# PEACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

November 24, 2024

# WELCOME!

We love that you are here today! Our service is printed for you in this worship folder. Or you can follow the projections on the front wall.

**Restrooms** are located in the hallway to the right as you exit the worship space, as well as across the hall as you enter into the school.

**Quiet room** Parents may use the library in the back of this worship space which still enables you to hear/see the service.

A **Connection Card** and pen are found in the pocket of the chair in front of you. Time will be provided to fill it out during the service. You may drop it in the wicker basket along the wall after the service.

## THEME: CHRIST THE KING

Today is the last day of the Church Year calendar. Everything we have heard, sung and believed throughout the year culminates in this theme: Christ the King. The particular emphasis of the readings today is this: Do not look for your success in national elections or false prophets who promise "your best life now." Do not seek your heaven here on earth! If we follow the path that Christ did, then first must come suffering and the cross. Then will come the glory. The glory is real. The glory is coming soon - and, oh what glory it is! Christ is King. Let no setback, no amount of disappointment or suffering dissuade you from this truth.

# PLEASE RESPECT OUR PRACTICE OF "CLOSE COMMUNION"

Christ says the Sacrament is an expression of unity (1 Co 10:16-17). We WANT to be unified with you on the basis of Christ and His doctrine! Honesty compels us to ask you to WAIT before communing with us: 1) until you've had a chance to find out what we teach; 2) until you make your unity with us evident by membership at Peace. Regular classes are conducted for this purpose (837-5346). WELS & ELS guests please sign a Connection Card and give it to an usher before communing. Thank you.

# COME WORSHIP WITH US AT 9:00 A.M. ON THANKSGIVING DAY!

The offering will be sent to Martin Luther College to the tuition assistance fund.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR!

Today is the last Sunday of the Christian Church Year. Next Sunday the new year begins with the First Sunday of Advent. Advent is a season that anticipates the coming of Christ.

# HOW ABOUT CHRISTMAS GIFTS THAT ENCOURAGE THE FAITH?

Do your Christmas shopping online at nph.net. Northwestern Publishing House is the official publisher of the WELS.

# WHAT IS THE PASTOR WEARING AROUND HIS NECK?

The piece of clothing that looks like a long scarf is called a stole. It is a sign of the pastor's ordination into the ministry. The stole resembles a yoke placed on beasts of burden when they pull loads. It signifies the burden of responsibility placed on the pastor to care for the souls of the congregation.

# **SERVING IN WORSHIP**

Presider	Rev. Shaun Arndt
Sermon	Rev. Luke C. Werre
Accompanist	Mrs. Andrew Kramer
Brass	
Projection Slides	<b>,</b>

#### ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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# **SERVICE OF WORD & SACRAMENT**

**OPENING HYMN** 

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty | CW 624

The congregation is invited to stand for the last verse.



Text: tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.; Joachim Neander, 1650–1680 Tune: Ander Theil Des Erneuerten Gesang-Buchs, Stralsund, 1665, alt Text and tune: Public domain

#### INVOCATION

- M: The grace of our Lord 🕂 Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.<sup>1</sup>
- C: And also with you.

#### CONFESSION OF SINS

God invites us to come into his presence and worship him with humble and penitent hearts. Therefore, let us acknowledge our sinfulness and ask him to forgive us.

Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me a sinner.

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son + and of the Holy Spirit.<sup>2</sup>

Amen.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> 2 Corinthians 13:14

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> This is called absolution. To absolve means to wash away. When the pastor announces that your sins are forgiven, God is truly forgiving your sins in heaven. (He is absolving you, or washing your sins away.)

## LORD, HAVE MERCY<sup>3</sup>

For all that we need in life and for the wisdom to use all your gifts with gratitude and joy, hear our prayer, O Lord.



For the steadfast assurance that nothing can separate us from your love and for the courage to stand firm against the assaults of Satan and every evil, hear our prayer, O Christ.



For the well-being of your holy Church in all the world and for those who offer here their worship and praise hear our prayer, O Lord.



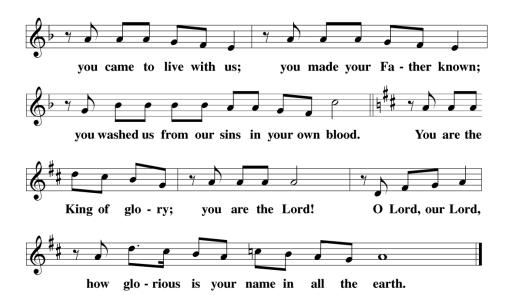
Merciful God, maker and preserver of life, uphold us by your power and keep us in your tender care:



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> The expression "Lord, have mercy," is an ancient prayer (in Greek it is Kyrie Eleeson). It is also the most basic expression of faith. The entire worship service is a cry to God for mercy. We need His mercy more than He needs our praise.

The works of the Lord are great and glorious; his name is worthy of praise.





### PRAYER OF THE DAY<sup>4</sup>

Let us pray... Lord Jesus Christ, by your victory you have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim you King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



#### Please be seated

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> There is a Prayer of the Day for all 52 Sundays of the year. Some are quite ancient. Some have been written more recently. The purpose of the Prayer of the Day is to highlight the theme of that Sunday and especially to ask God to bless us through the Scripture readings we are about to hear.

# THE WORD<sup>5</sup>

#### **FIRST LESSON**

#### Daniel 7:13-14

<sup>13</sup>I kept watching the night visions, and there, in the clouds of heaven, I saw one like a son of man coming. He came to the Ancient of Days, and he was brought before him. <sup>14</sup>To him was given dominion, honor, and a kingdom. All peoples, nations, and languages will worship him. His dominion is an eternal dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will not be destroyed.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.



the royal son with your <u>righ</u>teousness. He will defend the afflicted among the <u>peo</u>ple and save the children of the <u>need</u>y.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> God is speaking to us through His Word! We are gathered together to listen to Him.

He will endure as long <u>as</u> the sun, as long as the moon, through all gener<u>a</u>tions. He will be like rain falling on a <u>mown</u> field, like showers water<u>ing</u> the earth.

#### Refrain

All kings will bow <u>down</u> to him and all nations will <u>serve</u> him. All nations will be <u>blessed</u> through him, and they will <u>call</u> him blessed.

May his name endure for<u>ev</u>er; may it continue as long <u>as</u> the sun. Praise be to the Lord God, who alone does mar<u>vel</u>ous deeds. May the whole earth be filled with his <u>glo</u>ry.

Glory be to the Father and <u>to</u> the Son and to the Holy <u>Spir</u>it, as it was in the be<u>gin</u>ning, is now, and will be forever. <u>A</u>men.

Refrain

#### SECOND LESSON

#### Revelation 1:4b-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is, who was, and who is coming, and from the seven spirits that are before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

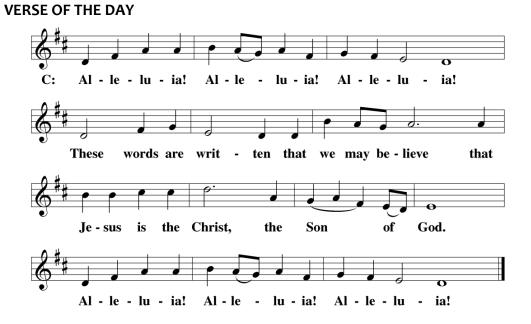
To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his own blood <sup>6</sup>and made us a kingdom and priests to God his Father—to him be the glory and the power forever. Amen.

<sup>7</sup>Look, he is coming with clouds, and every eye will see him, including those who pierced him. And all the nations of the earth will mourn because of him. Yes. Amen. <sup>8</sup>"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, the one who is, and who was, and who is coming, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord.

#### Thanks be to God.

Please stand



#### GOSPEL

#### John 18:33-37

<sup>33</sup>Pilate went back into the Praetorium and summoned Jesus. He asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

 $^{34}\mbox{Jesus}$  answered, "Are you saying this on your own, or did others tell you about me?"

<sup>35</sup>Pilate answered, "Am I a Jew? Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What have you done?"

<sup>36</sup>Jesus replied, "My kingdom is not of this world. If my kingdom were of this world, my servants would fight so that I would not be handed over to the Jews. But now my kingdom is not from here."

<sup>37</sup>"You are a king then?" Pilate asked.

Jesus answered, "I am, as you say, a king. For this reason I was born, and for this reason I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

6

The Gospel of the Lord.



Please be seated

**HYMN OF THE DAY** Lo! He Comes with Clouds Descending | **CW 487** The minister will sing verse 1. The congregation may join for the remaining verses.

#### SERMON

Look! He Is Coming!

Revelation 1:4b-8

Please stand when presider indicates

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Why are we singing this little line? It's like the way we would cheer for a hero as he passes by in a parade.

#### NICENE CREED<sup>7</sup>

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,

was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,

and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.

He suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures.

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

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,

and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit,

the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who in unity with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead

and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Please be seated

## **MUSICAL OFFERING**

A musical offering follows-for meditating on the sermon and signing Connection Cards. Offering plates for financial gifts are at both doors of this worship space.

Please stand

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> This creed was originally composed in 325 AD to defend the Bible's teaching that Jesus Christ is true God, equal to the Father and the Holy Spirit. We use it to help keep ourselves on the narrow path of truth about the person of Jesus Christ.

#### PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and honor and glory and power forever and ever!

#### Amen.

You are worthy, O Christ our King, to receive honor and glory and praise, for you redeemed us to God by your own blood. From every tribe, language, people and nation, you have called us into your kingdom and have made us priests to serve you and the Father.

#### **Glory be to God!**

Come with your power to break and defeat every evil plan and purpose of the devil, of the ungodly influences and ideas of the world, and of our own sinful hearts. Use your power to calm the unrest between nations and political factions so that your kingdom may spread and grow.

#### Keep us in your grace.

Come to us now in the Sacrament of your body and blood. Give us your peace. Strengthen our faith in you. Renew our hearts in grace. Sanctify us to new obedience. Help us to wait for you with joy.

#### Be merciful to us and bless us.

#### Special prayers

When you come with the clouds, every eye will see you. On that day, we will lift up our heads and shout,

#### "Jesus Almighty reigns forever and ever. Amen!"

#### 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.

# THE SACRAMENT

The Lord be with you.8



Lift up your hearts.



Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.9



Praise to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! In love he has blessed us with every spiritual blessing.

He protects and preserves his Church in every age and gives us confidence to lift up our heads and watch for Jesus with joy.

Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ. To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be praise and thanks and honor and glory for ever and ever.<sup>10</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> This greeting begins the second half of the service – the "Service of the Sacrament."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> The Bible refers to the Lord's Supper as "the cup of thanksgiving for which we give thanks" (1 Corinthians 10:16). The liturgy therefore calls this to mind.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The purpose of these sentences is to present reasons for which we give thanks. The realities presented here are given to us in a tangible way in the Sacrament.

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



#### WORDS OF INSTITUTION

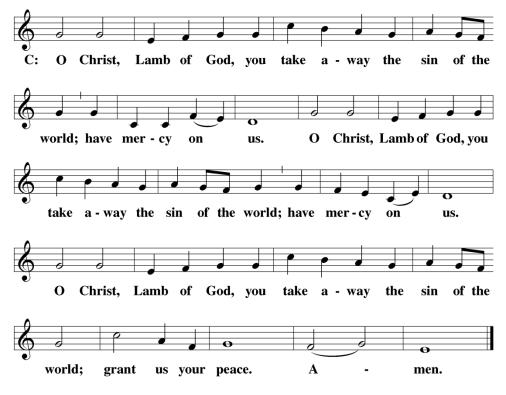
Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat. This is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.



# O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD<sup>11</sup>



Please be seated

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Notice we make this plea three times. The liturgy is full of threes and references to the Holy Trinity. In this age of utter confusion and religious chaos, how important it is for us to be reminded over and over that the only true God is the Triune God.

#### DISTRIBUTION

Please respect our practice of "Close Communion." For explanation, please see the inside cover of this worship folder. Thank you.

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS	Let All Mortal Fl	lesh Keep	Silence	CW 672

This is the Threefold Truth | CW 824

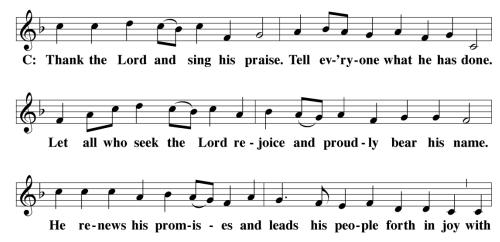
Please stand when the presider indicates

#### POST COMMUNION BLESSING

Now may this true body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ strengthen and keep you in the true faith into life everlasting. Your sins are forgiven. The peace of God is with you.

Amen.

# THANKSGIVING



#### THANK THE LORD



Hear the prayer of your people, O Lord, that the lips which have praised you here may glorify you in the world, that the eyes which have seen the coming of your Son may long for his coming again, and that all who have received in his true body and blood the pledge of your forgiveness may be restored to live a new and holy life, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



#### BLESSING

Brothers and sisters, go in peace. Live in harmony with one another. Serve the Lord with gladness.

The Lord bless you and keep you.

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

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.



## SOMETHING TO DO OVER THE THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

Consider checking out a book from our church library to read while you're relaxing. The library is located directly in the back of the worship space.