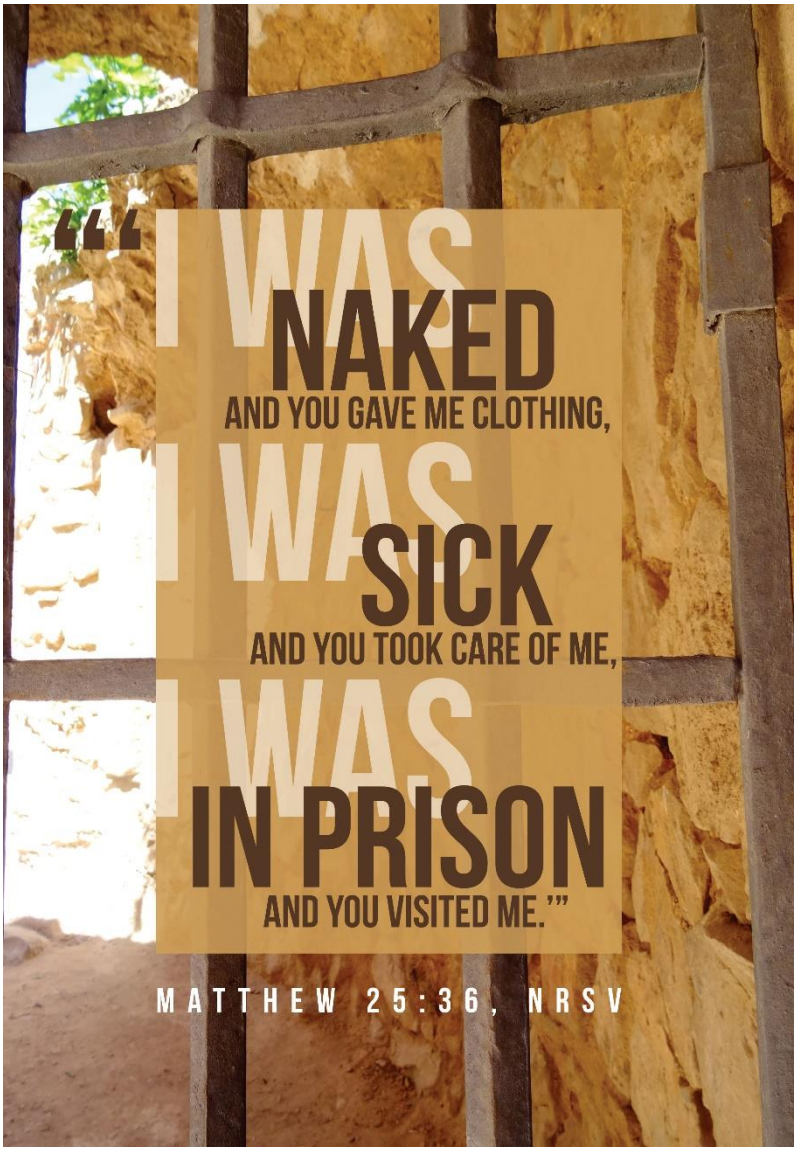
Christ the King Sunday
November 22, 2026
10:30 AM



The Lord Jesus was not wealthy or famous. He did not promise his followers that they would possess riches, power, or prestige. He was named a king only in his death. He reigned from the cross, leaving his disciples the treasure of his body and blood.

Today we gather at the table of Christ, our merciful and loving ruler. We wear the crown of baptism and trace his royal sign--the holy cross--over our brows and bodies. We leave here strengthened to serve those who are hungry, thirsty, strangers, naked, sick, and imprisoned. We look for the day when all earth's people will see him coming with the scepter of peace and the crown of justice.

WELCOME

PRELUDE

Stand

INVOCATION

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

C **Amen.**

P Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. C **Amen.**

WORDS OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS *Ezekiel 34:11–12, adapt*

P The Lord Himself will search for His sheep and will seek them out.

C **He will rescue them from all the places where they have been scattered.**

Silent reflection on God's Word and for self-examination

P Let us then confess our sins to God, who seeks us out.

C **Most merciful God, we cry out to You from the places that our sin has scattered us. We have sinned against You in ways that we know and in ways that only You know. There are strangers we have not welcomed, the hungry we have not fed, the naked we have not clothed, the sick and imprisoned we have not visited. Deliver us from all our transgressions. Forgive us, bind up our injuries, and strengthen our weaknesses, that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

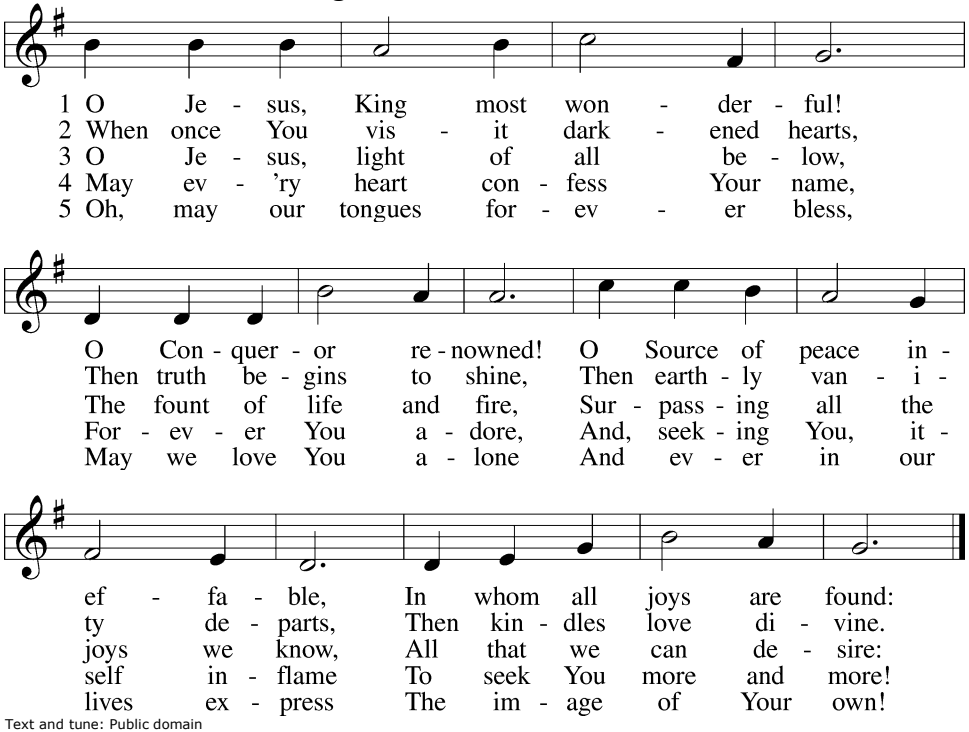
P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the X Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

GREETING OF PEACE *Share a greeting of peace with those around you.*

SERVICE OF THE WORD

HYMN **"O Jesus, King Most Wonderful!"**



Text and tune: Public domain

KYRIE

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 In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



C

P For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



C

P For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



C

P For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

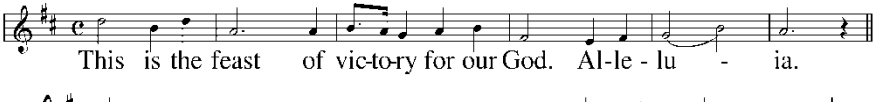


C

P Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C



P



C



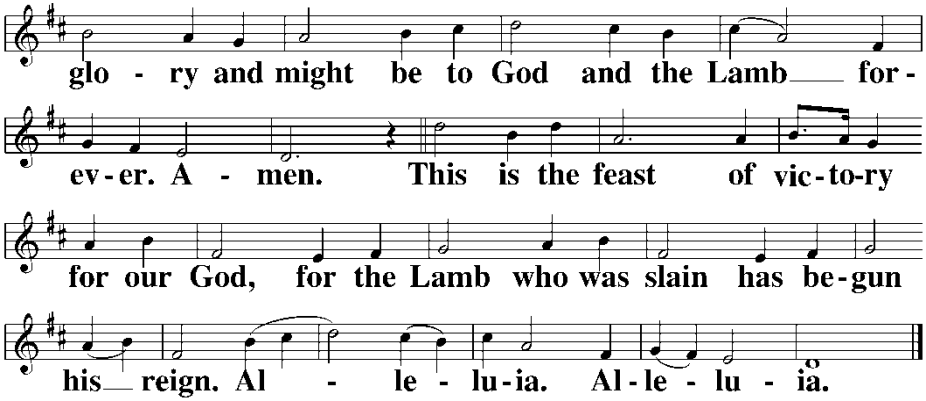












P The Lord be with you. **C And also with you.**

P Let us pray.
Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the Kingdom prepared for Your own from the foundation of the world; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Children are invited to meet by the Cross for the Children's Lesson.

FIRST LESSON Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

The term "shepherd," which was another image for "king" in the ancient Near East, was suggestive of the care, concern, and protection that a shepherd/king was to show on behalf of his flock of citizens. When Israel's kings prove to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares from exile in Babylon that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd.

R Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek 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. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will 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. 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. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, 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.

Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

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

℟ This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

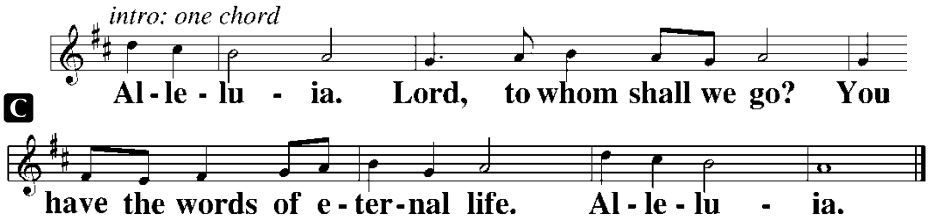
SECOND LESSON Ephesians 1:15-23

On Christ the King Sunday, we read this prayer of thanksgiving for the Ephesian Christians, a prayer that exalts Christ as head of the church and Lord of the universe.

℟ I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray 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, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. 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, 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. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

℟ This is the Word of the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

Stand



GOSPEL P The Gospel is written in Matthew chapter 25, beginning at verse 31.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

Jesus tells three stories about the second coming in this chapter. The final story--today's gospel--contains a surprise: when he does return, people will discover he has come to them before, in ways they did not recognize.

P Jesus said to the disciples: "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. 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, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; 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, 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.' 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? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.' Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 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.' 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?' 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.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord. **C Praise to You, O Christ.**

APOSTLES' CREED

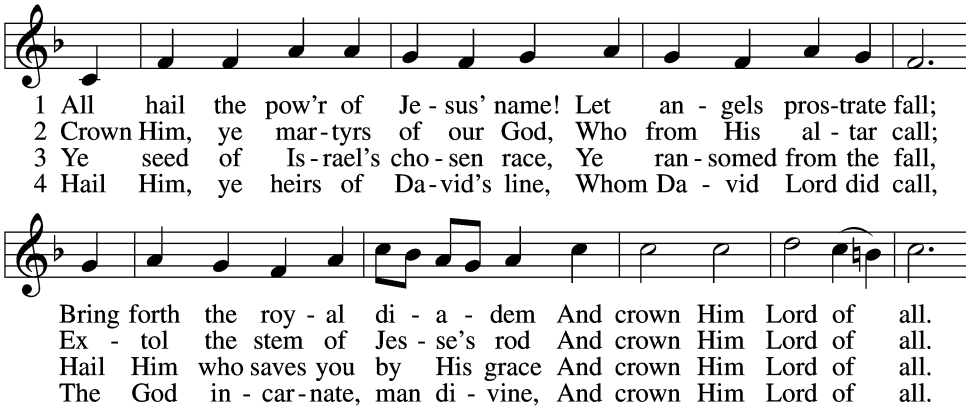
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
And sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From thence He will come again to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

Sit

MESSAGE

Stand

HYMN "All Hail the Pow'r of Jesus' Name!"





Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem And crown Him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod And crown Him Lord of all.
Hail Him who saves you by His grace And crown Him Lord of all.
The God in - car - nate, man di - vine, And crown Him Lord of all.

5 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
The wormwood and the gall,
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.
Go, spread your trophies at His feet
And crown Him Lord of all.

6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.

7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
We at His feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown Him Lord of all.

Text and tune: Public domain

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

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

Other prayers are inserted here. Each petition ends with "Lord, in your mercy," to which the congregation responds, ***"hear our prayer."*** *The prayers conclude:*

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.**

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS

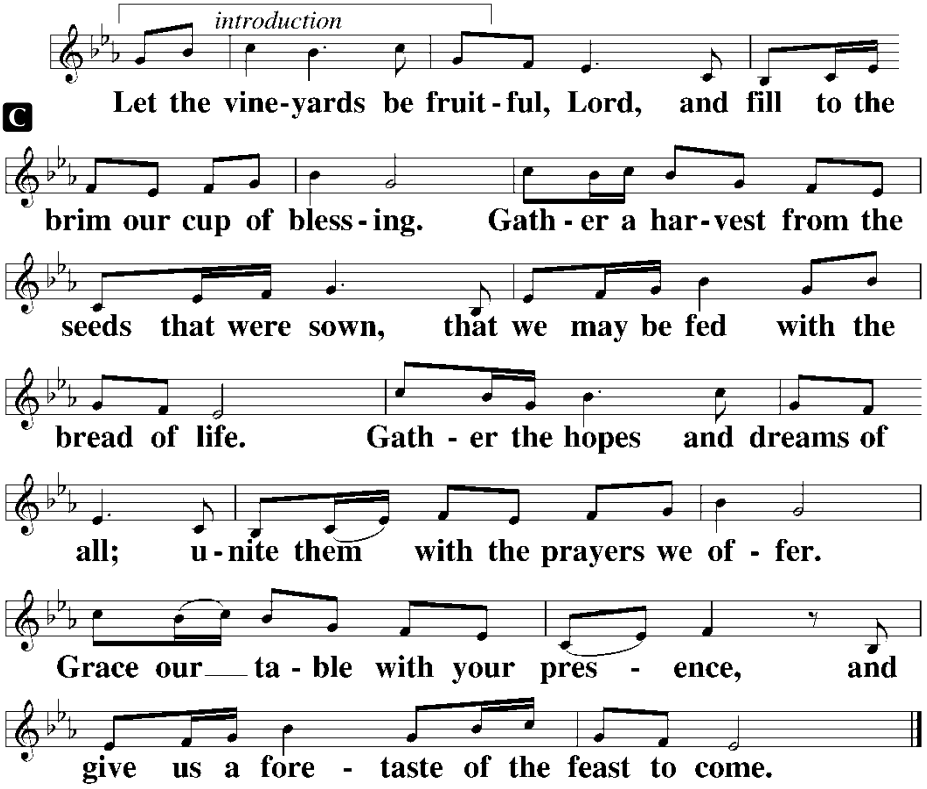
OFFERING

You may contribute online using the QR code or place a gift in the offering plate at the door along with the interest sheet.

Give Now

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

Stand

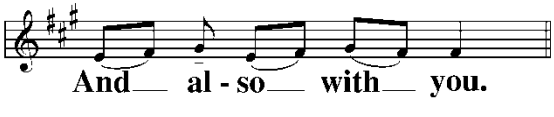


P Let us pray. Loving God,

C we give you only what is yours, whatever our gift may be. All that we have is yours alone, a trust given into our care. May we receive your bounty as true stewards, and return to you the first fruits of the harvest of our lives. Amen.

PREFACE

P The Lord be with you.



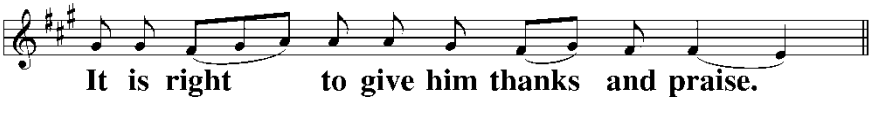
C

P Lift up your hearts.



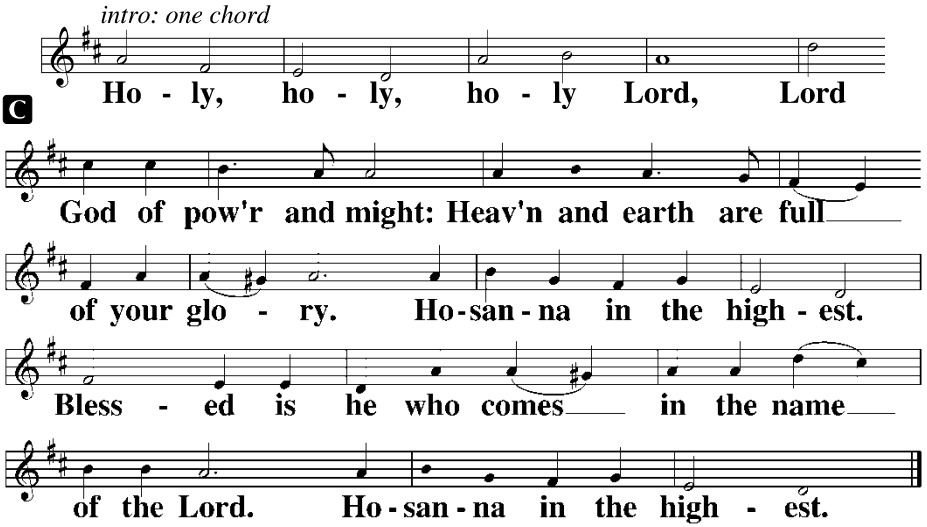
C

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C

P It is indeed right and salutary that we should ... and so we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



C

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

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."

P 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

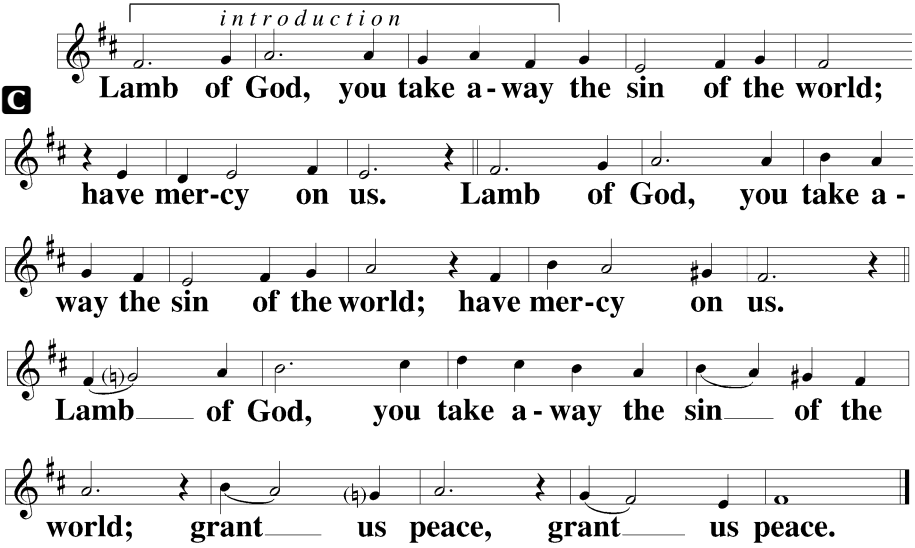
testament in My ☩ blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

LORD'S PRAYER

Recognizing that the church, and this congregation, are comprised of people from many cultures, languages, and backgrounds, please speak this prayer in the language or version closest to your heart.

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.

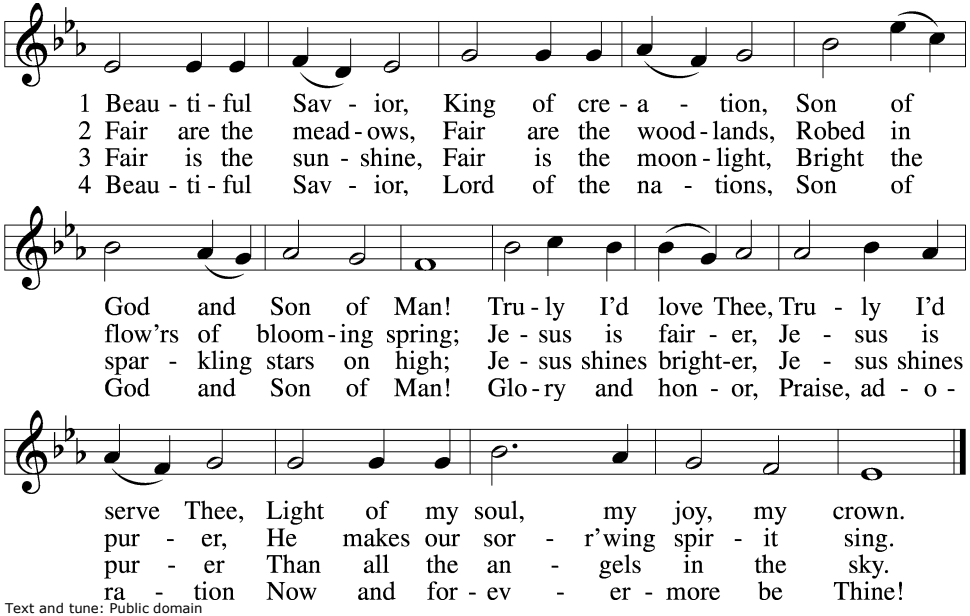
LAMB OF GOD



Sit

THE DISTRIBUTION *You are invited to approach the altar to receive communion elements along with an individual cup of wine or grape juice. Gluten-free available.*

HYMN **"Beautiful Savior"**



Text and tune: Public domain

P The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C** **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION COLLECT AND PRAYER



P Let us pray.

Gracious God, we give You thanks for searching for us; for finding us; and for feeding us at Your Table. In Christ's body and blood, You have given us a taste of the final victory that awaits us when our King returns. Help us to remain faithful and fearless until that day comes; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

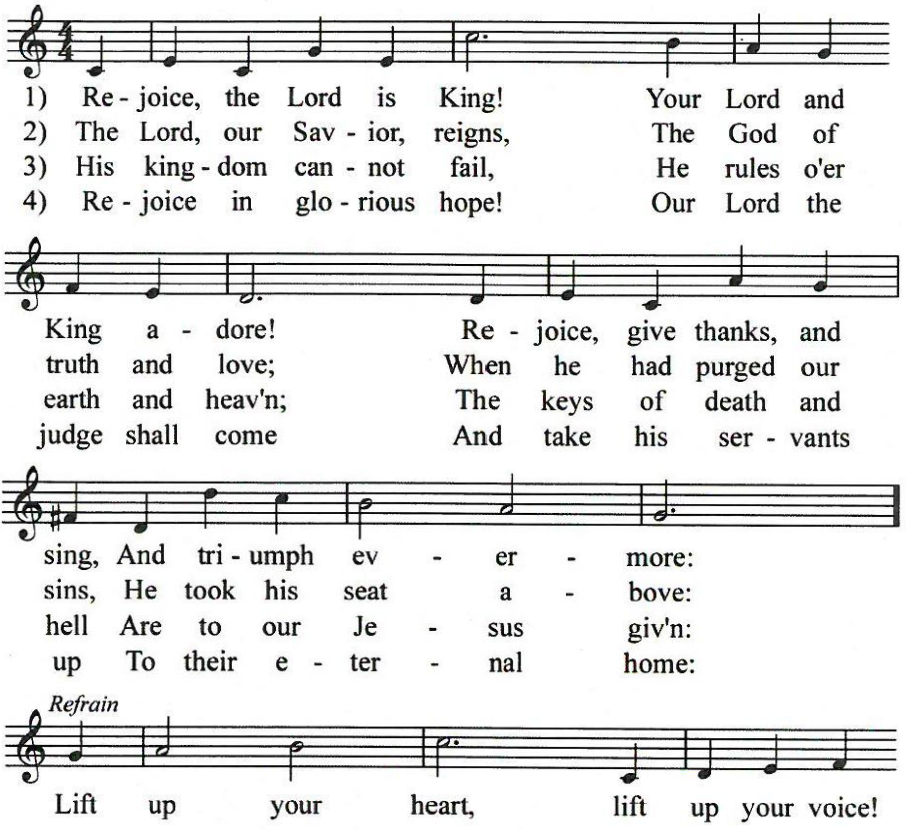
BENEDICTION

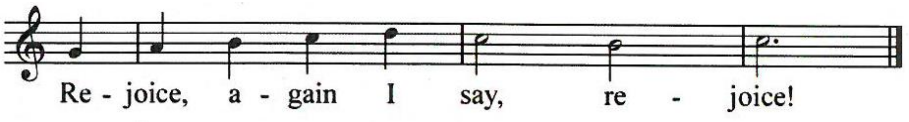
P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

C Amen.

P Go in peace; serve the Lord. **C Thanks be to God.**

CLOSING HYMN "Rejoice the Lord is King!"





Meter: 66.66.88
Charles Wesley, pub. 1744

Sources: LBW 171;
LBW 261

Tune: Darwall's 148th
John Darwall, pub. 1770

POSTLUDE

Our Confession about Communion

Holy Communion is a divinely instituted act in which Jesus Christ gives His true (real) body and blood under the forms of bread and wine. We thus hold that the bread and wine are not mere symbols of Jesus' body and blood. When we receive the bread and wine, we receive in fact the body and blood of Christ for the forgiveness of sins.

We believe that Communion is a celebration of this forgiveness which comes to us through faith as we eat and drink. In communion we remember our Lord's passion and death, His resurrection and ascension, and the promise of His coming again. Communion is truly the Gospel made visible and is offered for those who "hunger and thirst after righteousness."

We believe that as we eat and drink this Supper we are strengthened in our faith in Jesus Christ and in our love for one another.

Therefore, we invite to the Lord's Table all who have been instructed in the meaning of Communion; have been baptized in the name of the Triune God; and concur in our confession.

Those who are not yet instructed or hold a confession different than this congregation may come forward with their arms crossed across their chest to receive a blessing.

Those who have questions about communion are welcome to talk to one of the Pastors.

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"Christ- Students- Community Coming Together"

444 Abbot Road | East Lansing, MI 48823 | (517) 332-0778
www.martinlutherchapel.org