

ST. PETER EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Stpeterlutheranchurch.net

13221 W. Todd School Rd.

Glasford, Illinois 61533

309-389-5342

Pastor Raymond Barclay

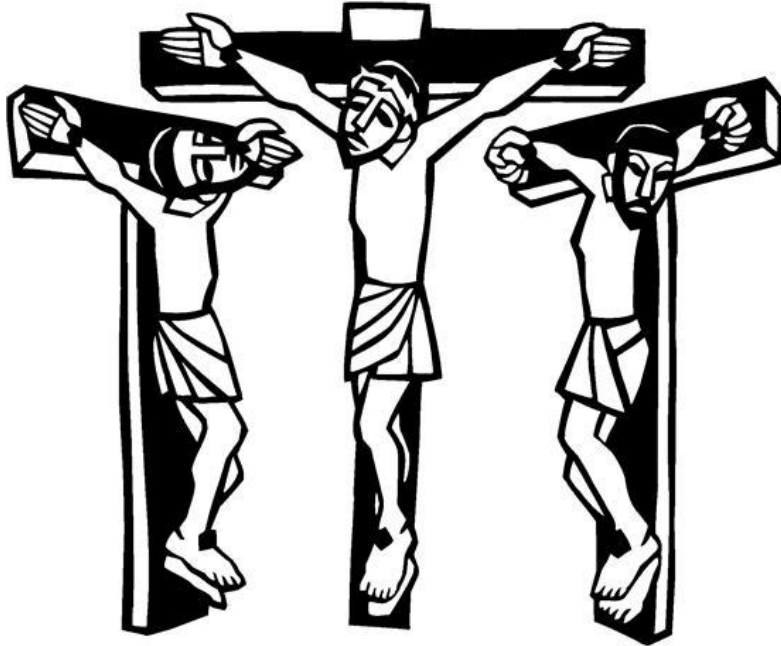


Sunday, November 23, 2025
24th Sunday after Pentecost

PRELUDE: ORGAN / CLAVINOVA

[*] REQUESTS YOUR RISING IF COMFORTABLE

GREETINGS

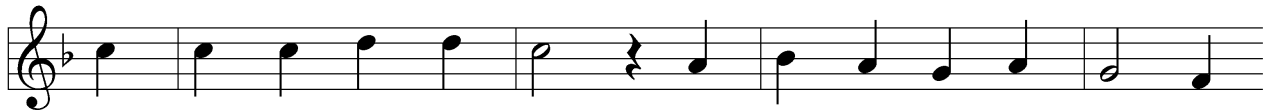


Introduction to the Worship Service:

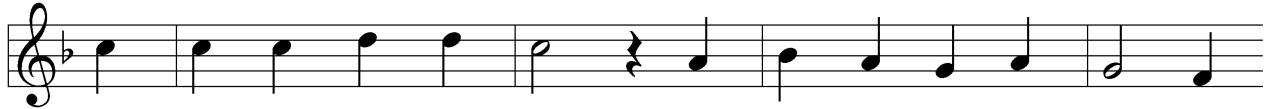
Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

***GATHERING SONG** *Now Thank We All Our God (isometric)* (LBW 534)

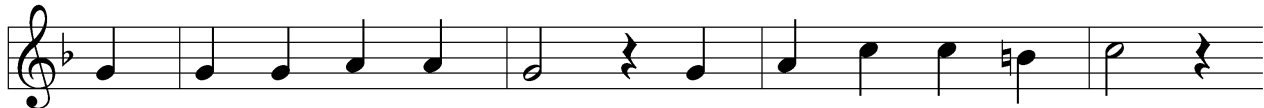
Now Thank We All Our God



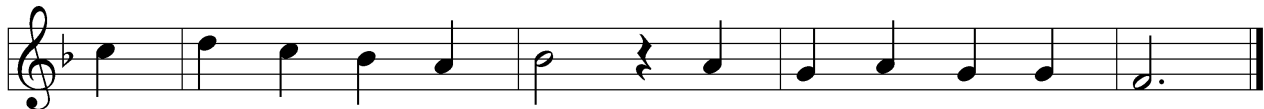
1 Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
2 Oh, may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God the Father now be given,



who wondrous things has done, in whom his world rejoices;
with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,
the Son, and him who reigns with them in highest heaven,



who, from our mothers' arms, has blest us on our way
and keep us in his grace, and guide us when perplexed,
the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore;



with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.
and free us from all harm in this world and the next.
for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.

Text: Martin Rinkhart, 1586–1649; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1829–1878
Music: NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT, Johann Crüger, 1598–1662

***GREETING (WOV p. 46)**

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

C **And also with you.**

P You are the treasured people of the LORD,

C **a people holy to the LORD our God.**

P Keep the words of the LORD in your heart; teach them to your children.

C **Talk about them when you are at home and when you are away, when you lie down and when you rise.**

P One does not live by bread alone,

C **but by every word that comes from the mouth of the LORD.**

***SCRIPTURE SONG (WOV p. 47)**



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev - er.



☐ Great and won-der-ful are your deeds, O God of the u-ni-verse;



just and true are your ways, O Rul - er of all the na-tions.



Who can fail to hon-or you, Lord, and sing the glo-ry of your name?



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev - er.



☐ For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One. All



na - tions will draw near and wor - ship be - fore you,



for your just and ho - ly works have been re - vealed.



☐ Sal-va-tion be-longs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for-ev-er and ev - er.

PRAYER OF THE DAY (WOV p. 16)

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

P Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things to your beloved Son, whom you anointed priest forever and king of all creation: Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united under the glorious and gentle rule of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C **Amen**

LESSONS: (LECTIONARY YR C)

LECTOR: Alice Diver

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 23:1-6

A reading from Jeremiah.

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.

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, 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 The word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 46

I will be exalted among the nations. (*Ps. 46:11*)

¹ God is our ref-¹uge and strength,
a very present¹ help in trouble.

² **Therefore we will not fear, though the¹ earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake in the depths¹ of the sea;**

³ though its waters¹ rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble¹ with its tumult.

⁴ **There is a river whose streams make glad the cit-¹y of God,
the holy habitation of¹ the Most High.**

⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall¹ not be shaken;
God shall help it at the¹ break of day.

⁶ **The nations rage, and the¹ kingdoms shake;
God speaks, and the earth¹ melts away.**

⁷ The LORD of¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold.

⁸ **Come now, regard the works¹ of the LORD,
what desolations God has brought up-¹ on the earth;**

⁹ behold the one who makes war to cease in¹ all the world;
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the¹ shields with fire.

¹⁰ **“Be still, then, and know that¹ I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted¹ in the earth.”**

¹¹ The LORD of¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold.

SECOND LESSON: Colossians 1:11-20

A reading from Colossians.

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.

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 The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (WOV p. 48)



***GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43**

P The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 23rd chapter.

C Glory to you, O Lord.

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.

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."

P The Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to you, O Christ.



SERMON: 'FORGIVEN'

HYMN OF THE DAY *Come, You Thankful People, Come* (LBW 407)

Come, You Thankful People, Come



1 Come, you thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.
2 All the world is God's own field, fruit un - to his praise to yield.
3 For the Lord our God shall come and shall take his har - vest home;
4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to your fi - nal har - vest home.



All is safe - ly gath - ered in ere the win - ter storms be - gin.
Wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.
from his field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way,
Gath - er all your peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our mak - er, does pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.
give his an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,
there, for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in your gar - ner to a - bide.



Come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.
but the fruit - ful ears to store in his gar - ner ev - er - more.
Come, with all your an - gels, come, raise the glo - rious har - vest home!



Text: Henry Alford, 1810–1871, alt.

Music: ST. GEORGE'S, WINDSOR, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

***RESPONSE TO THE WORD: CREED AND CONFESSION (WOV p. 49)**

P In Christ, you have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation.

C **We believe in him and are marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit.**

P Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.*

On the third day he rose again.

**He ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again 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**

P Build yourselves up on your most holy faith;

C **pray in the Holy Spirit.**

P Keep yourselves in the love of God;

C **look forward to the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

P If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:

C **Everything old has passed away; behold, everything has become new!**

P God has given us the ministry of reconciliation.

Therefore, let us be reconciled to God and to one another.

Gracious God,

C **have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins,
known and unknown, things done and left undone.**

**Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

Amen

P The almighty and merciful Lord grant us pardon, forgiveness, and remission of all
our sins.

C **Amen**

***PEACE (WOV p. 50)**

P Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace.

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C **And also with you.**

P **Let us share God's peace with one another.**

***OFFERTORY (WOV p. 50)**



Glo - ry to you, God, for yours is the earth;
yours the a - noint - ing, the ra - di - ant worth.
Ours the re - joic - ing for spir - its a - flame;
ours the thanks - giv - ing to your ho - ly name.
Ours be the tell - ing of deeds great - ly done;
yours be the glo - ry, O God, yours a - lone.

P Let us pray.

P God, our Creator,

C **you open wide your hand and satisfy the desire of every living creature. With these gifts we bless you for your tender nurture and care. Help us to delight in your will and walk in your ways, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

***THE PRAYERS**

- P Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.
- P 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.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- P 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.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- P 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.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- P We pray for any who are hungry, living in poverty or desperation, weary in body or spirit, or sick (*especially*). Comfort all in need of your tender care. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- P We pray for this part of the body of Christ gathered around word and sacrament. Bring us into authentic community where all ages are valued and experience God's faithfulness together. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- P We give thanks for all who have died in faith (*especially*). May we remember them faithfully until we are gathered with you in the paradise you promise. Hear us, O God.
- C Your mercy is great.**
- P We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C Amen.**

A TIME SET ASIDE FOR SILENT PRAYER

***LORD'S PRAYER (WOV p. 25)**

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

**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 (WOV p. 53)**

P Almighty God, Father, ✠ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless you now and forever.

C Amen

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above ye heav'nly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Amen

REFLECTIONS

1. Referencing Jeremiah today: Who are our 'shepherds' today?
2. And, in Colossians, is He 'holding things together' as you see the events happening in the world today?
3. What do you think about what Jesus said to the thief on one of the crosses? Was Jesus being unfair?

P Go in Peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

THIS WEEK'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome in the name of Jesus Christ. Thank you for coming!

~ Strength & Healing Concerns~

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Pam Rabe	Judy Livingston	Pat Janssen	Bill Juraco	Phyllis Fischer
Lyle & Mary Lou Nannen	Judy Wyss	Virginia Mahan		Richard Sathoff
Carl Satterlee	Dave Kroepel	Linda Meyer		Grant Blaza
Doug Rabe	Alice Lopez	Marsha Shafer		Greg Strickfaden
Bobby Creamer	Becky Pfahl	Brenda Hyneman		

And All Soldiers Serving Our Country

November 23rd, St. Peter is having a soup lunch after church and then do a Hanging of the Greens before Advent starts on Nov. 30th.

~ THANK YOU ~

Music:	Linda Garmon
Reader:	Alice Diver
Greeter:	Gents'

~ ST. PETER HAPPENINGS ~

Nov. 23rd – Non-Communion Sunday

Soup Lunch & Hanging of the Greens

Nov. 26th – Thanksgiving Eve Service @ 7pm

Nov. 27th – Happy Thanksgiving!!

Basement Reserved – Haynes Family Thanksgiving

Nov. 29th – Basement Reserved – Diver Family Thanksgiving

Nov. 30th – 1 Advent – Communion Sunday

Plaid Tidings Dinner Play @ The Barn in Goodfield

It is once again, the beginning of our Holiday Season. We are looking for Advent Families. If you would like to volunteer (or volunteer your children 😊) please let me know and I will get the reading emailed to you early!! Advent starts Nov. 30th!!

Here is who I have listed for Advent Families:

1st Sunday of Advent – Rosenbohm Family

2nd Sunday of Advent – Darrow / Lenne Family

3rd Sunday of Advent –

4th Sunday of Advent –

Christmas Day – Trish Deppermann

Let me know who would like to sign up for the 3rd and 4th

GOSPEL MESSAGE

November 23, 2025

CHRIST THE KING / LECTIONARY 34

The Servant King

Many congregations will sing a hymn this Sunday that declares, “Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o’er the grave and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save” (ELW 855). This is an image of a conquering hero who fought Satan and won. Hail to the king! But that is not the king we are presented with in today’s gospel reading. Jesus is a broken, rejected man hanging naked in public shame, dying for a capital offense, sandwiched between two criminals.

Many people struggle to think of Jesus as king because of the negative actions of historical kings. Kings have too often been men wielding power for their own gain, sitting on thrones upheld by patriarchy and wealth. Furthering this negative image are colonialism and the kings who issued decrees to ravage and control people in their native land. Neither is this the image of Christ the king in today’s reading.

At Gonzaga University (Spokane, Washington), a focus on servant leadership is offered as a concentration in the master’s program in organizational leadership. Its focuses are forgiveness and restorative justice, listening and discerning, community-building, foresight and strategy, and transformational thinking. Doesn’t that sound a lot more like the leadership of Jesus?

Perhaps we are reminded of the hard parts of Jesus’ journey to draw our attention to his purpose and the focus of his teachings. He wasn’t a conqueror, and he didn’t wield power for his own gain. He hung naked on the cross to be the ultimate servant leader. We claim Jesus as our king because of his servant leadership—his focus on forgiveness and restoration, building community, and thinking in transformational ways. Hail the servant king!

Copyright © 2025 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #SAS023339. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.
All Rights Reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net #A-719536

