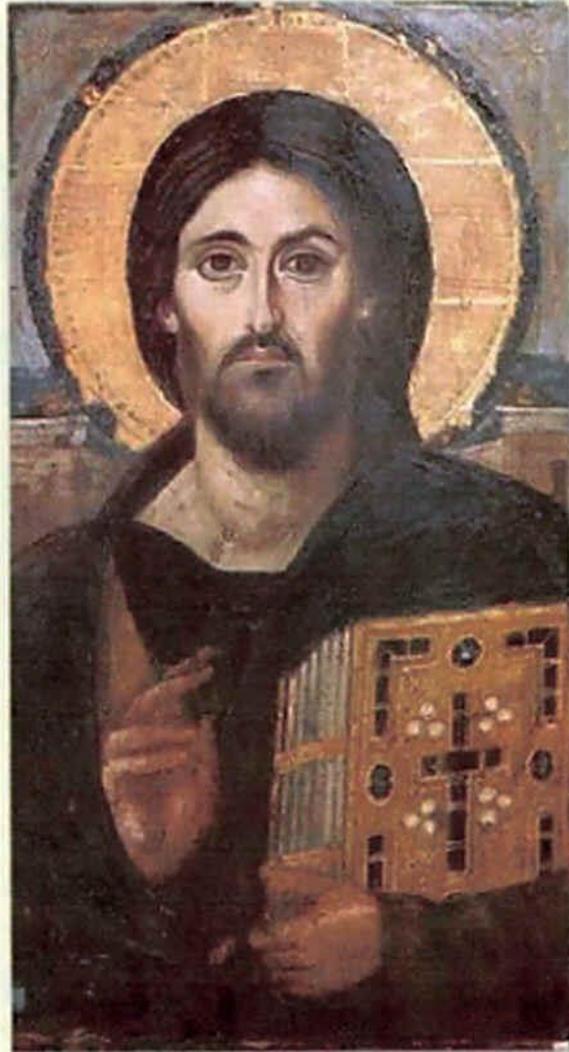


CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY



November 22, 2020

ONLINE SERVICE

+ Christ the King Sunday +

Lectionary 34

November 22, 2020

ELW Setting Three

10:00 a.m.

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.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

PRELUDE

from *Water Music* Suite in F

Overture

Menuet

Music of George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

APOSTOLIC GREETING

The presiding minister greets the assembly:

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

This is the Feast

ELW, page 140

1. High voices 2. Low voices 3. High voices 4. Low voices

All sing the refrain.

High voices = soprano/alto Low voices = tenor/bass

In support of our goal of being a caring, inclusive, Christ-centered community, we

- ❖ care for God's creation
- ❖ promote the non-violence of Christ and care for those who suffer
- ❖ participate in the Spirit toward a global religious community

PRAYER OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

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.

WORD

God speaks to us in Scripture reading, preaching, and song

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.

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Ezekiel.

Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek 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. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and I will 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. 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. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, 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.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be ruler among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

PSALMODY

Exsultate justi [Psalm 33:1- 3]
Music of Lodovico Grossi da Viadana (ca. 1560-1627)
(sung in Latin)

Exult, you just, in the Lord!
For it is right to give God praise.
Praise the Lord with the harp,
Praise God upon the psaltery and lyre.
Sing to the Lord a new song;
Raise your song to the Lord with a loud voice.

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.

A reading from the Letter to the Church at Ephesus.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray 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 God, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which God has called you, what are the riches of God's glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of God's power for us who believe, according to the working of God's great power.

God put this power to work in Christ when God raised him from the dead and seated him at the right hand of Power in the heavenly places, 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. And God has put all things under the feet of Christ and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is the body of Christ, the fullness of the one who fills all in all.

Word of God, word of life

Thanks be to God.

Stanza 1 only.

This text, from Philippians 2:10-11, is the traditional Gradual for this day.



1 At the name of Je - sus ev - 'ry knee shall bow,
2 At his voice cre - a - tion sprang at once to sight,
3 Hum - bled for a sea - son, to re - ceive a name
4 In your hearts en - throne him; there let him sub - due
5 Chris - tians, this Lord Je - sus shall re - turn a - gain



ev - 'ry tongue con - fess him king of glo - ry now.
all the an - gel fac - es, all the hosts of light,
from the lips of sin - ners un - to whom he came,
all that is not ho - ly, all that is not true.
on the clouds of glo - ry, with his an - gel train;



It is God's good plea - sure we should call him Lord,
thrones and dom - i - na - tions, stars up - on their way,
faith - ful - ly he bore it spot - less to the last;
Crown him as your cap - tain in temp - ta - tion's hour;
for all wreaths of em - pire meet up - on his brow,



who from the be - gin - ning was the might - y Word.
all the heav'n - ly or - ders in their great ar - ray.
brought it back vic - to - rious when from death he passed.
let his will en - fold you in its light and pow'r.
and our hearts con - fess him king of glo - ry now.

HOLY 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.

The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said, “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. 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, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

“Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the dominion prepared for you from the foundation of the world; 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, 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.’

“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? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and the devil’s angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 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.’

“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?’ 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.’ 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 William Yancey

CORONATION

- | | | |
|---------------|--------|----------------|
| 1. All | 2. All | 3. High voices |
| 4. Low voices | 5. All | 6. All |

High voices = soprano/alto Low voices = tenor/bass

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.

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 INTERCESSION

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

After each portion of the prayers:

Hear us, O God.
Your mercy is great.

We pray for hope and healing to be with **Jan** and **Steve Schrader**, who are both contending with illness and physical challenges. May God's care be with them. (Jan and Steve are sister and brother in law to **Valerie** and **Pastor**. They live in Minneapolis.)

We pray for God's peace and comfort to be with the **Moentmann family**, who are mourning the death of **Alex Moentmann**.

We give thanks that the **Kennedy family** is recovering from the COVID virus. (**MJ, Aziz Sophia**, and **Elizabeth** are well and out of quarantine; **Debbie** is feeling well and **Peter** is doing better.)

We pray for God's healing and comfort to be with **Peter Kennedy's** parents, **Wanda** and **Don Kennedy** who both have the COVID virus. (Wanda is improving with oxygen in hospital; Don is recovering at home. They live in California.)

We give thanks that **Deb Grupe's** mother, **Eunice Seeber** has returned home from hospital. May God's comfort continue to be with her.

We pray for **Jane Orling's** brother, **Jim Fisher**, that his health would continue to improve. May God's strength be with him.

We give thanks that baby **Eleanor Tucker** (parents, **Ashley** and **David**) has come home from intensive care and is doing well. May God's spirit of life continue to thrive in her.

We continue our prayers for **Pastor Judy Conoyer** and her husband, **Ted Bronson**, who has entered hospice care. May God's peace and strength be with them.

We pray for God's healing and strength to be with **Roy Ledbetter's** daughter, **Anna**, during her treatment for illness.

We pray for **Carmen-Helena Téllez**, colleague and friend of **Dr. Mager**, as she continues to recover from cancer surgery.

We pray for God's strength and peace to be with **Hadi Al-Shathir's** father, **Laura Al-Shathir's** father-in-law, **Saad Al-Shathir**, who has been diagnosed with a serious illness.

We pray for **Pastor Roy Ledbetter** as he addresses recent health issues. May God's healing strength be with him.

We pray for recovery and health for **Carol Bell**, who sustained several fractures due to a recent fall. Carol is a musician and a friend of many at Bethel.

We pray for healing and recovery for **David Berger**, who has suffered a serious relapse as a result of injuries from a fall earlier this year. Mr. Berger is an accomplished musician and singer, and has been a guest musician for our worship at Bethel.

We pray for **Claudia Wedepohl**, wife of **David Reichert's** long time friend, **Merlin Wedepohl**, that she might experience God's peace and comfort as she enters hospice care.

We pray for God's peace and rest to be with **Liz Grupe**, **Mike Grupe's** sister-in-law, who is at home in hospice care.

We pray for God's spirit of healing to be with **Janet** and **Heather** (friends of **Carroll** and **Ruth Dick**) who are facing health problems.

We pray for **Jody Kluender's** friend and work supervisor, **Paul Bast**, as he recovers from a stroke. May God's strength be with him.

We pray for God's strength to be with **Judy Conoyer's** friend, **Karen**, in a time of worry.

We pray for strength to be with **Tullia Hamiltons's** cousin, **Rasheed Lavour**, during his illness. May God's care be with him.

We pray for God's strength to be with **Evonne Simmons** as she lives with chronic illness.

We pray for God's spirit of healing and hope to strengthen and unite the peoples of the world in care for one another in a time of pandemic.

We pray for **Michael Rickher** and all health care professionals who are giving their care during the pandemic. May God keep watch over them.

We pray for the safety and health of **Debbie** and **Peter Kennedy's** daughter, **Marie Stovall**, a respiratory therapist, as she cares for those ill with the COVID-19 virus. We ask for God's spirit of care and protection to be with Marie and all those who care for the ill.

We continue to pray for strength and comfort for **Sarah Bryan Miller**, advocate of the Saint Louis music community, as she contends with life changes due to her ongoing cancer condition.

We pray for God's strength and comfort in time of illness to be with **Robin Evers**, dear friend of **Michael Orlando** and **Steve Slattery**.

We pray God's watch and care over the children who have been separated from their families at the US border and detained. We pray for their families, their guards, and our policy-makers.

We give thanks for **Ronald Thompson's** (stepbrother of **Kristin Soifer**) recovery from the injury he sustained in a fall, and pray for him as he continues to face chronic illness.

We pray for healing and hope to be with **Meredith Sallee** (sister of **Katy Koontz**) during her treatment for cancer.

We pray for God's healing comfort and strength to be with **John Baker** (brother of **Vicki Lottes**) at a time of serious illness.

We pray for the well-being of **Katie Hautamaki** (friend of **Linda Bristol**) upon the discovery of a tumor.

We pray for **Joe Whelan** (stepson to **Tim Gutknecht**) who is dealing with a genetic condition.

We pray for the recovery of **Candace** and **Evan Lee** (dear friends of the **Pelcak family**).

We pray for **Michael Moentmann** who lives with chronic illness.

We continue our prayers for **Marcie Dowell** (friend of **David Reichert**) as she lives with a heart condition. May God's peace comfort her during this time.

We pray for **Anne-Marie Bogdan** (daughter of **Marie Schroeder**) as she lives with long-standing health conditions. May God's comfort and strength be with her and her family.

We pray for **Stacy Skelton** (friend of **Gail Heyne Hafer**) during her treatment for a recurrence of cancer.

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

MEDITATION

“Air” from *Water Music* Suite in F
Music of George Frideric Handel

CANTICLE

Come with Us, O Blessed Jesus
WERDE MUNTER

#501



Come with us, O bless - ed Je - sus, with us ev - er - more to be.

And, in leav - ing now thine al - tar, let us nev - er - more leave thee!

Let thy bright ce - les - tial cho - rus nev - er cease the heav'n - ly strain;

but in us, thy lov - ing chil - dren, come with peace, good will to reign.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Brief announcements are made, especially those related to the assembly's participation in God's mission in the world. The assembly stands for the Blessing.

BLESSING

May the God of all creation,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved,
who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

The blessing of God,

Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit,
be with you today and always.

Amen.

RECESSIONAL

Thee We Adore, Eternal Lord!

A paraphrase of the *Te Deum laudamus*, the Church's great festive morning canticle.



1 Thee we a - dore, e - ter - nal Lord! We praise thy
2 To thee a - loud all an - gels cry, the heav'ns and
3 The a - pos - tles join the glo - rious throng, the proph - ets
4 From day to day, O Lord, do we high - ly ex -
5 Vouch - safe, O Lord, we hum - bly pray, to keep us



name with one ac - cord; thy saints, who here thy good - ness
all the pow'rs on high; thee, ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly
swell the im - mor - tal song, the mar - tyrs' no - ble ar - my
alt and hon - or thee; thy name we wor - ship and a -
safe from sin this day; have mer - cy, Lord, we trust in



see, through all the world do wor - ship thee.
King, Lord God of hosts, they ev - er sing!
raise e - ter - nal an - thems to thy praise.
dore, world with - out end, for - ev - er - more!
thee; oh, let us ne'er con - found - ed be!

DISMISSAL

Beloved of God,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CLOSING MEDITATION “Hornpipe” from *Water Music* Suite in F
Music of George Frideric Handel

THE PEACE

Pastor William Yancey

* * *

Music for the Feast of Christ the King celebrates the glory and power of God with the sound of the trumpet. Today we acclaim Christ as both Judge and Redeemer. In this day and age, many are inclined to view the pomp of kings and queens as a quaint anachronism. However, for Christians this *kingship* no longer implies the mere autonomy of a temporal ruler; rather, it expresses the majesty of God in creation, in which, by divine grace, we all share. Christ’s *kingship* is inextricably bound up with his *priesthood*, and because of our baptismal anointing we share in this as well. Christ is our High Priest and King by virtue of his death on the Cross. Thus, the Cross, once a symbol of ignominy, is both a royal throne and an altar of sacrifice, by which our Lord achieved his very kingship over death. It is this glorious majesty that we celebrate today.

Our Hymns and the Scripture: The Church is blessed with a beautiful repertoire of hymns firmly rooted in the inspired word of the Bible, and the Christian apostolic tradition. This is particularly evident in our hymnody for today’s worship.

Our processional **Hymn of Praise** is Richard Hillert’s setting of the Revelations canticle, a resounding echo of Christ’s Easter feast of victory – and a foretaste of the feast to come.

Our **Gradual Hymn** (ELW #416) proclaims emphatically the sentiments of Philippians 2:10 -11: “At the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth.”

Our **Recessional Hymn** paraphrases Christianity’s great morning canticle, the *Te Deum laudamus* – “We praise thee, O God; we acknowledge thee to be the Lord.” It is a fitting, stately doxology to our Eucharistic celebration.

These hymns, acclamations, and voluntaries are not merely pompous royal fanfares, but are proclamations of the great promise of Christ’s majesty and glory, as prophesied in Scripture.

This morning’s organ music is by **George Frideric Handel**. Born on February 23, 1685, in the German city of Halle, he studied opera and the cantata in Italy, and later took up residence in London, where he became a naturalized English citizen. Like Scarlatti, Handel spent much of his career in the service of royalty and the aristocracy, and his *Water Music* of 1717, from which these selections are excerpted, was composed for the pleasure of the English King George I – who, incidentally, was also from Germany! Handel was not only an organist, harpsichordist, conductor, and impresario, but was also the most distinguished opera composer of his day. Following the decline of [Italian] opera in England, he adjusted to the change in public tastes by producing some of the great English oratorios, including the ubiquitous *Messiah*. He died in London on April 14, 1759, and is buried in Westminster Abbey.

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*Have Something for the Bethel Connection, Bulletin, Website, Narthex Information Board, or Facebook?
Email it to submissions@bethelstl.org by 9 a.m. Monday morning.*

TODAY'S WORSHIP LEADERS

Celebrant & Preacher	Pastor William Yancey
Assisting Minister	Jody Kluender
First Lector	Caitlin Kuhlmann
Second Lector	Marie Schroeder
Responder	The Rev. David Reichert
Audio/Visual Engineers	Sherman Lee
	Nathan Schroeder
	Stephen Mager
	Matt Bear
Teller	Paul Bregitzer
Musicians	members of Bethel Chancel Choir
	Dr. Stephen Mager, music director



The Rev. Dr. William L. Yancey, Pastor
Stephen Mager, DM, Organist and Music Director
Rev. Tina Reyes, Lutheran Campus Ministry, Pastor
Deb Grupe, Director of Child, Youth, and Family Ministry
Eric Townsley, Custodian, custodian@bethelstl.org
Sarah Brooks, Church Administrator, office@bethelstl.org
Office Hours Mon-Fri 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (314) 863-3112

A Reconciling in Christ Congregation (a welcoming ministry to persons of all sexual orientations and gender identities) and A Green Congregation (for being stewards of the earth)

In Covenant with Lutheran Campus Ministry (lcmstl.org)

Have a prayer request? Email it to prayers@bethelstl.org anytime.

Note that the information you send to this address will get shared with a number of people who will be praying for you as well as the Sunday Holy Communion bulletin.