



Christ the King & Commitment Sunday

November 20, 11:15 AM

Saint Luke Lutheran Church and School

9100 Colesville Road, Silver Spring, MD

www.saintluke.us | 301-588-4363

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

PRELUDE

Fanfare

John Cook (1918-1984)

WELCOME

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
who redeems us in Christ Jesus,
whose steadfast love endures forever.
Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbors. We have ignored voices that call for your justice. We have neglected actions that witness to your righteousness. We have spoken and acted in ways that disrupt your beloved community. We truly repent of things we have done and left undone. For the sake of Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Restore our troubled spirits, so that we may live in newness, follow the way of the Spirit, and build up the body of Christ. Amen.

Rejoice and be glad! God hears the prayers of all who cry out, and restores us to life through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Therefore, I declare to you the forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ✙ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN • ELW 855

Crown Him With Many Crowns



1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
2 Crown him the vir - gin's Son, the God in - car - nate born,
3 Crown him the Lord of love— be - hold his hands and side,
4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri - umphed o'er the grave
5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own.
whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all e - ter - ni - ty.
the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem.
but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright.
who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
thy praise and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4
Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

GREETING

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Please be seated.

WORD

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 23:1-6

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.

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. 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. 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. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord.

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. 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."

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The refrain is introduced by the Organ. Please sing the refrain the 2nd time. Please sing all the verses.



God is our [refuge] and strength, *
a very present [help] in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, ... though the [earth] be moved,*
and though the mountains be toppled into the [depths of] the sea;
Though its waters [rage] and foam, *
and though the mountains tremble [at] its tumult.

Antiphon (verse 4)

There is a river whose streams make glad the [city] of God, *
the holy habitation of the [Most] High.

God is in the midst of her; ... she shall not be [o]-verthrown; *

God shall help her at the [break] of day.

The nations make much ado, ... and the [kingdoms] are shaken; *
God has spoken, ... and the earth shall [melt] away.

Antiphon (verse 8)

Come now and look upon the [works of] the LORD, *
what awesome things he has [done] on earth.

It is he who makes war to cease in [all] the world; *

he breaks the bow, ... and shatters the spear, ... and burns the [shields] with fire.

"Be still then, ... and know that [I] am God; *

I will be exalted among the nations; ... I will be exalted [in] the earth."

Antiphon (verse 12)

SECOND READING

Colossians 1:11-20

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.

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; 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. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 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. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 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.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

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

GOSPEL

Luke 23:33-43

The holy gospel according to Saint Luke, the twenty-third chapter.

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.

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. [Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. 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!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

REFLECTION

Pastor Miller

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY • ELW 634

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!



1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
 2 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,
 3 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—
 4 Sin - ners, whose love can ne'er for - get the worm - wood and the gall,



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem 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.
 go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem 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.
 Go spread your tro - phies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

5 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe 6 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
 on this terrestrial ball we at his feet may fall!
 to him all majesty ascribe We'll join the everlasting song
 and crown him Lord of all. and crown him Lord of all.

Text: Edward Perronet, 1726–1792, sts. 1–4; J. Rippon, A Selection of Hymns, 1787, sts. 5–6
 Music: CORONATION, Oliver Holden, 1765–1844

APOSTLES' CREED

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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.**

DEDICATION OF 2023 FAITH COMMITMENTS

Let us pray:

Gracious and loving God, giver of all that is good and true and life-giving. These cards and our commitments online, represent our lives, our dreams. The Faith Commitments which we have made are but tokens of the awesome gifts that have been given to us, and they are pledged in thanksgiving for all we have received, for all we have been inspired to be, for all we are challenged to become.

We return with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us.

May these Faith Commitments always be the first fruits of all we have and not what we have left over, so that we may live out as closely as possible how you give to us. May we see them as our offering to you, sacred, holy, filled with possibilities. May we see our very selves being part of this offering, living sacrifices to you. We return with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us.

Bless these Faith Commitments and our holy lives always to your service. Amen.

BLESSING OF CARE KITS, BLANKETS, QUILTS, SHAWLS

(all are invited to place a hand on one of these items)

Let us pray:

We thank you. Gods Work Our Hands we say and live in the name of our Son. You use the talents of many, those who dye towels, fold them, and pack necessary items in them to make personal care kits. You use the talents of those who take pieces of fabric, cut, sew, and tie them together to make beautiful patterns and hues, quilts to bring warmth. You use the talents of those who crochet and knit to reach out to newborns around the world with beautiful baby blankets, and comfort so many around us with lovely prayer shawls.

God's Work our Hands, we say and live in the name of your Son.

We ask your blessing on all that we offer, all here that has been created with labors of love. May those who receive these gifts know the love and community we share in you. Also, we pray and give thanks for the amazing outreach of Lutheran World Relief, making sure these gifts are shared where they are needed most in our world.

We do give thanks. All glory is yours forever. Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Please be seated.

MEAL

OFFERING

We invite you to give your offering online at saintlukegive.us

You may also mail your checks to:

Saint Luke Lutheran Church
9100 Colesville Road
Silver Spring, MD 20910

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Meditation on "Love Unknown"

Francis Jackson (1917-2022)

Please stand as you are able.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in your great love you richly provide for our needs. Make of these gifts a banquet of blessing, and make us ready to share with all in need; through Jesus Christ, who sets a table for all. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

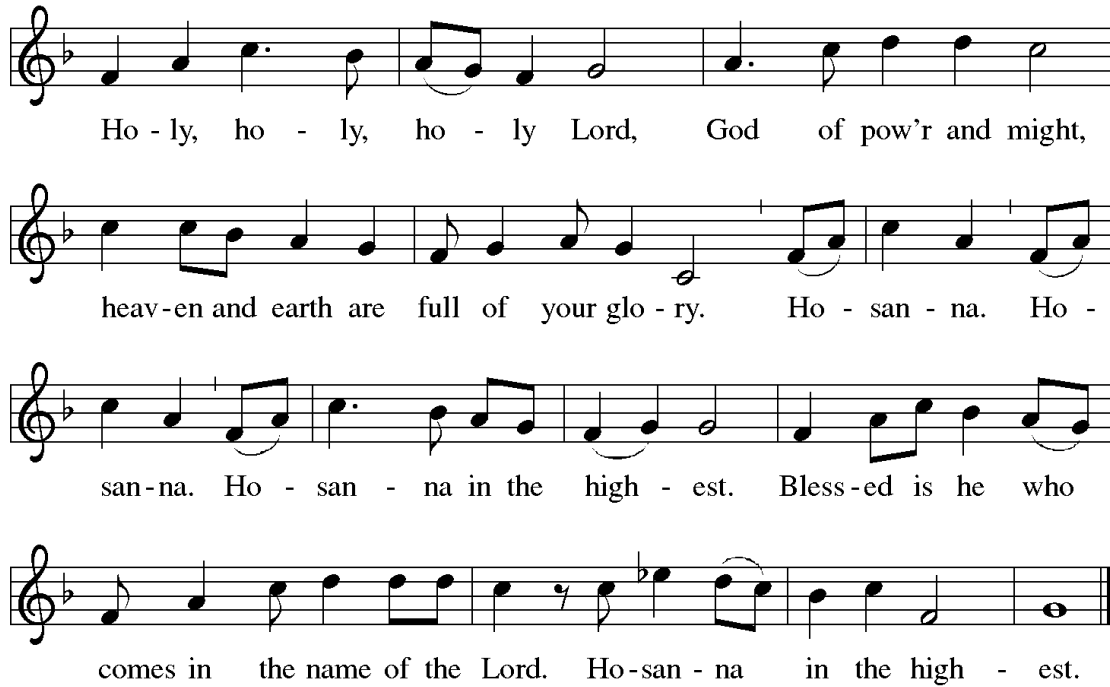
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ; who, enthroned forever at your right hand, intercedes for us as our great high priest. And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection, with earth and sea and all their creatures, and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Holy, living, and loving God, we praise you for creating the heavens and the earth.

We bless you for bringing Noah and his family through the waters of the flood, for freeing your people Israel from the bonds of slavery, and for sending your Son to be our Redeemer.

We give you thanks for Jesus who, living among us, healed the sick, fed the hungry, and with a love stronger than death, gave his life for others.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, therefore, his life-giving death and glorious resurrection, we await your promised life for all this dying world.

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again!

Breathe your Spirit on us and on this bread and cup: carry us in your arms from death to life, that we may live as your chosen ones, clothed in the righteousness of Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church, both now and forever.

Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Please pray in your own preferred language.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Padre Nuestro, que estas en los cielos,
santificado sea tu nombre,
venga a nosotros tu reino,
hagase tu voluntad,
asi en la tierra como en el cielo.
Danos hoy nuestro pan de cada dia;
perdona nuestras ofensas,
como nosotros perdonamos
a los que nos ofenden;
y no nos dejes caer en la tentacion,
mas libranos del mal.
Porque tuyo es el reino,
el poder, y la gloria,
por los siglos de los siglos. Amen

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Christ invites us to this table.
Come, taste and see.
Thanks be to God.

Please be seated.

COMMUNION

All are invited to the Lord's table, a table of grace and mercy. There are two stations at the foot of the chancel steps. Please stretch out your hand, palm up, to receive the host, the body of Christ. (Gluten-free wafers are available; please ask your server) Then receive in the individual cup the blood of Christ. You may deposit your cup in the basket near the side wall. Those who wish to receive a blessing instead of the Lord's supper are also encouraged to come forward. Those who wish to receive the sacrament in the pew please inform an usher. All are welcome to the Lord's table.

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say:

The body of Christ, given for you.
The blood of Christ, shed for you.

The communicant may say:

Amen.

LAMB OF GOD

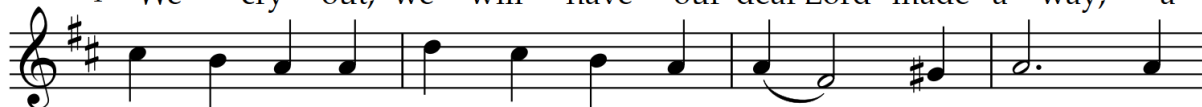
Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have
mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the
world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sin of the world; grant us peace.

COMMUNION HYMN • ELW 343

My Song is Love Unknown



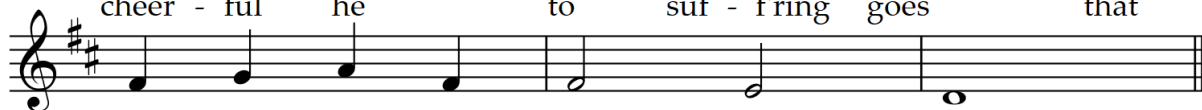
1 My song is love un - known, my Sav - ior's love to me, love
2 He came from his blest throne sal - va - tion to be - stow; the
3 Some - times we strew his way and his sweet praise - es sing; re -
4 We cry out, we will have our dear Lord made a - way, a



to the love - less shown that they might love - ly be. Oh,
world that was his won would not its Sav - ior know. But,
sound - ing all the day ho - san - nas to our king. Then
mur - der - er to save, the prince of life to slay. Yet



who am I that for my sake my
oh, my friend, my friend in - deed, who
"Cru - ci - fy!" is all our breath, and
cheer - ful he to suf - f'ring goes that



Lord should take frail flesh and die?
at my need his life did spend!
for his death we thirst and cry.
he his foes from thence might free.

5 In life no house, no home
my Lord on earth might have;
in death no friendly tomb
but what a stranger gave.
What may I say? Heav'n was his home
but mine the tomb wherein he lay.

6 Here might I stay and sing—
no story so divine!
Never was love, dear King,
never was grief like thine.
This is my friend, in whose sweet praise
I all my days could gladly spend!

Please stand as you are able.

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

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

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE—ELW 430

Rejoice, for Christ is King!

Please sing verses 1 & 2



1 Re - joi - ce, for Christ is king! Your Lord and king a - dore;
2 Our Sav - ior Je - sus reigns, the God of truth and love;
3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
4 He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub - mit



re - joi - ce, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove:
the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n:
and bow to his com - mand and fall be - neath his feet:

Refrain



Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; re -



joice, a - gain I say, re - joi - ce!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: LAUS REGIS, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God of the abundant table, you have refreshed our hearts in this meal with bread for the journey. Give us your grace on the road that we might serve our neighbors with joy; for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN • ELW 439

Soon and Very Soon



1 Soon and ver - y soon
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
3 No more dy - in' there,
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon

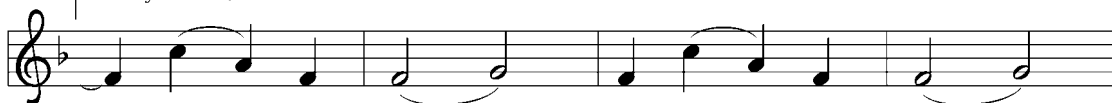


soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Coda after stanza 4



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945
Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch
Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

DISMISSAL

Go in peace.
Be a blessing in the world.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Fugue in D Major, BWV 532

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

WORSHIP LEADERS

PRESIDING MINISTERS

The Rev. Connie A. Miller, *Senior Pastor*

The Rev. Franklin Morales, *Associate Pastor*

COMMUNION SERVERS

The Rev. Richard Zawistoski, *Confirmation Pastor*

Deacon Kyle Warfield, *Director of Discipleship and Senior High Ministries*

READERS

Karla Walker

Ruth Manchester

MUSICIANS

Dr. Alain Truche, *Director of Music and Organist*



THE FLOWERS ABOUT THE ALTAR are given to the glory of God by Deacon Kyle Warfield.

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This week at Saint Luke Lutheran Church

SUNDAY, November 20—Christ the King/ Commitment Sunday

8:45 AM Holy Communion
10:00 AM Special Congregation Meeting
10:00 AM Sunday School
10:00 AM Affirmation of Baptism Class
10:00 AM SLSHY
10:00 AM Reception
10:15 AM Up For Discussion
11:15 AM Holy Communion
3:00 PM San Lucas Gospel Meditation online

MONDAY, November 21

8:00 AM CDS Classes
6:00 PM Yoga
7:00 PM ESL

TUESDAY, November 22

8:00 AM CDS Classes
4:30 PM Piano Lessons
7:00 PM ESL
7:00 PM Girl Scouts
7:00 PM Reformation Bells

WEDNESDAY, November 23

7:00 AM Zoom Faith Connections
7:00 PM Thanksgiving Eve Vespers
7:00 PM ESL
7:30 PM AA

THURSDAY, November 24

Thanksgiving Day—Office Closed

FRIDAY, November 25

Office Closed

SATURDAY, November 26

9:30 AM AA
11:00 AM Al-Anon

SUNDAY, Nov. 27—First Sunday of Advent

8:45 AM Holy Communion
10:00 AM Reception
10:15 AM Up For Discussion (Hybrid)
11:15 AM Holy Communion
5:00 PM San Lucas Misa Español

NB: Worship Services are in person and livestreamed

Upcoming Commemorations

Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100

Wednesday, November 23, 2022

Clement was the third bishop of Rome. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the congregation in Corinth, still struggling with the same problems that led to Paul's letters to them. As did Paul, he focused on the need for love among Christians.

Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, died 1927

Wednesday, November 23, 2022

Pro grew up in a time when the Mexican revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the wealthy. He became a Jesuit priest, and worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Falsely accused of throwing a bomb at a government official, he was executed, but not before crying out "Long live Christ the King!"

Justus Falckner, died 1723; Jehu Jones, died 1852; William Passavant, died 1894; pastors in North America

Thursday, November 24, 2022

Not only was Falckner the first Lutheran ordained in North America, but he published a catechism which was the first Lutheran book published on the continent. Jones was the Lutheran church's first African American pastor and carried out missionary work in Philadelphia which led to the formation there of the first African American Lutheran congregation (St. Paul's). William Passavant helped to establish hospitals and orphanages in a number of cities and was the first to introduce deaconesses to the work of hospitals in the United States.

Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, died 1748

Friday, November 25, 2022

Thought by many to be the greatest hymnwriter in the English language, Watts as a youth was critical of the quality of the metrical psalter of the time. He wrote about 600 hymns—many based on the psalms, but others that are not.

From sundaysandseasons.com.

Saint Luke Update

11/20/2022 Edition

MASKS ARE ENCOURAGED INDOORS AT SAINT LUKE. THANK YOU FOR STAYING SAFE AND WELL.

SPECIAL CONGREGATION MEETING TODAY

Pastor Morales is on a two year term call. This ends this month. The Council has recommended to the congregation that we renew Pastor's call for another two years. To vote on this motion the Council has called a special congregation meeting this morning, November 20, 10:00 a.m., in person and online. The meeting will be brief and voting will be open through Friday.

COMMITMENT SUNDAY

Today we dedicate our Faith Commitments for 2023. Thank you to so many who have prayerfully completed this process online or handed in a card. We are almost to our goal. With everyone's help we can do it. If you have not done this yet, kindly go to www.saintluke.us and in the left hand column see Faith Commitment 2023. You may also pick up a card at the entrance to the sanctuary. Thank you so much.

THANK YOU

This morning we behold so many of the service projects completed by Saint Lukers and friends of this faith community. Around the chancel area look closely and see boxes and boxes of Personal Care Kits, ready to be delivered to Lutheran World Relief. Half of these 1000 Care Kits were assembled by the Vacation Bible School and the other half on assembled on God's Work Our Hands Sunday. Look further and see many Prayer Shawls that will comfort those going through a difficult circumstance. Then, behold lovely Baby Blankets which will be such a gift to an infant who may not have access to a blanket. Then, what décor on our pews—yes, more than 100 beautiful Quilts made by our dedicated quilters—all going to Lutheran World Relief and then around the world to someone in need. Thank you to all for your contributions!

SINGING FOR CRECHE SERVICE

Children K-2nd grade are invited to sing a carol at one of the Christmas Eve Creche Services (4:00 & 5:30 p.m.). In order to get the song ready, we will meet on Wednesday December 14 and 21 from 4:30 to 5:00 p.m. Can your child participate? Please contact Dr. Truche at atruche@saintluke.us. Please indicate which service(s) you are planning to attend. How wonderful to have our children back singing praises!

THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP

Before sitting down to that delicious feast, or whatever your plans on Thanksgiving Day, let us come together Thanksgiving Eve, 7:00 p.m. for a special time of worship.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR SHARING

Make sure to pick up a brochure, *Opportunities for Sharing*. They are located on the credenzas in the narthex. Also, you may go to the electronic link. Simply go to www.saintluke.us and see the left hand column. Consider honoring or remembering someone with the gift of a Poinsettia Food Card. How about giving to the Christmas Gift Fund for the children of La Sagrada? Maybe you can contribute to the Hat and Mitten Tree, or how about checking out the ELCA Good Gifts, or might you like to help the CDS Scholarship Fund and purchase a wreath? Thank you for giving and helping so many.

Today's Music

HYMN NOTES

Crown Him With Many Crowns

Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894 and Godfrey Thing, 1823-1903

To illustrate the text, “And on his head were many crowns” (Revelation 19:12), two different authors wrote two different texts, each with six stanzas. Most hymnals make a selection from the twelve stanzas. The tune name DIADEMATA suggests “diadems” or “crowns” and matches the striking first line of poetry with an equally memorable first line of music.—Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

Edward Perronet, 1726-1792

Written by a friend and advisor of the Wesleys who later became a Congregational minister, the text has had many alterations. Rippon, famous for including “How firm a foundation” in his 1791 hymnal, added two new stanzas and extensively rewrote the others. Its extravagant praise and “crown Him” chorus become exuberant when sung to CORONATION. - Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins

My Song is Love Unknown

Samuel Crossman, 1624-1684

Crossman was one of the small group of 17th century writers whose sacred poems have become part of our heritage. Written when only psalm singing was permissible, it moved to a more personal expression of emotions. Beginning with the Incarnation, it moves directly to the events of Holy Week. The Savior's love is defined by his life and death and the writer defines our response in continual praise.—Hymn Notes for Church Bulletins

Soon and Very Soon

Andre Crouch, b. 1945

This gospel song was written in 1976. The first and last stanzas reflect Revelation 22:7, and stanzas 2 and 3 reflect Revelation 21:4. —ELW Hymnal Companion

MUSIC NOTES

Prelude: Fanfare - John Cook (1918-1984)

John Cook was an English born organist and composer who later in life emigrated to the United States and served at one of the premier Anglo-Catholic parishes, Church of the Advent, in Boston.

Cook's inspiration for this piece was Psalm 81:1-3: “Sing aloud to God our strength; shout for joy to the God of Jacob! Raise a song; sound the tambourine, the sweet lyre with the harp. Blow the trumpet at the new moon, at the full moon, on our feast day.” Sounds in this piece alternate between a bold trumpet and bright, syncopated chords.

During the Offering: Meditation on “Love Unknown” - Francis Jackson (2017-2022)

Jackson was a British organist and composer who served as Director of Music at York Minster for 36 years, from 1946 to 1982. His meditation on the hymn tune “Love Unknown” is quiet and in an improvisation style. One phrase at a time, the tune is featured on a slightly louder stop than the accompaniment.

Postlude: Fugue in D Major, BWV 532—J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

The present Prelude and Fugue in D major is thought to be an early Weimar work from about 1710. This was a time during which he had absorbed influences from German predecessors such as Buxtehude, Böhm, and Pachelbel, as well as Italian masters such as Legrenzi and Corelli, but before he encountered Vivaldi's works, which brought about a significant style change c. 1713–14. Bach's early organ works show an impassioned exuberance if a generally less polished harmonic and polyphonic technique.

The fugue subject shows Bach's fascinating inventiveness in shaping something extraordinary out of repetitions and sequences (the same material at a different pitch). He was clearly fascinated by this remarkable subject because he reused it in his Toccata in D major, BWV 912, which may date from around the same time.—Jane Vial Jaffe