

*Christ the
King* 

S U N D A Y

Macedonia Evangelical Lutheran Church
November 23, 2008
10:30 Worship Services

MACEDONIA'S MISSION STATEMENT

Mission: A community of believers responding to the Gospel of Jesus Christ through faith, worship and action.

Vision: That Christ might have first place in everything. (Col. 1:18)

- *Invest in youth and family life.*
- *Support and develop education programs.*
- *Build community by developing strong Christian fellowship.*
- *Improve communication including the effective use of technology.*

- *Think beyond ourselves to be involved in local synodical and churchwide programs.*
- *Strengthen and develop programs to attract others to Christ.*

- *Increase cooperation and mission opportunities with Lutheran Retirement Ministries.*
- *Encourage an attitude that promotes the development of new ministries.*
- *Identify and use the talents of the congregation to meet the needs of the church and community.*

Sunday, November 23, 2008

Christ the King

Setting One – 10:30 (ELW)

The Marks of Discipleship: I will strive to . . .

- + Pray daily
- + Worship weekly
- + Read the Bible daily
- + Serve at and beyond Macedonia Evangelical Lutheran Church
- + Be in Relationship with others to encourage spiritual growth
- + Give of my time, talents and resources in a generous manner and to the glory of God

INTRODUCTION

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 awaiting 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.

P = Pastor

C = Congregation

A = Assistant

ANNOUNCEMENTS

(Please prepare yourself for worship during the Prelude)

PRELUDE

Oh, Worship the King

setting by David Cherwien

Stand

GATHERING SONG

Rejoice, for Christ Is King!

ELW 430 *(Red Hymnal)*

GREETING

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.**

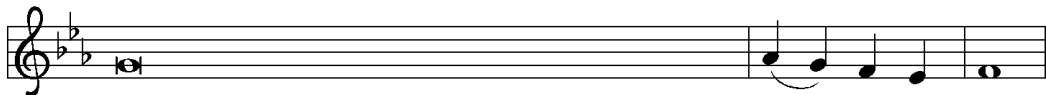
KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



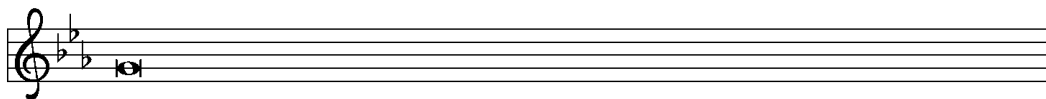
Lord, have mer - cy.



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



Lord, have mer - cy.



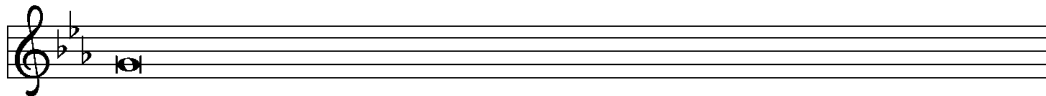
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

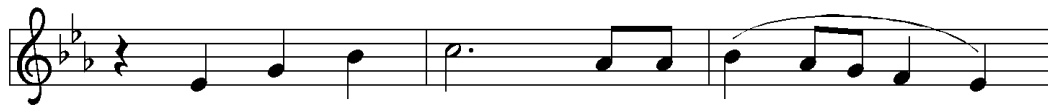


Help, save, comfort, and de - fend us, gra - cious Lord.



A - men, a - men.

HYMN OF PRAISE



Glo - ry to God in the high -



est, and peace to God's peo - ple on earth.



Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and



Fa - ther, we wor - ship you, we give you thanks, we



praise you for your glo - ry. Lord Je - sus

Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther,

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the

world: have mer - cy on us; you are seat - ed at the

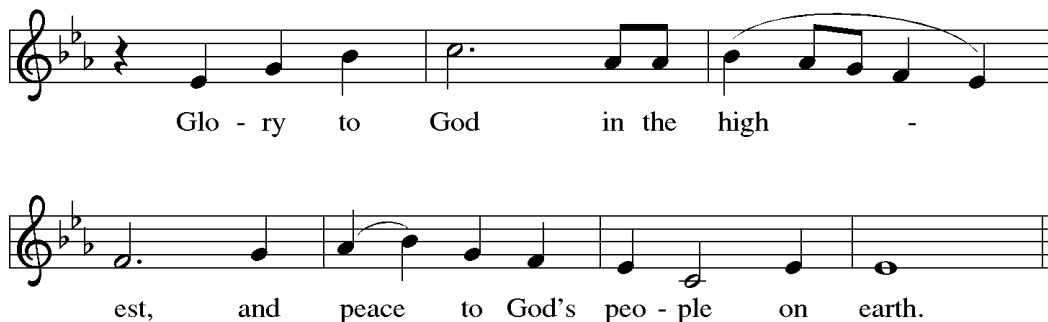
right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our prayer.

For you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a -

lone are the Lord, you a - lone are the Most High,

Je - sus Christ, with the Ho - ly Spir - it, in the glo - ry of

God the Fa - ther. A - - men.



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

C 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.

C Amen

TEMPLE TALK Beth Van Fleet

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANTHEM *The Lord Reigneth* Titcomb

FIRST READING *Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24*

A A reading from Ezekiel chapter thirty four.

Since 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.

¹¹For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As 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. ¹³I 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. ¹⁴I 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. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I 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.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

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

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

SECOND READING *Ephesians 1:15–23*

A A reading from *Ephesians* chapter one.

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord both of the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I 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, ¹⁸so 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, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God 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, ²¹far 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. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

A Word of God, word of life.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,
al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Repeat alleluia
Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e - ter - nal life.

GOSPEL *Matthew 25:31–46*

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter.

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

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.

³¹When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then 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; ³⁵for 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, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.' ³⁷Then 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? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And 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.' ⁴¹Then 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; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I 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.' ⁴⁴Then 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?' ⁴⁵Then 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.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

P The Gospel of the Lord.
C Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

“WHERE IS JESUS?”
Text: Matthew 25:31–46

HYMN OF THE DAY

Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing

ELW 389 (*Red Hymnal*)

NICENE CREED

C 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;
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from the virgin Mary,
and was made man.
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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.
He has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic 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

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

ORGAN OFFERTORY

Praeludium

Johann Krebs

OFFERTORY HYMN

Create in Me a Clean Heart

ELW 186 (*Red Hymnal*)

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

A Gathered with the saints by the river of life and surrounded by the great cloud of their witness, let us pray for the well-being of the church of God, the peace of the whole world, and the welfare of all people.

A brief silence.

A God of justice, you rule far above all dominions. Establish your power over the nations and those who govern them, that all families of the earth would gather under your righteous reign. We pray in hope,

C **make all things new.**

A God of creation, you declare your glory in the heavens and the earth. Sustain your handiwork of space and sea, of sky and soil, of stars and seeds, that all creatures would praise you with one voice. We pray in hope,

C **make all things new.**

A God of glory, you announce your salvation and forgiveness to all on earth. Empower your church by your gospel of grace, that its bishops, pastors, and leaders would equip all your people for lives of joyful service and caring compassion. We pray in hope,

C **make all things new.**

A God of love, you nourish and sustain us as a shepherd cares for his flock. Enable this congregation to seek the lost, bring back the straying, bind up the injured, and strengthen the weak. We pray in hope.

C **make all things new.**

A God of peace, you proclaim your presence in all places and conditions of life. Extend your reign of gentle healing to those hospitalized and their caregivers (*especially*), that all who suffer would be enveloped by your comfort. We pray in hope,

C **make all things new.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A God of heaven, you promise to prepare a place for us in your eternal home. Encourage us on our earthly journey, that with (*Clement, Bishop of Rome, Miguel Agustin Pro, and*) all the faithful departed, we may reach at last your promised land. We pray in hope,

C **make all things new**

P All blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be yours, O God, through Christ the crucified and risen one.

C **Amen**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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**

BLESSING

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

C **Amen**

SENDING SONG

Jesus Shall Reign

ELW 434 (*Red Hymnal*)

DISMISSAL

A Go in peace. Christ is with you.

C **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!

setting by Charles Callahan

We offer a joyful greeting to all who've come to worship our Creator. May we be open to the Holy Spirit and receive all the benefits of God's grace today.

Visitors! We are delighted you are with us. Please give us your name, address and phone number on a Welcome Card in the pew pocket or in the Friendship Register.

The **Altar flowers** are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of her parents, Clyde and Ruth Kirkman, and her sister, Carolyn Martin, by Betsy and Boyd Black.

Please remember in your prayers: Boyd Black, Joan Blomberg, Gary Britt, Maddie Johnson, David Millspough, Eloise Oliver, Aubrey, Laura & Brian Parks, Artie Pryer, John Tarbox, the family of Chattie Barr, the family of William Allison, the family of Rev. Robert Edessell, the family of Terry Harris, the family of Bill Harrison, the family of Harrison Koyjack, the family of Sam Lewis. (*Requests are to be renewed weekly by contacting the church office.*)

Loaves and Fishes – For the month of November please bring saltine crackers, jelly & toilet paper.

The **Annual Congregational Meeting** is today, **Sunday, November 23** at noon in the sanctuary. All confirmed members in good standing are asked to be there. After the meeting, we will gather in Luther Hall for a delicious *hamburger soup luncheon* sponsored by the Social Ministry committee. Donations for the meal will be taken. All Proceeds will be given to the community ministries that we support.

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP SERVICE & PIE FEST! We gather in our sanctuary on Wednesday, November 26 at 7:00 p.m. to celebrate Holy Communion. We give our thanks to God for our many blessings and we are asking everyone who comes to bring a bag of groceries and place them in front of the altar. They will be given to *Loaves and Fishes!* Following the service we will meet in Luther Hall for a Pie Festival. We ask that every family bring a pie to share and come and join us in thanksgiving! Coffee, milk, ice cream and cool whip will be available.

Offering (11/16) General: \$7,057.06 Capital: \$446.00

Hymns For Healing CD: \$3,600.00 Poinsettias Purchased: 88 (*Way to go!!*)

Attendance (11/16) SS: 79 (8:15): 45 (10:30): 126

ALSO SCHEDULED THIS WEEK

- Today**
- 8:15 Worship/Communion
 - 9:30 Sunday School
 - 10:30 Worship
 - Noon Congregational Meeting/Luncheon
 - 4:45 Reformation Ringers
 - 5:30 8th & 9th Grade Confirmation
 - 6:15 *Middle & High School Youth Meeting*
 - 6:30 Crossways II, #39
- Monday**
- 4:00 Crossways I, #7
 - 7:00 LEAF Board Meeting
 - 7:00 Boy Scouts Pack Meeting (Luther Hall)
- Tuesday**
- 4:30 Macedonia Ringers
 - 5:15 Melody Choir
 - 5:30 Cherub Choir Practice
 - 7:00 Troop 39 Committee (Room 16)
- Wednesday**
- 7:00 Thanksgiving Eve/Communion
 - 8:00 Pie Fest
- NO CHOIR PRACTICE
- Thursday** THANKSGIVING DAY/OFFICE CLOSED
- Friday** OFFICE CLOSED
- Sunday (11/30)** FIRST COMMUNION SUNDAY
- 8:00 Circle #6
 - 8:15 Worship/Communion
 - 9:30 Sunday School
 - 10:30 Worship/Communion
 - 5:30 8th & 9th Grade Confirmation
 - 6:30 Crossways II, #40

GIVING OUT OF ABUNDANCE

Several weeks ago, we listened as Jesus responded to the question, "Which commandment in the law is the greatest?" Jesus responded that there are actually two great commandments, to "love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind" and to "love your neighbor as yourself." Today's gospel reading takes that statement a bit further. Jesus tells us that, when we care for those in need, it is the same as if we had done it for Jesus himself. In other words, it is in the loving of our neighbor that we most fully love God.



Christ's invitation to the great feast is unconditional, for all are welcome. But there is also an expected change of heart to be lived out in word and deed. Have we cared for those who are in need? If you have cared for those in need, then you have cared for me, Jesus says. Unfortunately, the opposite is also true. If we selfishly hoard our possessions, if we ignore those in need in our world, loving ourselves more than our neighbors, it is the same as if we ignore Jesus himself.

Our care for our neighbors is born out of our love for and faith in Jesus Christ. For Matthew, refusing to care is akin to refusing to believe in Christ himself. In telling this parable, Jesus reminds us of all the blessings we have inherited through him in hopes that we would be moved to share equally with our neighbors. There are people in our world to feed and clothe, sicknesses to cure, hospitality to be shared. In other words, God's love is waiting to be shared with those in need. Go in peace. Remember the poor.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK

November 23, 2008

Christ the King Sunday

Monday Psalm 7, Ester 2:1-18, 2 Timothy 2:8-13

Tuesday Psalm 7, Esther 8:3-17, Revelation 19:1-9

Wednesday Psalm 7, Exekiel 33:7-20, John 5:19-40

Thursday Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, Zechariah 13:1-9, Revelation 14:6-13

Friday Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, Zechariah 14:1-9, 1 Thessalonians 4:1-18

Saturday Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19, Micah 2:1-13, Matthew 24:15-31

Macedonia Evangelical Lutheran Church

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Phone: 336-227-5554 - Fax: 336-227-6859

New E-mail: macedonia_office@bellsouth.net

Website: www.MacedoniaLutheran.com

Office Hours: Monday - Friday - 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Senior Pastor (585-0666).....	Rev. Stephen C. Rust
Associate Pastor for Visitation (436-0104).....	Rev. Dr. Dianne Dietz
Seminarian (665-0363).....	Intern Vincent Iocona
Director of Church Music.....	Joy H. Rust
Director, Chancel Choir and Reformation Ringers	Sylvia R. Crews
Organist (8:15)	Mary Anne Dettman
Organist (10:30)	Joy H. Rust
Organist Emeritus	Terry G. Woodings
Director, Cherub Choir	Joy H. Rust
Director, Macedonia Ringers and Melody Choir	Sylvia R. Crews
Sunday School Superintendent	Ruth W. Matkins
Crucifer	Jeffrey Walker
Acolytes	Maddie Braxton, Zander Peter
Children's Message.....	Angie Gilliam
Lay Reader	(8:15) Melissa Reeger.....(10:30) Tom Macklin
Communion Preparer.....	
Communion Assistant	(8:15) Estelle Petersen
Greeters	Jane Moore, Anna Bass, Randi Dunn, Alyse Tickle
Nursery Attendants	Ruth Matkins, Megan Turner
Ushers	Tommy Turner-Chief
Sound System.....	Brett Bass
Dust Covers	Alyse Tickle, Robin Huffman

Lutheran Retirement Ministries/Twin Lakes Community

Executive Director, TLC	Charles R. Harris
Director, Pastoral Care, TLC.....	Rev. Craven G. Ford