

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 21, 2021

Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

GATHERING

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

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PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING REFLECTION

"His Name is Jesus"

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father,
and of the + Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

Have mercy on us, O God.
**We confess that we have sinned against you
and against our neighbor.
We have built walls instead of tables
and have turned away the stranger.
We have sought glory for ourselves
and have treasured that which does not satisfy.
Help us to love as you love,
to welcome those you send,
and to treasure mercy and justice.
Turn us from our ways to your ways,**

and free us to serve those in need. Amen.

God, who makes all things new,
forgives your sins for + Jesus' sake
and remembers them no more.

Lift up your heads and your hearts.

Yours is the kingdom of God.

Amen.

***OPENING HYMN**

"Come, Thou Almighty King" ELW #408
(Vs. 1 & 4)

***GREETING**

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

And also with you

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Let us pray

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song.

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FIRST READING—Revelation 1:4b-8

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

^{4b}Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;
every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.
So it is to be. Amen.

⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God!

SECOND READING—Matthew 2:1-12

The Visit of the Wise Men

2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men^[a] from the East came to Jerusalem, **2** asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising,^[b] and have come to pay him homage.” **3** When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; **4** and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah^[c] was to be born. **5** They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

6 ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd^[d] my people Israel.’”

7 Then Herod secretly called for the wise men^[e] and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. **8** Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” **9** When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising,^[f] until it stopped over the place where the child was. **10** When they saw that the star had stopped,^[g] they were overwhelmed with joy. **11** On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. **12** And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God!

***GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

“Alleluia” ELW page#151

The holy gospel according to the eighteenth chapter of John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL—John 18:33-37

In John’s gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.

³³Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of

the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

MESSAGE *"Another Road, Another Kind of King"* Rev. Janet Crissinger

HYMN OF THE DAY *"Rejoice, for Christ Is King!"* ELW
#430

(Vs. 1 & 3)

***THE APOSTLE'S 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**

***THE PRAYERS**

Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.
A brief silence.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to testify to the truth. We pray for preachers, missionaries, evangelists, and teachers who carry your forgiveness and love to the world. Fill their words and

actions with compassion and kindness so that your truth will shine.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to liberate all of creation. We pray for all living things longing for the freedom to flourish, from ancient trees and wild grasses to endangered animals and rare insects. Give human beings compassionate hearts to care for them.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us into the way of peace. Direct the members of international alliances in choosing a nonviolent path toward the future. Give them the humility and wisdom to make just decisions to benefit all.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to make us into your own people, set free to serve you. We pray for people who serve the well-being of others, especially ministries in our community. Renew them in their work.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to rule in all times and places. We pray for the friends of our congregation who are unable to join our worship in person and for all who are sick and suffering Karen Malm, Allan Krattley, Sophia Walker, Phyllis Kiemele, Mary Roop and those that we name silently in our hearts. Join their prayers with ours and unite them with us in the body of Christ.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God, you sent your Son Jesus to be our beginning and our ending. We give thanks for those whose lives have given us a glimpse of Jesus' reign of justice and peace. Empower us to join their witness.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God our hope and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray. Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.
Amen.

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

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WE OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise God all creatures here below.

Alleluia, Alleluia.

Praise God above you heavenly Host

Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia, Alleluia. Alleluia.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray:

Holy God,

the earth is yours and everything in it,

yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures.

Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine,

and strengthen us to be your body for the world

through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

DIAGLOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

***THE GREAT THANKSGIVING**

***WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

Please hold the elements until the words, "body of Christ given for you, blood of Christ shed for you"

***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**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

A feast of love is offered here
for you and for all the saints.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Jesus,
at this table, you have been for us both host and meal.
Now send us forth to extend our tables
and to share your gifts
until that day when all feast together
at your heavenly banquet.
Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

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***BLESSING**

God, the beginning and the end,
who has written your name in the book of life,
✚ bless and keep you in grace and peace
from this time forth and forevermore.
Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

Lead On, O King Eternal!" ELW #805
(Vs. 1 & 3)

***DISMISSAL**

Led on by the saints before us,
go in peace to serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

***SHARING OF THE PEACE**

***POSTLUDE**

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Shift Worship—Pro Membership

Expires 11-2-2022

Shift Worship—Pro Membership

Expires 11-2-2022

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Worship services can be viewed through our website www.firstlutheranlesueur.org or through You Tube at www.youtube.com & search First Lutheran Church Le Sueur MN.

Christ In Our Home devotional and *Living Lutheran* magazine are available at church. Please call and a copy can be mailed out to you.

Your offering to the church can be mail, dropped in the mailbox outside of church or through “online giving” on our website.

Please call or email the church if you have pastoral care needs.

An online **Flower Chart** has been added to the Sign-Up Genius. If you wish to provide flowers for any given Sunday worship, sign up online or on the chart outside of the office, preferably at least one week in advance. A contribution of \$25 to cover the cost of flowers is expected. Call Stacy in the office with any questions.

Needed: volunteers to serve as projectionist for Sunday morning worship. Training is available; some familiarity with computers is a prerequisite. Contact Shellie Segler if interested, or sign up on the Sign-Up Genius.

Just a reminder...please stay home if you are sick or not feeling well. If you do attend a worship service and you are later diagnosed with COVID-19, *please contact the church office as soon as possible*. Your name will be kept confidential, but we need to notify those who came in contact with you.

CANCELLED: An Ecumenical Worship of Thanksgiving previously scheduled is now cancelled. Watch for a Thanksgiving Message via FLC’s YouTube to be released Tuesday evening.

Information on Adopt-A-Family is available online. Please watch your Sunday morning email from First Lutheran, our website or Facebook for the announcement.

The flowers that beautify the sanctuary today are from the funeral of Darlene Krueger which was held on Saturday, November 13.

First Lutheran Church

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As we RECEIVE, DISCOVER and PROCLAIM God's Word.

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