

12145 W. EDGERTON AVE. | HALES CORNERS, WI 53130 | 414-427-9337

http://www.MessiahHC.org & Email: LBernthal@MessiahHC.org

Luke Bernthal, Pastor Phone: 402-389-2147
Paul Tiefel, Principal Phone: 715-869-3733
Levi Schaller, Teacher Phone: 715-529-4368
Carrie Reim, Teacher Phone: 715-529-4030

November 23, 2025

Christ the King



⊕ Preparation for Worship: Read Psalm 98 (Lutheran Service Book or Pew Bible) ⊕

**Greeting and prayer:** (Pastor)

**Opening Hymn: 512 At the Name of Jesus** (please stand for last verse)

LSB 901

# **Order of Worship**

Adapted from LSB Setting 4 - p. 203ff

### **Invocation**

We invoke ("call upon") the name of the one true God – Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

- P In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?
- **B** But with You there is forgiveness; therefore we stand in awe of You.
- P Since we are gathered to hear God's Word and to call upon Him in prayer and praise, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

# **Confession and Absolution**

We come before our Holy God recognizing that we are sinful and daily need His forgiveness.

- **P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.
- Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. 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.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and gives them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

### C Amen.

Kyrie Latin for "O Lord." We approach our Lord with a cry for help in all the needs of our earthly life.

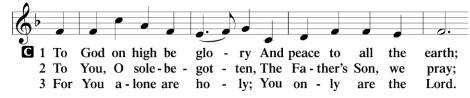
LSB 204



C Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

### Gloria in Excelsis Latin for "Glory to God in the highest."

LSB 204





Good-will from God in heav - en Pro-claimed at Je-sus' birth!

O Lamb of God, our Sav - ior, You take our sins a - way.

For - ev - er and for - ev - er, Be wor-shiped and a - dored;



We praise and bless You, Fa - ther; Your ho - ly name, we sing— Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus; Re - ceive our heart - felt cry, You with the Ho - ly Spir - it A - lone are Lord Most High,



Our thanks for Your great glo - ry, Lord God, our heav'n-ly King. Where You in pow'r are seat-ed At God's right hand on high—In God the Fa-ther's glo - ry. "A - men!" our glad re - ply.

# Salutation ("Greeting") and Prayer of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And also with you.
- P We pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, our King and Savior, by the blood of Your cross You have delivered us from the domain of darkness into Your kingdom of light. Strengthen us to find our identity, not in the things of this world, but in You and all that You have done for us. We pray this in Your name, dear Jesus, our Lord and Savior, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

## **First Reading**

Jeremiah 23:2-6 (NKJV)

<sup>2</sup> Therefore thus says the LORD God of Israel against the shepherds who feed My people: "You have scattered My flock, driven them away, and not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for the evil of your doings," says the LORD. <sup>3</sup> "But I will gather the remnant of My flock out of all countries where I have driven them, and bring them back to their folds; and they shall be fruitful and increase. <sup>4</sup> "I will set up shepherds over them who will feed them; and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, nor shall they be lacking," says the LORD. <sup>5</sup> " Behold, the days are coming," says the LORD, "That I will raise to David a Branch of righteousness; A King shall reign and prosper, And execute judgment and righteousness in the earth. <sup>6</sup> In His days Judah will be saved, And Israel will dwell safely; Now this is His name by which He will be called: THE LORD OUR RIGHTEOUSNESS.

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

# **Second Reading**

Luke 23:35-43 (NKJV)

- **P** The second reading is from Luke 23:35-43.
- Glory to You, O Lord.

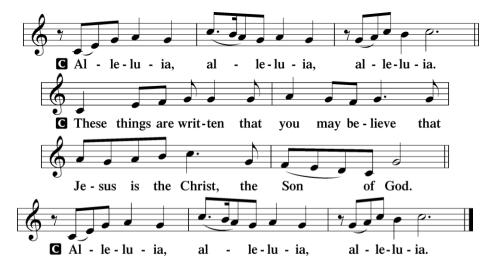
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>35</sup> And the people stood looking on. But even the rulers with them sneered, saying, "He saved others; let Him save Himself if He is the Christ, the chosen of God." <sup>36</sup> The soldiers also mocked Him, coming and offering Him sour wine, <sup>37</sup> and saying, "If You are the King of the Jews, save Yourself." <sup>38</sup> And an inscription also was written over Him in letters of Greek, Latin,

and Hebrew: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS. <sup>39</sup> Then one of the criminals who were hanged blasphemed Him, saying, "If You are the Christ, save Yourself and us." <sup>40</sup> But the other, answering, rebuked him, saying, "Do you not even fear God, seeing you are under the same condemnation? <sup>41</sup> "And we indeed justly, for we receive the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup> Then he said to Jesus, "Lord, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." <sup>43</sup> And Jesus said to him, "Assuredly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in Paradise."

- **P** This is the Word of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

#### Alleluia and Verse

When God speaks to us in His Word it is natural for us to respond. We sing "Allelujah!"—meaning, "Praise the Lord!"



# **Soloist: "Mercy Awaits"**

Out of the depths, I shout to You, unable to see Your design;
I keep my contempt to comfort in and swim in my sin laden brine.
Out of the depths, I plead with You, soften this hard heart of mine.
Give me the joy to realize You test me like gold to refine.
I trust in Your love everlasting, I cling to Your unfailing grace;
In seasons of sorrow and blessing, I give You my pain and my praise;
Your undying mercy awaits.

Out of the depths, I hold on to the faith that sustains through the wake;
How soon I forget the gifts that You give and focus on that which You take.
Out of the depths, I cry to You; only on You can I call.
"Mercy awaits," You promised me, "No matter what storm may befall."
I trust in Your love everlasting, I cling to Your unfailing grace;
In seasons of sorrow and blessing, I give you my pain and my praise;
Your undying mercy awaits.

# **Apostles' Creed** We boldly confess what we believe.

W.S. p. 15

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of the Day: 532 The Head that Once Was Crowned with Thorns LSB 532

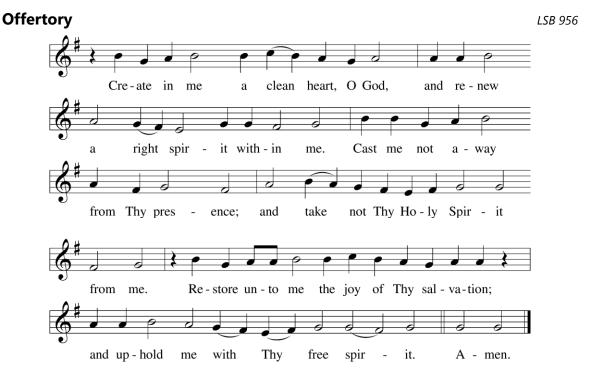
# **Sermon Text**: Colossians 1:13-20 (EHV)

<sup>13</sup> The Father rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. <sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation, <sup>16</sup> for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, things seen and unseen, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He is before all things, and all things hold together in him. <sup>18</sup> He is also the head

of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that in all things he might have the highest rank. <sup>19</sup> For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, <sup>20</sup> and through him to reconcile all things to himself (whether things on earth or in heaven) by making peace through the blood of his cross.

# **Sermon Theme:** Christ: The King of Kings

- ⊕ Why is Jesus' Kingdom unlike any other king's? (see John 18:36)
- ⊕ In what way(s) is Jesus a greater King than any other king? (v. 15-17)



Public domain

**Offering** We offer our gifts to the Lord, remembering that He has first given to us that we might have to give to Him.

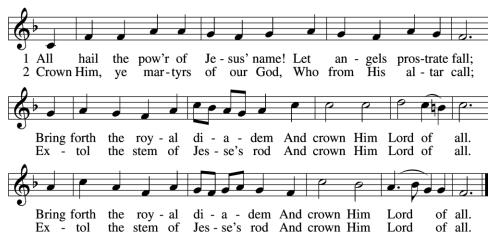
### **Prayer of the Church** We bring our prayers to God. (please remain seated)

Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord Jesus Christ, You defeat all the powers of evil and darkness. Strengthen us to resist the temptations of Satan. Surround us with Your truth and light.

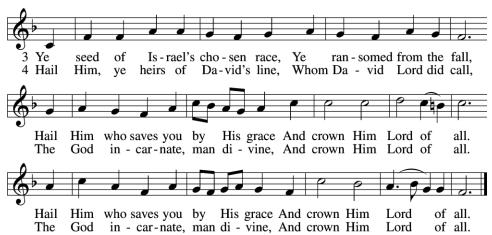
- **O** Lord, our King and Savior, be our strong defender.
- Lord, we live in a world torn apart by war and violence. All human-made peace is only temporary, but You have made eternal peace by the blood of Your cross.
- O Lord, our King and Savior, encourage us by Your peace, which passes all understanding.

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" LSB 549 v. 1-2



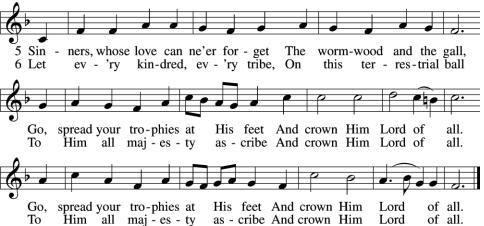
- P Lord, we bring before You all who are struggling to find identity and purpose in life.
- **O** Lord, our King and Savior, remind them, and us, that our identity is only in You and Your goodness and love.
- Lord, You have borne our griefs and shared in our sorrows. Bring Your comfort to all those who are suffering in grief.
- O Lord, our King and Savior, comfort them and point all of us to the promise of the resurrection to eternal life with You.

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" LSB 549 v. 3-4



- Lord, strengthen all those who struggle with addictions. Break their bondage and lead them to get the help they need. Give them the courage to ask for help and guide them so that they find the help they need.
- **O** Lord, our King and Savior, help them to find their strength and power over addictions and temptation in You.
- Lord, look with favor upon all who are sick, injured, and recovering, including Brianna Weibye, who continues her battle with cancer.
- O Lord, our King and Savior, have mercy upon them and restore them to health according to Your wisdom and gracious will.





(Congregation, please rise)

- Lord, help all pastors, teachers, evangelists, missionaries, musicians, and servants in Your Church. Embolden them as they bring Your Word to Your people so that more and more people may see Your light.
- **O** Lord, our King and Savior, through the Gospel bring many more people into Your Kingdom of Heaven.
- Lord Jesus, we commend all these people and situations to Your infinite wisdom and power, for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. In Your saving name we now join in praying the prayer that You taught us...

# **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.

**Benediction** The blessing given by God for the blessing of His people (Numbers 6:24-26).

P The Lord bless you and keep you.

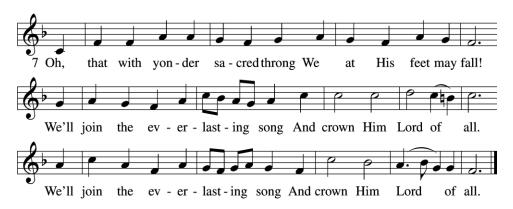
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and 

→ give you peace.



Closing Hymn: 549 v. 7 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (please remain standing)



Text (sts. 1-5): Edward Perronet, 1726-92, alt.; (sts. 6-7): A Selection of Hymns, 1787, London, alt.

Tune: Oliver Holden, 1765–1844 Text and tune: Public domain

# **Announcements**



Welcome! We welcome all our visitors this morning.

Please sign our guest book and come worship with us again soon.

Today: Choir Practice – 8am

11/23/25 **Worship – 9am** 

Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am

Fall Piano Recital - New Perspective (Franklin) - 1:30pm

This Week: Wed. – Fri. – No School at MLS (Thanksgiving Break)
Thursday – Thanksgiving Day Worship Service – 9am

Church Cleaning: Team #5 (11/22-11/28); Team #6 (11/29-12/5)

Next Sunday: *Advent Begins* 11/30/25 **Choir – 8am** 

Worship w/ Baptism (Judah Nelson) – 9am Sunday School & Bible Class – 10:15am

**Christmas Decorating – 11am** (Activity Group 3 & any and all volunteers!)

<u>Fall Piano Recital – New Perspective, Franklin – TODAY, Sunday Nov. 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 1:30pm</u> – Our Messiah Lutheran School piano students will be having their Fall Recital at **New Perspective in Franklin** today, **Sunday, November 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:30pm.** All are welcome to attend!

# Thanksgiving Day Worship Service - Thurs. 11/27 @ 9am

Please make plans to join us for our

Thanksgiving Day Worship Service this Thursday 11/27 @ 9am.

"Oh, give thanks to the Lord for He is good!" – Psalm 107:1 NKJV





### Church Christmas Decorating - Next Sunday, November 30th @ 11am -

Activity Group 3 will be decorating the church for Christmas after Bible Class and Sunday School next Sunday, Nov. 30<sup>th</sup> at 11am. The congregation is invited to help with the decorating. The more the merrier!

Wed. Advent Worship Begins 12/3 @ 6:30pm - Make plans to join us for our 3 Wed. Advent



Worship Services beginning on **Wed. Dec. 3rd @ 6:30pm.** Our series this year will be entitled: "Every Heart Prepare." We decorate in preparation for Christmas. In November and December people spend hours putting up lights in their living space and ornaments on their evergreens. Poinsettias are placed on the mantel and presents under the tree, and we "deck the halls with boughs of holly." These Christmas decorations bring enjoyment and anticipation to the holiday.

Advent is the church's season of preparation for Christmas, for the coming of the Lord. This Advent season, as part of our

preparation, we reflect upon three common Christmas decorations and how they help us see Christ and prepare for His coming: evergreens, lights, and the nativity scene. Christmas Caroling – Sunday, Dec. 7th – Meet at Church @ 4pm – Our Christmas Caroling will be held on Sunday evening, Dec. 7th. We'll plan to meet at church at 4pm and will be singing at The Villa in Greenfield (4:30pm) and New Perspective in Franklin (approx. 5:30pm). We plan to meet back at church afterwards for a chili supper. Please come and join us spread some Christmas cheer as we sing of our Savior, who is the reason for the season!

<u>Children's Christmas Eve Program Practices Begin Sunday, Dec. 7<sup>th</sup> @ 10:15am</u> – The Children's Christmas Eve Program practices will be held during the Sunday School hour during the month of December in the sanctuary: Dec. 7<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup>, and 21<sup>st</sup>.

### A Note of Thanks from Brianna Weibye -

Dear members of Messiah,

I want to express my heartfelt gratitude for the prayers, cards, and thoughtful encouragement you have shared with me. Your kindness has been a beautiful reminder of God's love in action. Growing up surrounded by faithful believers has been one of the greatest blessings in my life. Your support has strengthened my spirit and deepened my trust in God's goodness. I can truly see how God uses His people to lift one another up.

"Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing."

— 1 Thessalonians 5:11

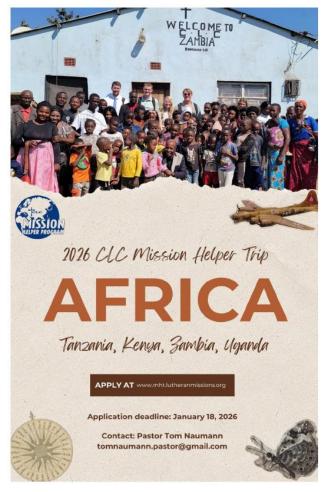
Thank you again for being such a loving and prayerful church family.

With gratitude and faith,

Brianna Weibye

**CLC News** – Pastor Tom Schuetze of St. Paul Ev. Lutheran Church, Lakewood, CO, has **returned** the call to Trinity Ev. Lutheran Church, Spokane, WA. <> Pastor Terrel Kesterson of Ascension Lutheran Church, Batavia, IL, has **received** the part-time call to Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN. <> Pastor Emeritus David Schierenbeck has **received** the call to serve as Assistant to the Pastor at Berea Ev. Lutheran Church, Inver Grove Heights, MN, after he has completed his work as vacancy pastor of Our Redeemer's Lutheran Church, Red Wing, MN. <> Pastor Emeritus Michael Eichstadt has **received** the vacancy call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ. <> Pastor Ben Libby of Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church, Cheyenne, WY, has **received** the call to Holy Cross Ev. Lutheran Church, Phoenix, AZ. <> Pastor Ben Libby of Redeemer Ev. Lutheran Church, Cheyenne, WY, has **received** the call to Messiah Lutheran Church, Eau Claire, WI.

**INSTALLATION** - Pastor Michael Gurath will be installed as pastor of Peace Thru Christ, Middleton, WI at a special 10am service December 21. There will be a meal to follow.



The CLC Mission Helper Program, under the direction of the CLC Mission Board, is beginning to make preparations for another Mission Trip to East Africa for the summer of 2026. The exact dates have yet to be determined, but the work was determined by our Savior when He told us to go into all the world and preach the Gospel. The main focus of this trip will be presenting the Gospel, through a series of child evangelism lessons, to member and non-member children in village congregations. Possible areas of evangelism may include the CLC—Tanzania, CLC—Kenya, CLC—Zambia, and CLC-Uganda.

Listed below are a few ways you can be involved:

Pray for this effort to share the love of Christ in East Africa. Ask the Lord for guidance and to show you how you can help spread the Gospel.

**B**egin planning, praying, and saving so you can travel to East Africa to help share the Good News of Christ crucified.

Offer your financial support so others may participate. There is a great need for congregational support.

There are many things you will need to prayerfully consider as you think about volunteering for this trip. What follows is a short list that could be helpful in your consideration:

- The length of the trip will be 2 to 3 weeks.
- The approximate cost is \$3,500.00—\$4,000.00. This includes airfare and other expenses such as lodging, transportation, travel insurance, passports, visas etc. Vaccinations, anti-malaria meds, and other medical costs are not included in this figure.
- † You must be at least 18 years of age (unless accompanied by a parent/guardian)
- † You will be asked to submit an application accompanied by a letter of recommendation from your pastor.
- Deadline for Applications is January 18th, 2026.
- ⊕ A \$2000 payment will be due by early February.

## **National Women's Retreat Coming in January!**

Before your 2026 calendar begins to fill up, we want you to mark your calendars and get ready to *Press Pause* with women across the country!

• What: Press Pause for the National Women's (Virtual) Retreat 2026

• When: Saturday, January 31, 2026 // 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. (Pacific Time)

How: Join us virtually via Zoom
Cost: Free event – all are welcome!

• Register now: https://tinyurl.com/PressPause26



## **The Branches Women's Magazine Subscriptions**

It's time to **renew or sign up** for a calendar year subscription!

Think about Thanksgiving, Christmas, and birthday gifts

### Sign up any time before December 15, 2025

- -Subscriptions are \$16.00 per year for 4 issues.
- -Pay by PayPal, Venmo, or check (email Sandy for PayPal option)
- -Make paper checks payable to: The Branches

**Note**: Current subscribers will receive an email or postcard at the time of their renewal.

#### Contact:

Sandy Hulke, Subscription Manager 29985 Norway Ave, Lindstrom, MN 55045 <u>thebranchesmagazine@gmail.com</u>

Bible Readings:		
11/23	Joshua 12 Psalm 119:153-160 Acts 1:23-26	
11/24	Joshua 13:1-14 Psalm 119:161-176 Acts 2:1-13	
11/25	Joshua 13:15-33 Psalm 120 Acts 2:14-41	
11/26	Joshua 14 Psalm 121 Acts 2:42-3:10	
11/27	Joshua 15:1-19 Psalm 122 Acts 3:11-26	
11/28	Joshua 15:20-63 Psalm 123 Acts 4:1-22	
11/29	Joshua 16:1-17:2 Psalm 124 Acts 4:23-31	

November Ushers	Cleaning Team 11/29-12/5
Jared Barthels Armando Hart Nick Blue  November Slideshow Jim Lisak	Team 6 M/C Gescheidle M/J Plockelman R/A Davis D. Hein L/N Schaller

Fruits of Faith	Last Week:	To Date:
Budgetary Offerings:	\$6,198.18	\$154,326.97
Budgetary Needs:	\$8,642.65	\$172,853.00
Over (Under) Budget:	(\$2,444.47)	(\$18,526.03)
ILC Building Fund:	\$50.00	\$814.99
MSAF:	\$25.00	\$350.00

Attendance Last Sun. (11/16): 119



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