Tonya Elliott)
Dylan Roe (nephew of Mark and Jo Roe)
John Smith (brother-in-law of Cheryl Smith)
Steven Swancutt (brother of Lynn Russo)
Diana Todd (friend of the Russos)
Michelle White (friend and coworker of Kate Flegal)
Bernadette Stevenson Williams (friend of the Roe family)
Laizu Zaman (friend of Jared Lem)

SERVING IN WORSHIP

Supply Pastor:	Rev. Pam Mitcham
Director of Music and Liturgy:	Jeremy Shoop
Sound Technician:	Bob Thompson
Video Technician:	Sylvia Moran

Serving November 23rd: Christ the King

Assisting Minister:	Joy Heuer
Reader:	Nannette Lem
Acolyte:	Andrew Barden
Greeter:	Jared Lem

Serving November 30th: First Sunday of Advent

Assisting Minister:	Anne Geiger
Reader:	Craig Reichow
Acolyte:	TBD
Greeter:	Jared Lem

FLOWERS: Today's flowers are given by Sam Carter in celebration of Sam and Sharon's 54th Wedding Anniversary.

THIS WEEK'S SCHEDULE: NOV 23 – NOV 30

SU 23	9:00 am	Kingdom Kids & Angels ~ Choir Stall
	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School ~ Conference Rm
	10:00 am	Worship – Christ the King
	11:00 am	Fellowship & Coffee
	1:00 pm	Bldg. Use: Christian Missionary ~ FH
	W 26	11:30 am
	7:00 pm	ELL ~ Education Wing
SA 29	8:00 am	Bldg. Use: Herndon's Women AA ~ Rm 204
	11:00 am	Bldg. Use: Called2Be 7 th Day Adventist
SU 30	9:00 am	Kingdom Kids & Angels ~ Choir Stall
	9:00 am	Adult Sunday School ~ Conference Rm
	10:00 am	Worship – First Sunday of Advent
	11:00 am	Fellowship & Coffee
	1:00 pm	Bldg. Use: Christian Missionary ~ FH

The Church office will be closed on Thursday, November 27 and Friday, November 28 in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday.

LINK TOY DRIVE

Throughout the month of November, we will be collecting toys to support the LINK Holiday Toy Distribution and bring holiday joy to local families in need. To help make sure each child receives something special, we encourage you to consider purchasing some of these gift ideas for all ages:



Lego Sets; Board Games; Bluetooth Speakers; Soccer Balls/Footballs/Sport Equipment; Fun/Cozy Blankets; Craft Sets; Jewelry Making Sets; Art Sets; Baby Toys; Toddler Toys; Matchbox/Hot Wheels;

Gift Cards in \$10, \$15, \$20 or \$25 denominations to Target, Walmart, Chick Fil A, Starbucks, McDonalds, Chipotle, Cava, Subway - these are great for teens!

A festive Christmas tree is on display in the Narthex, decorated with tags containing information on needed items. Please take a tag and bring back an unwrapped gift. **The last day to drop off gifts is Sunday, November 30.**



An Amazon Wish List is available to purchase from and have shipped directly to church: <https://a.co/1feMnaU> or scan the QR code.

2025 Advent Appeal
Prision Fellowship International

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness, on them light has shined. (Isaiah 9:2)

Scan to donate:
Or go to: www.HolyCrossHerndon.org
(click DONATE→VANCO→ADVENT APPEAL)

H.U.G.S.

One of the hardest challenges in life is when we find ourselves alone. Whether it is from death of a spouse, divorce, or separation from family, all that needs to be done can feel overwhelming.

Some members of our church are interested in forming a group of "persons without partners" to help each other cope. We would offer support and guidance by sharing our experiences. Many of us have gone through the process of becoming more independent and are willing to help others on a similar journey. If you're grieving or feeling alone, we've got ears to listen, shoulders to lean on, and hugs to console.

Please join us after church in the Fellowship Hall next Sunday, November 30 if you would be interested in being part of such a group.

CHRISTMAS EVE FESTIVAL CHOIR

Rehearsals:

Thursday, December 4th - 7:00 PM

Thursday, December 11th - 7:00 PM

Thursday, December 18th - 7:00 PM



Christmas Eve (December 24):

7:00 PM service

This is a great opportunity for anyone who enjoys singing but cannot commit to the regular choir schedule. The festival choir is also a great way for anyone who is considering joining the choir and simply wants to see what it is like.

If you are interested in joining the festival choir or have questions, please contact Jeremy at MusicDir@HolyCrossHerndon.org or call the church office at 703-437-1883.

ADVENT MIDWEEK WORSHIP

Join us on Wednesday evenings this Advent season as we pause, breathe, and draw close to the promise of Christ. Dinner is served at 6:00 PM, followed by worship at 7:00 PM.

This year's theme— Find Hope, Encounter Forgiveness, Pursue Restoration—guides us as we listen for God's presence in a busy season and prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ.

All are welcome. Come as you are.

12/3 & 12/10: Dinner – 6 pm, Worship – 7 pm

12/17: Worship – 6:30 pm, Dinner – 7 pm

BEER AND CAROLS PRIZE DONATIONS NEEDED

Tuesday, December 16 @ 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Prizes raffled off to benefit the Herndon charity - SHE BELIEVES IN ME

Sponsored by Herndon's Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Held at Herndon's Jimmy's Old Town Tavern

GREAT WAY TO ADVERTISE FOR YOUR BUSINESS!

JIMMY'S OLD TOWN TAVERN IS ALWAYS PACKED!

BE CREATIVE WITH YOUR PRIZE DONATION!



Contact Jeremy Shoop to donate
MusicDir@HolyCrossHerndon.org

HELP DECORATE THE HALLS FOR CHRISTMAS EVE!

Join us after worship on **Sunday, December 21** (lunch will be provided), as we decorate our sanctuary and church building for Christmas Eve services. We'll set up trees, arrange greens, hang wreaths, and add all the finishing touches that make Holy Cross glow with Christmas joy.

All ages and abilities are welcome—many hands make light (and festive!) work. Thank you for helping create a beautiful worship space for this holy season!

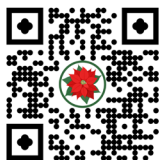
SIGN UP TO HELP

Scan QR code or go to:
www.tinyurl.com/hclclChristmas



CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS

It's time to order Christmas poinsettias! Donations received will be used to purchase wreaths, garlands, and poinsettias to decorate the Sanctuary for Christmas. You may make a dedication *In Honor of* or *In Memory of* someone, and it will be printed in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Please place your form and donation in the offering plate or mail them to the church. **The deadline for submissions is Sunday, December 14.**



Forms are also available online—go to <https://tinyurl.com/323xm9fc> or scan the QR code. Donations may be made through Vanco by selecting the **Christmas Poinsettias** fund.

LUNCH FOR THE SOUL

We need your help to serve our neighbors in need through this caring ministry! Holy Cross provides lunch on the first Wednesday of every month, and your support in cooking, serving, or cleanup is always welcome. Our next opportunity to serve is on Wednesday, December 3. Please consider joining us! You can sign up at: perfectpotluck.com/YEEI1717

The Holy Cross staff would like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving filled with joy, peace, and safe travels!

Gracious and Giving God,

In this season of gratitude, we pause to remember that every good thing comes from your hand. You gather us as one community, nourish us with daily bread, surround us with people who care for us, and sustain us with hope that does not fade. For all these gifts—and countless more—we give you thanks.

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, open our hearts to see your goodness in both simple moments and extraordinary blessings. Teach us to recognize your presence in shared meals, conversations that lift our spirits, acts of kindness that brighten our days, and the quiet assurance that you walk with us always.

Make us mindful of those who hunger, who grieve, who are lonely, or who find this season difficult. Shape us into a people who serve with compassion, give generously, and extend hospitality with joy. Let our gratitude move us to action, that all your children may experience the abundance of your love.

Bless our congregation, our ministries, and all who gather with us—near or far. Unite us in thanksgiving, renew us by your Spirit, and send us out to be bearers of hope, peace, and light in the world.

Amen.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church Welcomes ALL!

Holy Cross Lutheran Church joyfully affirms and celebrates that every person is a beloved child of God. We welcome all who are seeking God's boundless love and sustaining grace into full community with us at Holy Cross. As disciples of Jesus Christ, we commit ourselves to breaking down barriers and systems that divide God's children working to be a space committed to racial equality for God's people and to building a community where all are recognized as part of Christ's new creation.



We welcome you, and you are safe with us...
 Whatever your race, ethnicity, or heritage;
 Whatever your relationship status;
 We welcome you, and you are safe with us...

Whatever your sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, or gender expression;
 Whatever your socio-economic status;
 We welcome you, and you are safe with us...

Whatever your age and life circumstance;
 Whatever your physical and mental ability.
 You are a beloved child of God, you are valued, and you are welcome here.

What to Expect in Worship

Worship services can be intimidating for newcomers. While we try to make worship as accessible as possible for everyone, we know that some aspects can be confusing. Feel free to ask an usher or someone near you for help if you have any questions today. We are happy to help and want all voices to be included in praise to God.

Our worship style is traditional at Holy Cross. A full liturgy is used to focus our praise and prayers to God. Notes are included in the side gutter of the bulletin to explain why we use the various liturgical elements. Communion is celebrated every Sunday at Holy Cross. The table (altar) is not our table, but Christ's table. Just as Christ welcomes all, all are welcome to receive communion at Holy Cross. Pastor will give instructions on how we celebrate communion. Written instructions are also included at that point in the bulletin.

Throughout the year we emphasize each liturgical season differently to mark the passage of time. Liturgical texts change to reflect aspects of that season, some elements are removed or added to reflect the mood of that season, and colors used to decorate the chancel are changed to provide visual reminders of the current season.

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Transforming the world & ourselves, together in community, fellowship, and faith.

Christ the King

November 23, 2025 ~ 10:00 AM

Hoping to celebrate the lordship of Christ in a world of increasingly secular and non-Christian empires, Pope Pius XI inaugurated in 1925 a Sunday dedicated to Christ as king. Originally Roman Catholics celebrated Christ the King on the last Sunday in October. When the Roman Catholics proposed the three-year lectionary after the Second Vatican Council, Christ the King was moved to the final Sunday of the liturgical year. The Revised Common Lectionary has retained the festival. Its emphasis on the eschatological majesty of Christ leads well into Advent.



WE GATHER



GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow arr. Michael Burkhardt

Please stand as you are able.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Pastor: Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation.

Assembly: **Amen.**

Pastor: Trusting in God's mercy, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Pastor: Reconciling God,
 Assembly: **we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good**

creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us; and in your Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen.

Pastor:

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through ✝ Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit.

Assembly:

Amen.



To illustrate the text,
 “and on his head were
 many crowns”
 (Revelation 19:12),
 “Crown Him with Many
 Crowns” was written by
 Matthew Bridges and
 Godfrey Thring, (each
 providing six
 stanzas). The ELW
 selected five stanzas
 from the twelve, all of
 which are beautiful
 poetry. I particularly
 enjoy stanza five, not
 only because of its
 beautiful poetry, but
 also because of its use
 of “potentate”
 (monarch) and
 “ineffably”
 (indescribable), two
 words not often used in
 hymns. The tune,
 DIADEMATA, suggests
 “diadems” or
 “crowns” and matches
 the striking first line of
 poetry with an equally
 memorable first line of
 music, thus making this
 hymn most appropriate
 for Christ the King
 Sunday!

GATHERING HYMN

(Evangelical Lutheran Worship #855)

Crown Him with Many Crowns

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 drowns 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.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4
 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

GREETING

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

Assembly: **And also with you.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

arr. Cathy Mokelbust

Amen Siakudumisa (Amen, We Praise Your Name, O God)

Joyful Ringers

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray. 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.

Assembly: **Amen.**

Please sit.

**WE HEAR GOD'S WORD****LISTENING WITH CHILDREN'S EARS****FIRST READING**

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Today's reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

Reader: A reading from the prophet Jeremiah.

¹ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ² Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings,

The prayer of the day is inspired by one composed by Augustine, the fifth-century bishop of Hippo. We ask God to reign in us and throughout the world. In serving God, we experience true freedom and joy.

Christians interpret this passage as a description of Jesus Christ, who reigns wisely and executes justice. The Hebrew of verse 6 refers to YHWH God, that is, the Lord, as the embodiment of righteousness, and Christians transfer to the Risen Christ the

honorific “Lord,” who reigns as king from the cross.

The reading from Colossians is most appropriate to celebrate the sovereign Christ: all other thrones or rulers were created through his power and for him alone. As an ideal king would be imagined, Christ holds all things together, has first place in everything, embodies God, and makes peace on earth. God is the strength from which the people derive their strength..

says the LORD. ³ Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING

Colossians 1:11-20

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

Reader: A reading from Paul’s letter to the Colossians.

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

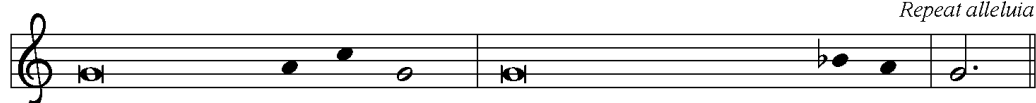
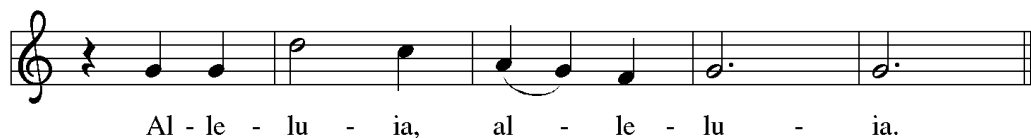
Reader: Word of God, word of life.

Assembly: **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

(Setting 9)

*Repeat alleluia*

This passage is particularly appropriate for the celebration of the reign of Christ. The Roman authorities claim that they have executed the purported king of the Jews, and the thief asks Jesus for entrance into his kingdom. Christ is king when he reigns from the cross, forgiving our sins.

GOSPEL

Luke 23:33-43

Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.

Pastor: The Gospel according to Luke the 23rd chapter.
Assembly: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³³ When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴ [[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

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."

Pastor: The Gospel of our Lord.
Assembly: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Please sit.

SERMON

ANTHEM

Christ is Mine Forever More by Jonny Robinson & Rich Thompson
Matthew Andersen, guitar; Bryan Trayers, piano

Please stand as you are able.

APOSTLES' CREED

Assisting Minister: With the whole church let us profess our faith,
Assembly: **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 INTERCESSION

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

Assisting Minister: 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.

Assembly: **Your mercy is great.**

*We pray for the greater
church.*

We pray for creation.

Assisting Minister: 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.

Assembly: Your mercy is great.

We pray for justice.

Assisting Minister: 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.

Assembly: Your mercy is great.

We pray for those in need.

Assisting Minister: We pray for any who are hungry, living in poverty or desperation, weary in body or spirit, or sick, including those we name before you now (*the assembly offers names*). Comfort all in need of your tender care. Hear us, O God.

Assembly: Your mercy is great.

We pray for this congregation.

Assisting Minister: You have already prepared the pastor who will walk with Holy Cross in the next season of our ministry. As we wait with hope, stir our hearts for discernment. Guide the Call Team, our leaders, and our whole congregation to listen for your Spirit with clarity and courage. Shape our community for the ministry ahead, and steady the feet of the pastor you are calling—lead them toward this place with confidence, peace, and joy. Hear us, oh God.

Assembly: Your mercy is great.

We remember the saints.

Assisting Minister: 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.

Assembly: Your mercy is great.

Pastor: In the company of your saints we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your eternal mercy and love; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Assembly: Amen.

The sharing of THE PEACE is an ancient ritual that puts us right with our neighbors before we offer our gifts to God.

THE PEACE

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.
 Assembly: **And also with you.**

Please sit.

OFFERING

MUSICAL OFFERING

Praise His Name
 Sanctuary Choir

by Keith Hampton

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERTORY

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise God, all crea-tures here be-low;

praise God a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Assisting Minister: Let us pray. Jesus, Bread of life, you have set this table with your very self, and called us to the feast of plenty. Gather what has been sown among us, and strengthen us in this meal. Make us to be what we receive here, your body for the life of the world.

Assembly: **Amen.**



WE COME TO GOD'S TABLE



GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so 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

Pastor: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy...
... and join their unending hymn.

SANCTUS

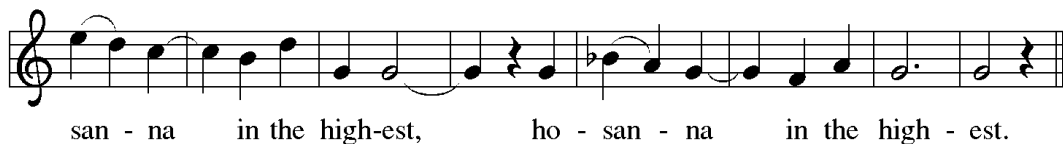
(Setting 9)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and

might, heav - en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -



WORDS OF INSTITUTION

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor: Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

Assembly: **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

Pastor: Behold, God is making all things new. Take your place in the new creation.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

DISTRIBUTION

*This is Christ's table of welcome. Jesus invites **all** who are hungry and thirsty for unconditional love and acceptance to come to God's banquet. The ushers will direct you forward at the appropriate time. You are welcome to either stand or kneel at the railing. Red wine and white grape juice are available in individual cups. Bread served is Gluten Free. If you wish to receive a blessing rather than communion, cross your arms over your chest. Return to your seat by the side aisle.*

AGNUS DEI

(Setting 9)

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, grant us peace.

The musical score is written on five staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and hymn-like, with lyrics printed below the notes. The lyrics are: "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, grant us peace."



As we celebrate Christ the King Sunday, we remember that Christ is both a king and was born in a dirty stable. Christ is both God and was hung on a cross to die. The Christian paradox is evident in festivals like Reign of Christ Sunday. Sylvia Dunstan's hymn reflects on this paradox. She even calls this hymn "Christus Paradox." Dunstan, who served as a duty chaplain in a maximum-security jail, describes her hymn like this:

"Drafted on a commuter bus after a particularly bad day at the jail, this hymn owes much to my longstanding relationship with Søren Kierkegaard. (Either this philosophical fragment is a repetition of fear and trembling, or it is an edifying discourse on purity of heart.)"

One of the paradoxes that Dunstan puts forth in this hymn is repeated in each stanza. "You, the everlasting instant." Using this phrase four times is a beautifully poetic way to

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

(All Creation Sings #954)

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd

1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep - herd.
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun - tain,
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us,
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus!

You, Lord, are both prince and slave.
 stripped of might up - on the cross,
 sit in pow - er at God's side.
 Wor - thy is our cos - mic Christ!

You, peace - mak - er and sword - bring - er
 shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,
 You, who preach a way that's nar - row,
 Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - t'ry;

of the way you took and gave.
 beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss,
 have a love that reach - es wide.
 wor - thy still your peace and strife.

You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 you, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;
 You, the ev - er - last - ing in - stant;

you, whom we both scorn and crave.
 you, who are both gift and cost.
 you, who are our pil - grim and guide.
 you, who are our death and life.

Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955–1993

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

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*acknowledge the
mystery of how God
exists outside of time.*

*The haunting tune
picardy provides the
perfect atmosphere for
both the “earthly
Jesus” and “cosmic
Christ.”*

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

Jesus, Remember Me

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in-to your king - dom.

Je - sus, re - mem-ber me when you come in-to your king - dom.

Text: Luke 23:42; Taizé Community
Music: REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923–1994
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Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

Pastor: May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ
strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

Assembly: Amen.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Assisting Minister: 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.

Assembly: Amen.



WE ARE SENT FORTH TO SERVE



We are sent out with one last hymn of praise for Christ the King Sunday. With the repeated phrase “and crown him Lord of all,” this hymn clearly reminds us that Christ is our sovereign! Since unique words were pointed out in the other hymns this morning, I feel the need to point out another unique phrase in this hymn text. To fit with the rhyme scheme with the word “all,” J. Rippon refers to Earth as a “terrestrial ball.”

SENDING HYMN

(Stanzas 1-3, 6)

(Evangelical Lutheran Worship #634)

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The blessing of God, who provides for us, feeds us, and journeys with us, ☩ be upon you now and forever.

Assembly: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Assisting Minister: Go in peace. You are the body of Christ.

Assembly: Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Crown Him with Many Crowns

arr. Michael Burkhardt

As part of our continuous efforts to make worship more inclusive and sensory friendly, we ask that you refrain from applauding during worship and after the postlude.

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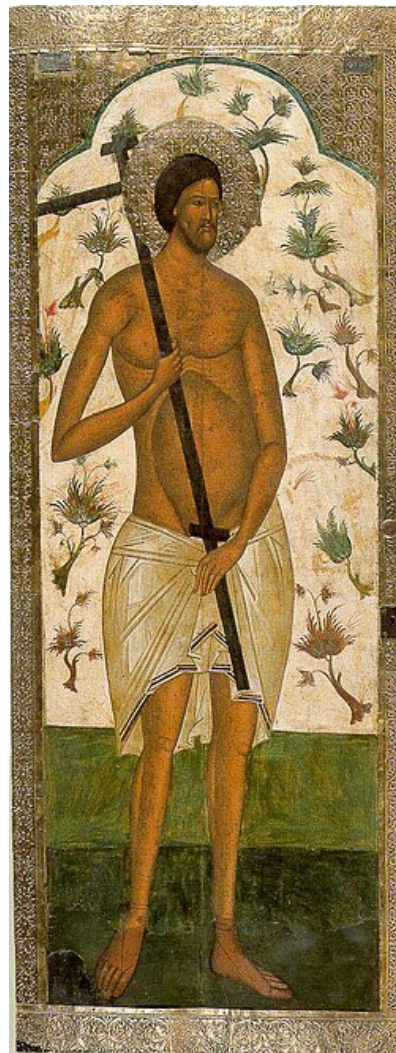
FROM THE CLOUD OF WITNESSES

*[Samuel Torvend,
in Homilies for the
Christian People, 177-
178.]*

Against all our images of stern authority and capricious power, we hear the Lord's voice, the voice of the shepherd who tends the scattered sheep of the flock. In Jesus, this image of shepherd-king is turned upside down in that mysterious wisdom of God. The shepherd becomes the very lamb who is led to the slaughter, who is led to the cross, so that our sickness and our injury, our final enemy is at last put to death in his body on the cross. This Jesus whom this Sunday praises as king, is, in fact, like no other king that has ever reigned. For today, the gospel, and the holy meal proclaim him king where we least expect it: in the depth of our yearning for life, our suffering, and our need. And in this he is no ordinary king. Here in our struggle and desire to be witnesses to his life and his love for us, he reigns. And here in the world, hidden in the struggle for justice and peace, here he reigns.

—*Samuel Torvend*

View an anonymous icon from around 1560 depicting the repentant thief. The branches represent the vibrancy of the paradise with God, and the thief's halo suggests not his own perfection, but rather the holiness given him by God that radiates from him to us all. Alternatively, you can search "Christ the King" on Wikimedia Commons to find several depictions of the sovereign Christ.



THIS WEEK'S COMMEMORATIONS

Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100

Sunday, November 23, 2025

Clement was the third bishop of Rome. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the congregation in Corinth, still struggling with the same problems that led to Paul's letters to them. As did Paul, he focused on the need for love among Christians.

Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, died 1927

Sunday, November 23, 2025

Pro grew up in a time when the Mexican revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the wealthy. He became a Jesuit priest, and worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Falsely accused of throwing a bomb at a government official, he was executed, but not before crying out "Long live Christ the King!"

Justus Falckner, died 1723; Jehu Jones, died 1852; William Passavant, died 1894; pastors in North America

Monday, November 24, 2025

Not only was Falckner the first Lutheran ordained in North America, but he published a catechism which was the first Lutheran book published on the continent. Jones was the Lutheran church's first African American pastor and carried out missionary work in Philadelphia which led to the formation there of the first African American Lutheran congregation (St. Paul's). William Passavant helped to establish hospitals and orphanages in a number of cities and was the first to introduce deaconesses to the work of hospitals in the United States.

Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, died 1748

Tuesday, November 25, 2025

Thought by many to be the greatest hymnwriter in the English language, Watts as a youth was critical of the quality of the metrical psalter of the time. He wrote about 600 hymns—many based on the psalms, but others that are not.

There is a hearing-assistance system (induction loop) in the Sanctuary for those with hearing impairments. Please ask an usher for instructions.

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