Christ the King Sunday
November 22, 2026



First Lutheran Church
116 Inner Drive
Le Sueur, MN 56058
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Rev. Samuel Mailleue
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UNITED by Christ, God calls us to LOVE one another
As we RECEIVE, DISCOVER and PROCLAIM God's Word.

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING REFLECTION

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our dwelling place for all generations,
whose compassion never slumbers.
Amen.

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

Holy God,
we confess that we have trusted in our preparation
instead of your invitation.
We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved.

We trust the voice of our shame and fear,
which keeps us from entering fully
into relationship with you and others.
We are not awake to the coming of your reign.
Rouse us and rescue us,
that we may enter into your joy.
Amen.

Inherit the riches of God's grace.
☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy.
You are forgiven.
Blessed are you.
Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OPENING HYMN ***Crown Him with Many Crowns*** **ELW #855 (Vs. 1, 3 & 4)**
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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.

KYRIE- ***spoken*** **ELW page 138**

CANTICLE ***Holy God, We Praise Your Name*** **ELW #414 (Vs. 1)**

PRAYER OF THE DAY
Let us pray
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.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

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.

11 Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them
out. 12 As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep,
so I will sort 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. 13 I will bring them
out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and 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. 14 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. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will
make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. 16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring
back the strays, 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.
20 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between
the fat sheep and the lean sheep. 21 Because you pushed with flank and
shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you

scattered them far and wide, 22 I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd. 24 And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I the LORD have spoken.

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

PSALM— Psalm 95:1-7a

1 Come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
2 **Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving**
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.
3 For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.
4 **In your hand are the caverns of the earth;**
the heights of the hills are also yours.
5 The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.
6 **Come, let us worship and bow down,**
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.
7a For the LORD is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

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.

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason 16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, 17 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 him, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, 19 and what is the immeasurable greatness of his

power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. 20 God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, 21 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. 22 And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, 23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION—*Alleluia* **ELW page 142**

The Holy Gospel according to the twenty-fifth chapter of Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] 31 "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. 32 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, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. 34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, 35 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, 36 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.' 37 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? 38 And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? 39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' 40 And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.' 41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared

for the devil and his angels, 42 for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 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.' 44 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?' 45 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.' 46 And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to you, O Christ

MESSAGE **Rev. Sam Mailleue**

HYMN OF THE DAY ***Jesus Shall Reign*** **ELW #434**
(Vs. 1, 2 & 3)
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APOSTLES' 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
United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.
A brief silence.

Prepare your people for your reign to come among us. Where the church is wary, make us bold; where we are complacent, stir us to action; where we are anxious, assure us of your never-ending care.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

All the heights, depths, and expanses of the earth belong to you. Deliver every corner of your creation from disaster. Restore lands ravaged by floods, fires, drought, or contamination.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gather all the nations at your side and teach them the ways of your kingdom of wholeness and abundant life. Empower judges, juries, and legal advocates to create and uphold pathways toward transformative justice.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Bind up the wounds of all your people. Give courage to all who experience uncertainty, guide all people facing difficult decisions, and lift the spirits of any who are in need especially those on our prayer list and in our hearts.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Accompany communities struggling with conflict. Help us to listen deeply to one another, that we might know one another more fully and release any hurt or anger. Create ways of healing and reconciliation among us.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Fill us with the spirit of wisdom and perseverance that you grant to all the saints, and bring us, at the last, into the hope of your promised new day.
God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.
Amen.

OFFERING

Gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

WE OFFER OUR GIFTS AND TITHES

OFFERTORY HYMN ***Praise and Thanksgiving*** **ELW #689 (Vs. 1)**

One License #13262

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Eternal God,
our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.
Receive what we offer,
and all that you entrust to us,
until hungry no more, all the world is fed,
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
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.

SENDING

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

BLESSING

The holy Trinity,
Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God,
today and always.
Amen.

CLOSING HYMN ***Rejoice, for Christ Is King!*** **ELW #430**
(Vs. 1, 2 & 3)
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DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Welcome to First Lutheran Church

Whether you are looking for a place of worship
or are just passing through, we hope our service has blessed you
on your journey as your presence has been a blessing to us.

WEEKLY ANNOUNCEMENTS

November Ministry Focus: Adopt-A-Family

As we enter the holiday season, our congregation again has an opportunity to put our faith into action through Le Sueur County's Adopt-a-Family program. Through this program we will provide gifts of clothing for local families, helping parents meet their children's needs while bringing warmth, dignity, and joy during the Christmas season. Through this ministry, we live out Jesus' call to love our neighbors and care for those who may be experiencing difficult times.

Adopt-A-Family gift tags are on the tree in the gathering space with more available online through Sign-Up Genius. Each tag has a clothing item with the size, gender, and child's age. **The final day to drop off gifts under the tree in the gathering space will be Wednesday, December 2nd. Gift should be unwrapped and labeled with the tag code!** The online link is shared in the Sunday morning email and on our website landing page. If assistance is needed signing up online, reach out to Becky.

Financial Update		
Week of	Amount Received	Amount Needed
11-15-2026	$5,052	$4,523
YTD	$195,812	$212,577

Acknowledgements:

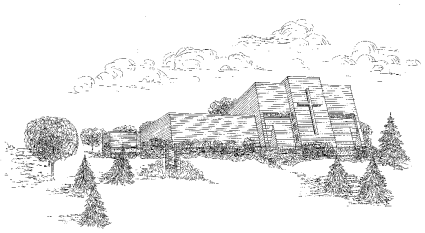
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Songselect Advanced—Expires 6/30/2027

Shift Worship—Membership
Expires 12/25/2026

Sharefaith—Membership
Expires 6/2027



Weekly Schedule

Sunday, November 22	**9:00a**	**Worship**
Monday, November 23	6:00p	Church Council
Tuesday, November 24	9:00a	First Quilting
	7:00p	**Thanksgiving Worship @ Zion UCC**
Wednesday, November 25	9:00a	Staff Meeting
Thursday, November 26		Happy Thanksgiving
Sunday, November 29	**9:00a**	**Worship**

Worship Assistants

November 22, 2026

Organist/Pianist:	Virginia Miller
First Choir Director:	Jennifer Weick
Acolytes:	Liam Haaland
Reader:	Edrie Barton
Usher:	LeRoy May
Greeters:	Heather Haaland
	Barb Majusiak
Council Member:	Sara Carrigan
Fellowship:	
Projection:	Tech Team
Audio:	Tech Team
Videographer:	Becky Pollack
Offering Counters:	Dave Johnson
	Bob Patrias
Altar Guild:	Sue Michaelis
	Donnis Wicks

November 29, 2026

Organist/Pianist:	Virginia Miller
First Choir Director:	Jennifer Weick
Acolytes:	Malcolm Mailleue
Reader:	Jack Schwartz
Usher:	John Miller
Greeters:	Jack & Marta Schwartz
Council Member:	Lynnea Libra
Fellowship:	
Projection:	Tech Team
Audio:	Tech Team
Videographer:	Becky Pollack
Offering Counters:	John Miller
	Joanne Graff
Altar Guild:	Sue Michaelis
	Donnis Wicks