

The Divine Service

CHRIST THE KING



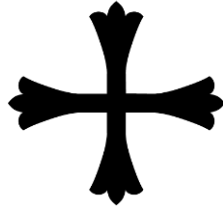
THE LUTHERAN CHURCH
OF THE ASCENSION

About today's theme:

The celebration of the solemnity of Christ the King is now placed at the end of the Church's celebration of "Ordinary Time" because its emphasis and import more accurately reflect the themes of these last Sundays in Ordinary Time and the first Sundays of Advent. The emphasis on the Lord's established but still to be completed kingship is most significant at this point of the Church year. . . The very title "Christ the King" would seem to indicate that we end the liturgical year with more than a note of triumph, power, and glory. It is only fitting that we who proclaim his rule and kingdom week after week should pause this Sunday to acclaim him as the King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

—Kevin Irwin
Sunday Worship: A Planning Guide to Celebration

NOVEMBER 25, 2018 ✝ SUNDAY, 10:00A.M.



Welcome! Please fill out the Record of Fellowship, which is the red book at the end of your pew.

PRAYER AS YOU ENTER

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. Amen.

Christ the King
Lutheran Book of Worship

PRELUDE

Inventions 1 and 4

Johann Sebastian Bach

Kim Reagan, flute
Dan Reagan, trombone

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 549 (stanzas 1, 3, 5, 7)

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

The sign of the cross ✠ may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

Matthew 28:19b; [18:20]

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

C who made heaven and earth.

Psalm 124:8

P If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

C But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.

Psalm 130:3-4

P Since we are gathered to hear God’s Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, 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.

[Luke 18:13]

Kneeling or sitting forward

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination:

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the \dagger Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

[John 20:19-23]

Standing

SERVICE OF THE WORD

KYRIE ~ *Lord, Have Mercy*

Mark 10:47



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

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS ~ *Glory to God in the Highest*

Luke 2:14; John 1:29



C 1 To God on high be glo - ry And peace to all the earth;
2 To You, O sole - be - got - ten, The Fa - ther's Son, we pray;
3 For You a - lone are ho - ly; You on - ly are the Lord.



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 AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

2 Timothy 4:22

P The Lord be with you.

C And with your spirit.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, so govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your glorious return, we may persevere in both faith and holiness of living; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sitting

OLD TESTAMENT

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

A The Old Testament Reading for Christ the King is from Daniel, chapter seven.

⁹“As I looked,

thrones were placed,
and the Ancient of Days took his seat;
his clothing was white as snow,
and the hair of his head like pure wool;
his throne was fiery flames;
its wheels were burning fire.

¹⁰ A stream of fire issued
and came out from before him;
a thousand thousands served him,
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood before him;
the court sat in judgment,
and the books were opened.

¹³“I saw in the night visions,

and behold, with the clouds of heaven
there came one like a son of man,
and he came to the Ancient of Days
and was presented before him.
¹⁴ And to him was given dominion
and glory and a kingdom,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him;
his dominion is an everlasting dominion,
which shall not pass away,
and his kingdom one
that shall not be destroyed.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.



Antiphon

Composer: Jonathan Mueller

Cantor introduces first time, then congregation sings second time:

These _ are they who have come out of the
great trib-u - la - tion; they have washed their robes and
made them white _____ in the blood of the Lamb. _____
Bless - ed are those whose strength is in you, bless-ed are those whose
strength is in you. who have set their hearts on pilgrim-age. _____

- L** We are looking forward to a new heaven and a | new earth*
the home of | righteousness.
- C** O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure | of my days;*
let me know how fleeting | I am!
- L** Behold, you have made my days a few | handbreadths,*
and my lifetime is as nothing be- | fore you.
- C** And now, O Lord, for what | do I wait?*
- My hope | is in you.
- L** Deliver me from all my trans- | gressions.*
Do not make me the scorn | of the fool!
- C** Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear | to my cry;*
- hold not your peace | at my tears!



C Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

C *Antiphon*

EPISTLE

Revelation 1:4b-8

A The Epistle is from Revelation, chapter one.

⁴Grace 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 kings on earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. 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.”

AMEN

GOSPEL PROCESSIONAL

Please stand and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 821 (stanzas 1 & 4)

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

1 Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus; His the
4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, Lord om -
scep - ter, His the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! His the
nip - o - tent we own; Al - le - lu - ia! Born of
tri - umph, His the vic - to - ry a - lone.
Mar - y, Earth Your foot - stool, heav'n Your throne.
Hark! The songs of peace - ful Zi - on Thun - der
As with - in the veil You en - tered, Robed in
like a might - y flood: “Je - sus out of
flesh, our great High Priest, Here on earth both
ev - 'ry na - tion Has re - deemed us by His blood.”
priest and vic - tim In the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.

Public domain

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 13:24-37

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

P [Jesus said:] ²⁴ “But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵ and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶ And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷ And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸ “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰ Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

P ³² “But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³ Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴ It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to

stay awake. ³⁵ Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the rooster crows, or in the morning— ³⁶ lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷ And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

GOSPEL RECESSIONAL

Lutheran Service Book 821 (stanza 5)

“Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”

5 Alleluia! Sing to Jesus;
His the scepter, His the throne;
Alleluia! His the triumph,
His the victory alone.
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion
Thunder like a mighty flood:
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation
Has redeemed us by His blood.”

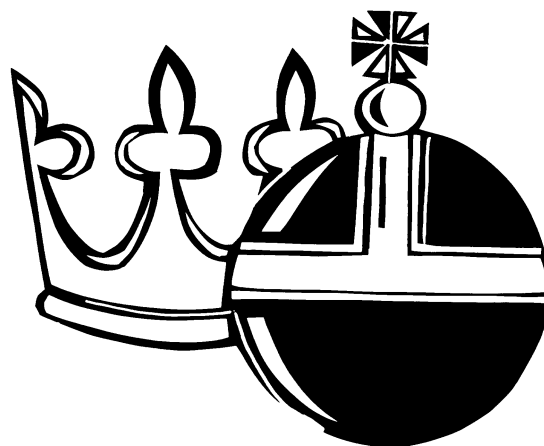
Sitting

HYMN OF THE DAY

Lutheran Service Book 564 (stanzas 1-5)

“Christ Sits at God’s Right Hand”

SERMON



Standing

NICENE CREED

C **I believe in one God**, *Romans 10:10; Deuteronomy 6:4*
the Father Almighty, *Matthew 6:9; Exodus 6:3*
maker of heaven and earth *Genesis 1:1; John 1:1*
and of all things visible and invisible. *Colossians 1:16*

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, *Romans 10:9*
the only-begotten Son of God, *John 3:16; Matthew 16:16*
begotten of His Father before all worlds, *John 1:2*
God of God, Light of Light, *John 17:22; John 8:12; John 1:1*
very God of very God, *Colossians 2:9*
begotten, not made, *John 1:2*
being of one substance with the Father, *John 10:30*
by Whom all things were made; *Hebrews 1:2; John 1:3*
Who for us men and for our salvation *1 Timothy 2:4; Romans 3:23*
came down from heaven *John 6:41; Luke 15:20*
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary *Luke 1:34-35*
and was made man; *John 1:14*
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. *Mark 15:25; John 19:16-18*
He suffered and was buried. *John 19:1-3; Luke 23:53*
And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures *1 Corinthians 15:4; Luke 24:6*
and ascended into heaven *Acts 1:9*
and sits at the right hand of the Father. *Acts 7:55*
And He will come again with glory *Matthew 26:64*
to judge both the living and the dead, *Acts 10:42; Matthew 3:12*
Whose kingdom will have no end. *2 Peter 1:11*

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, *John 14:26; Genesis 1:2; Acts 2:38*
the Lord and giver of life, *Genesis 1:2; John 3:6*
Who proceeds from the Father and the Son, *John 15:26*
Who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, *Matthew 3:16-17; Luke 2:14*
Who spoke by the prophets. *Ezekiel 11:5*
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, *1 Peter 2:5; Ephesians 2:19-22*
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, *Ephesians 4:5*
and I look for the resurrection of the dead *1 Corinthians 15:35-49; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18*
and the life ✠ **of the world to come.** *Mark 10:29-30; Matthew 10:40-42*
Amen. *Psalms 106:48*

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

[1 Timothy 2:1-4]

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

After each petition:

P Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

C **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

Matthew 5:22-24; Ephesians 4:1-3

Following the prayers, please greet one another in the name of the Lord by saying, "Peace be with you," as a sign of forgiveness and reconciliation in preparation for worthy reception of the Holy Supper.

Sitting

OFFERING

MUSIC

Invention 5

Johann Sebastian Bach

Kim Reagan, flute
Dan Reagan, trombone

MEDITATION

Isaiah 51:6 – "For the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment." The things of this earth that hold our attention, that cause us worry, that tempt us away from the Lord: they are all passing away. They will vanish like a garment. They are not for us to worry over, but rather to use for the Lord's purposes. The things of this world are not ends in and of themselves, but only means to be used wisely by the children of the Kingdom that has no end.

Standing

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with your spirit.**

2 Timothy 4:22

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them to the Lord.**

[Colossians 3:1]

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

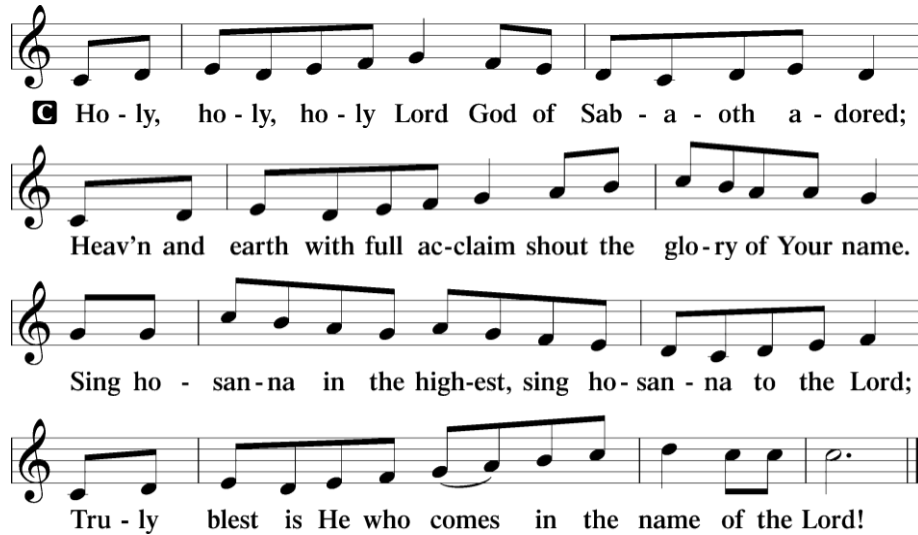
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

[Psalm 136]

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who with the oil of gladness has been anointed Your only-begotten Son as eternal High Priest and universal King; that as High Priest He offered Himself on the altar of the cross and has redeemed the human race by this one perfect sacrifice of peace; and as King He claims dominion over all creation, that He may present to You, His almighty Father, a kingdom eternal and universal, a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love, and peace. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS ~ *Holy, Holy, Holy*

Isaiah 6:3; Matthew 21:9



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord God of Sab - a - oth a - dored;
 Heav'n and earth with full ac-claim shout the glo-ry of Your name.
 Sing ho - san-na in the high-est, sing ho-san - na to the Lord;
 Tru - ly blest is He who comes in the name of the Lord!

LORD'S PRAYER

Matthew 6:9-13

- C** 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.

THE WORDS OF OUR LORD

Matthew 26; Mark 14:22-24; Luke 22:19-20; 1 Corinthians 11:23-25

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My ✠ body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My ✠ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

PAX DOMINI ~ *The Peace of the Lord*

John 20:19

P The ✠ peace of the Lord be with you always.

C Amen.

AGNUS DEI ~ *Lamb of God*

John 1:29

C 1 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
2 O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
You take the sin of the world a - way;
You take the sin of the world a - way;
O Je - sus Christ, true Lamb of God,
Have mer - cy on us, Je - sus Christ,
Have mer - cy on us, Lord, we pray.
And grant us peace, O Lord, we pray.

Sitting

The Lord's Supper is celebrated at this congregation in the confession and glad confidence that, as he says, our Lord gives into our mouths not only bread and wine but his very body and blood to eat and to drink for the forgiveness of sins and to strengthen our union with him and with one another. Our Lord invites to his table those who trust his words, repent of all sin, and set aside any refusal to forgive and love as he forgives and loves us, that they may show forth his death until he comes.

Because those who eat and drink our Lord's body and blood unworthily do so to their great harm and because Holy Communion is a confession of the faith which is confessed at this altar, any who are not yet instructed, in doubt, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation and The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, and yet desire to receive the sacrament, are asked first to speak with the pastor. [Those coming to the altar for a blessing rather than Holy Communion are asked to cross their arms over their chest.]

For further study, see Matthew 5:23f.; 10:32f.; 18:15-35; 26:26-29; 1 Cor. 11:17-34.

*(Above is the "Model Communion Card Statement" from *Theology and Practice of the Lord's Supper*, a 1983 report by the Commission on Theology and Church Relations (CTCR) of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.)*

PRAYER BEFORE RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

O Lord, our God, in Holy Baptism You have called us to be Christians and granted us the remission of sins. Make us ready to receive the most holy body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of all our sins, and grant us grateful hearts that we may give thanks to You, O Father, to Your Son, and to the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

For right reception of the Lord's Supper
Lutheran Service Book: Altar Book

MUSIC DURING DISTRIBUTION

Lutheran Service Book 633

"At the Lamb's High Feast"

PRAYER AFTER RECEPTION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Blessed Savior, Jesus Christ, You have given Yourself to us in this holy Sacrament. Keep us in Your faith and favor that we may live in You even as You live in us. May Your body and blood preserve us in the true faith to life everlasting. Hear us for the sake of Your name. Amen.

Thanksgiving after receiving the Sacrament
Lutheran Service Book: Altar Book

Standing

NUNC DIMITTIS ~ Song of Simeon

Luke 2:29-32

1 O Lord, now let to Your ser - vant De -
2 All glo - ry to the Fa - ther, All
part in heav'n - ly peace, For I have seen the
glo - ry to the Son, All glo - ry to the
glo - ry Of Your re - deem - ing grace:
Spir - it, For - ev - er Three - in - One;
A light to lead the Gen - tiles Un -
For as in the be - gin - ning, Is
to Your ho - ly hill, The glo - ry of Your
now, shall ev - er be, God's tri - une name re -
peo - ple, Your cho - sen Is - ra - el.
sound - ing Through all e - ter - ni - ty.

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT

- P** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** Amen.

BENEDICAMUS AND BENEDICTION

- P** Let us bless the Lord.
- C** **Thanks be to God.** *[Psalm 103:1];*
- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace. *Numbers 6:24-26*
- C** Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

RECESSIONAL HYMN

Please remain standing and face the processional cross.

Lutheran Service Book 941

“We Praise You and Acknowledge You, O God”

POSTLUDE

Nun Danket (Now Thank We All Our God)

Sigfred Karg-Elert

PRAYER AS YOU GO

Almighty God, heavenly Father, guide the nations of the world into ways of justice and truth, and establish among them that peace which is the fruit of righteousness, that they may become the kingdom of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.

Peace among the Nations
Lutheran Book of Worship

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

DIVINE SERVICE, SETTING FOUR FROM LUTHERAN SERVICE BOOK UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED, ALL SCRIPTURE QUOTATIONS ARE FROM THE HOLY BIBLE, NEW INTERNATIONAL VERSION®, NIV® Copyright © 1973, 1978, 1984, 2011 by Biblica, Inc.™. ALL RIGHTS RESERVED. CREATED BY LUTHERAN SERVICE BUILDER © 2006 CONCORDIA PUBLISHING HOUSE.

SERVING IN OUR WORSHIP

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Assisting Minister

The Rev. Dr. Al Garcia, *Guest Pastor*

Lay Assistant(s)

Sam Negus, *Elder*

Edie Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

Musician(s)

Dan Reagan, trombone

Jessica Luhrs, soprano/clarinet

Laura Negus, soprano

Ginnie Little, alto

Kim Reagan, alto/flute

Zac Lavender, tenor/cello

Adrian Popescu, tenor

Evan LaVan, bass

Altar Guild

Jean Meyers/Ruth Henry

Usher(s)

Clinton Carlson/Matthias Rappe

Greeter(s)

Tom Lawton & Linda Rathje

Fellowship Host(s)

Daniel & Caitlin Barnett

SERVING NEXT WEEK

Presiding Minister

The Rev. David V. Miller, *Pastor*

Lay Assistant(s)

Justin Ledford, *Elder*

Penny Durden, *Acolyte*

Organist

Debbie Dickensheets, *Director of Music*

Musician(s)

Jessica Luhrs, soprano/clarinet

Laura Negus, soprano

Ginnie Little, alto

Kim Reagan, alto/flute

Zac Lavender, tenor/cello

Adrian Popescu, tenor

Evan LaVan, bass

Altar Guild

Sarah Cadagin/Jill Drachenberg

Usher(s)

Greg Ison/J.P. Morr

Greeter(s)

Anne Bigelow

Fellowship Host(s)

The Beckman family

Life Together

CALENDAR		
Sunday 11/25	Christ the King Nursery available LCA Ensemble Rehearsal Divine Service with Holy Communion * Fellowship Hour	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Following worship
Monday 11/26	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM Closed
Tuesday 11/27	Open Arms LCDC Church Office Adult Bible Study: <i>Martin Luther</i>	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 10:45 – 11:45 AM
Wednesday 11/28	Open Arms LCDC Church Office Open Arms LCDC Chapel	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM 10:00 AM
Thursday 11/29	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Friday 11/30	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	7:00 AM – 6:30 PM 9:30 AM – 2:30 PM
Saturday 12/1	Open Arms LCDC Church Office	Closed Closed
Sunday 12/2	First Sunday in Advent Nursery available LCA Ensemble Rehearsal Children's Sunday School Adult Bible Study: <i>The Book of Malachi</i> * Divine Service with Holy Communion * Fellowship Hour	8:30 – 11:30 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 9:00 AM 10:00 AM Following worship

*Nursery available for young children

WORSHIPING OUR GOD

✠ Service of Advent Lessons & Carols

Theme: Make ready the way of the Lord! Prepare your heart to meet the Savior with this annual service. Various prophetic readings and special music will announce His coming and pull us into the Advent season. Find comfort and joy through our promised Emmanuel! Holy Communion will also be celebrated.

Day & Time: Sunday, December 16 at 10 A.M.

Location: Church sanctuary

✠ Christmas Divine Service Schedule

Sunday, December 23 at 10:00 A.M.:	Fourth Sunday in Advent
Monday, December 24 at 7:00 P.M.:	Christmas Eve (with carols by candlelight)
Tuesday, December 25 at 10:00 A.M.:	Christmas Day

GROWING IN HIS WORD

✠ Bible Study: Malachi

Theme: Malachi, the last book of the Old Testament. Then . . . 400 years of silence . . . before God spoke loud and clear by the Word made flesh! As we study this final minor prophet, we will learn what the Lord's concluding message was to His people of old. What were His last words to them? Does He hint at what's coming next? Come, and find out!

Day & Time: Sundays from December 2 – 23 at 9:00 A.M.

Location: Church fellowship hall

✠ Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist

Theme: The arrival of Christ at Christmas and our hopeful expectation of His Second Coming on the Last Day reminds us that not only has He come to us in the past and will come again in the future, but that He is here with us presently in the Sacrament. This new fascinating and provocative DVD-based study on the Lord's Supper (or Eucharist) will give all participants a greater appreciation for the miracle that happens every Sunday and its meaning for our everyday lives.

From the producer: Although the Eucharist appears to be simple bread and wine, it is actually the "source and summit" of the Christian life. Presence: The Mystery of the Eucharist explores the truth and beauty of Christ's Real Presence in the Eucharist, from its origins in Sacred Scripture, to its profound role in the life of the Church and its members. It is the crescendo of the entire story of salvation.

Day & Time: Sundays, beginning January 6 at 9:00 A.M.
Tuesdays, beginning January 8 at 10:45 A.M.

Location: Sundays in church fellowship hall
Tuesdays in church overflow room

SERVING IN HIS NAME

✝ Christmas Poinsettias for Purchase

Theme: Poinsettias are available for purchase to help decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. If you would like to dedicate your poinsettia(s) in memory of a loved one(s) please fill out the green form and we will print this information in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day bulletins. The cost for each poinsettia is \$16.00. If you would like to make a purchase, please note in the memo line that it is for Christmas poinsettias. The checks may be placed in the offering plates along with your other contributions. Each poinsettia will be available to take home after the Christmas Day service.

Day: Contributions and memorials due by Sunday, December 9

✝ Open Arms Christmas Program

Theme: It's time again for the Open Arms Christmas Program! This annual event fills the sanctuary with parents and grandparents who are excited to see their little ones sing and dance, as they share the good news of our Lord's birth. LCA is hosting a reception in the narthex afterwards and we need your help! Would you please assist by providing cookies, bars, or some other yummy treats? Feel free to drop them off any time the week of the Program. Please leave them on the secretary's desk in the church office. We also welcome anyone to attend the program and/or help out serving at the reception as we share Christ's love with the Open Arms families. Please look for the signup sheet in the narthex. Thank you!

Day & Time: Refreshments for reception need to be received before Friday, December 14
Christmas Program on Friday, December 14 at 5:00 P.M.

Location: Refreshments drop-off in church office
Christmas Program in church sanctuary

FELLOWSHIPING WITH THE SAINTS

✝ Advent Party: Christmas Decorating & Seasonal Fellowship

Theme: The Savior is coming, the Savior is coming! Let's get this place ready for Him. There's plenty of decorating to do and fun to be had. Please join us as we pull out the boxes of Christmas decorations and get the sanctuary "spruced up" before the Open Arms Christmas Program. But before we begin, we need energy for the task! You are invited to bring a dish to share. See you there!

Day & Time: Sunday, December 9 following the Divine Service

Location: Refreshments in church narthex
Decorating in church sanctuary

LIFTING UP ONE ANOTHER IN PRAYER

In Celebration

Birthdays

- ✝ Grayson Beckman, 11/28

Rebirthdays (Baptismal Anniversaries)

- ✝ None this week

Wedding Anniversaries

- ✝ None this week

Membership Anniversaries

- ✝ Bill Vester 11/30

In Need

Recent Requests

- ✝ John Kateen (former member of the congregation), for health and healing.
- ✝ Our Savior Lutheran Church in Paradise, CA, which has lost its building, and all victims of the California wildfires.
- ✝ Persecuted Christians in India, where an American missionary was murdered by a hostile tribe.

Ongoing Requests

- ✝ Jack and Carolyn DeLong, for health and healing.
- ✝ Hannibal (Hank) Durden, for growth and development.
- ✝ Susan Griffin (friend of Jean Meyers), for health and healing.
- ✝ Tom Lawton, for health and healing.
- ✝ Willard and Wilma Meyer (grandparents of J.P. Morr), for continued health and adjustment to new living conditions.
- ✝ Heidi Schnakenberg (niece of Clara Smith), for health and safety.
- ✝ Rhonda Zacharias (friend of the Millers), for health and healing.
- ✝ Rev. Dr. Jonathan & Dcs. Cheryl Naumann, missionaries to the Dominican Republic, & all synodically deployed missionaries.
- ✝ Lutheran Church of the Ascension & Pastor David Miller
- ✝ Open Arms Lutheran Child Development Ctr & Director, Barbara Collins
- ✝ LCMS President Matthew Harrison & all synodical officials
- ✝ English District Bishop Jamison Hardy & all district officials
- ✝ President Donald Trump & all U.S. government officials



THE LUTHERAN
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RESTROOMS

Restrooms are located to the right of the church entrance, down the hallway. Please see an usher if you need assistance.

NURSERY

Children are always welcome and encouraged to be in worship! For those who need it, however, we have a staffed nursery located down the hallway in the preschool. It is intended for children from birth to age 5. Hours of operation are 8:30 – 11:30 A.M.

BABY CHANGING STATION

For your convenience, a baby changing station is located in both the men’s and women’s restrooms on this level, just down the hall. For further privacy, a mother-infant station, which includes a rocking chair and changing table, is available in the enclosed lounge of the women’s restroom downstairs.

BUSY BAGS

Each Sunday your child may pick up a “busy bag” from the stand in the Narthex. Each busy bag has different books and activities for your child to keep them busy during the Divine Service when they are unable to focus. Please return the pouch and its contents to the stand in the Narthex at the end of the service. This way the pouches will be clean and ready for the next Sunday’s service.

PRINT RESOURCES

Resources for personal devotions as well as understanding Lutheran faith and worship, are available to anyone gratis in the narthex by the bulletins:

- *Portals of Prayer*: Quarterly devotional resource for private prayer.
- *A Simple Explanation of the Christian Faith*: Luther’s Small Catechism in convenient booklet form.
- *A Simple Explanation of the Church Service*: Easy to understand guide to Sunday’s liturgy in the Divine Service.
- *What About . . . Fellowship in the Lord’s Supper*: An explanation of one of the Lutheran church’s most misunderstood doctrines. Learn more about the biblical, historic, and loving practice of closed Communion.