St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church Sunday, November 20, 2022

229 South Broad Street Christ the King

Jersey Shore, PA 17740

570-398-1676



**Children’s Church will meet upstairs in the youth Sunday School room at end of the hallway** **at 9:30 a.m. Please take your child there before worship begins.**

**Introduction to the day**

*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.*

**SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS**

**Prelude**

**Gathering**

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

**Confession and Forgiveness**

*The assembly stands. 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 SONG:  *All Hail the Power of Jesus Name 634***

**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.**

**Hymn of PRAISE:  *Borning Cry 732***

**Prayer of the Day**

P: 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.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Word**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

L: A reading from Jeremiah.

### 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.*

1Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. 2Therefore 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. 3Then 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. 4I 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.  
  
 5The 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. 6In 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.”

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

L: Let us read the Psalm responsively by verse.

### Psalm:  Psalm 46

1God is our refuge and strength,  
  a very present help in trouble.  
 2**Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,**  
  **and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;**  
 3though its waters rage and foam,  
  and though the mountains tremble **|** with its tumult.  
 4**There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,**  
  **the holy habitation of the Most High.**  
 5God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;  
  God shall help it at the break of day.  
 6**The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;**  
  **God speaks, and the earth melts away.**  
 7The Lord of hosts is with us;  
  the God of Jacob is our stronghold.  
 8**Come now, regard the works of the Lord,**  
  **what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**  
 9behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;  
  who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.  
 10**“Be still, then, and know that I am God;**  
  **I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.”**  
 11The Lord of hosts is with us;  
  the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

L: A reading from Colossians.

### 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.*

11May 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 12giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. 13He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.  
  
 15He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; 16for 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. 17He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18He 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. 19For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20and 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.

L: The word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

***The assembly stands.***

**Gospel Acclamation *p.142***

*Alleluia Lord to whom shall we go?*

*You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia, Alleluia.*

P: The holy gospel according to St. Luke

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

### Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

*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.*

33When 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. 34⟦Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.”⟧ And they cast lots to divide his clothing. 35And 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!” 36The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, 37and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” 38There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”  
 39One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” 40But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? 41And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” 42Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” 43He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

**C: Praise to you, O Christ.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**Sermon “Jesus Remember Me”**

**Hymn of the Day:  *Beautiful Savior 839***

**Prayers of Intercession**

A: United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

*A brief silence.*

We pray for your church. Embolden denominations and faith-based organizations in creative and collaborative ministries and increase our work for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for the earth. Protect waterways from pollution and animal habitats from destruction (*local water sources or protected lands may be named*). Guide us in careful stewardship of waters, plant life, and animals. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for the nations of the world. Instill in every leader’s heart a desire for justice and peace. Support the work of international collaborations that seek the goals of health and joy for all people (*especially*). Lord, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for all who are undermined or oppressed. Amplify the voices of the unheard and break open stubborn systems of injustice. Bring about your righteousness and fill us all with your redeeming light. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: We pray for this assembly. Guide our pastor/s, deacon/s, and council members in discernment, and nurture new leaders with fresh ideas. Give this congregation a spirit of discipleship and service. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

A: Gracious God, we pray and we uplift the work and ministry of the Lutheran Church of Liberia. Be with Bishop Padmore as he leads your people forth in faith and works that glorify you. Lord, in your mercy

**C: receive our prayer.**

*Here other intercessions may be offered.*

A:We give thanks for all who have died in the faith (*especially*). Console us who mourn and comfort us with the beautiful promise of life in your kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,

**C: receive our prayer.**

P: Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**Amen.**

**Responding in Love**

**Our Offerings** *This is our response to God's grace.*

**CHOIR ANTHEM *Exalted is the Lord***

*The assembly stands.*

**OFFERTORY**

*Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit with me.*

*Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.*

*Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.*

**Offering Prayer**

Blessed are you, Maker of all things.

As you have entrusted us with all that you have created,

now gather our gifts,

nourish us with this sacrament,

and send us to those who hunger and thirst,

for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen**

**Thanksgiving at the Table**

**Words of Institution**

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,

we proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

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

**THE LORD’S PRAYER *P 145 (in the beginning of the hymnal)***

**Invitation to Communion**

P: Christ spreads a table before you.

Gather here with all the saints.

**Communion**

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

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

*and each person may respond* **Amen.**

**Communion Song *Lamb of God You Take Away p.146***

**Song after Communion *Jesus, Name Above All Names***

(repeat twice)

*Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord,*

*Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, living Word*

**Prayer after Communion**

A: We give you thanks, most gracious God,

that you have fed us with the bread of heaven

and given us a foretaste of Paradise.

Enliven us to be your body in the world

and to serve those who are in need;

through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

**Sending**

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

**Blessing**

The God of peace,

who creates all things and calls them good,

who makes us alive in Jesus,

and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope,

☩ bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

*The assembly is seated.*

**CONGREGATIONAL MEETING**

I profusely apologize for placing the congregation ballots in the bulletin last week instead of the Christmas Flower insert. They were placed by error and were destroyed since TODAY is the announced Annual Congregation Meeting. The ballots will be distributed today during the congregation meeting. Only those who are Confirmed members may vote in the election process.

*We extend our sympathies to the family of Charles “Bud” Long who died on Monday, November 14, 2022. The funeral was Thursday, November 17, 2022.*

*We extend our sympathies to the family of Ralph Lehman who died on Sunday, November 13, 2022. The funeral will be on Tuesday, November22,2022.*

*We extend our sympathies to the family of Fred Hoffer who died on Saturday, November 5, 2022. His funeral service was Saturday, November 19,2022. Fred was Karen Aucker’s brother and former member of St. John.*

**Announcements**

We welcome our visitors and ask that you sign a Visitor Attendance and Holy Communion Card that is located in the pew rack. We ask that cards be returned via the offering plate during Communion. We offer two choices for Holy Communion, wine or grape juice. Those worshipers desiring grape juice are asked at the communion rail to place their right hand over their heart after receiving “The Body of Christ.”

**Remember in prayer:** Rowan Aldridge, Dave Barner, Agnes Cryder, Don & Helen Delaney, Joanne Fisher, Mick Miller, David Mitchell, the Snyder family, and all of our shut-ins.

We also remember in prayer Family Promise; Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton – ELCA; Bishop Craig A. Miller - USS; for our Companion Synods in Liberia and Ansbach-Wurzburg, Germany; and we pray for peace in Ukraine and an end to war.

We pray for the safety of our military troops around the world including Mark Baier, Isaac Boring, Jade Cordrey, Ben Cramer, Trevor and Nehemiah Eberhart, Patrick Hamlin, Paul Laidacker, Kenny Leitch, Steven Moore, Maddison Myers, Tyler O’Neal, Adam Shaffer, Richie Speicher, Aaron Stabley, Paul St. James, and Jenna White. We also lift up in prayer their families who strive to keep a normalcy in the family and continue on often with added stress.

Special thanks to this week’s helpers: Lector –Gracie Welshans; Assisting Ministers –Gary Johnson, Karen Aucker; Head Usher – Christine Barner; Teller – Gina Johnson; Bulletin Sponsor—Betty Allen; Children’s Church – volunteer needed .

Next week’s helper: Lector –Deb Heydrich; Assisting Ministers—Joyce Braucht Carl Schaefer; Head Usher – Christine Barner; Teller – Gina Johnson; Bulletin Sponsor –Betty Allen; Children’s Church –; Flowers—Molly Hollick.

The altar flowers are in loving memory of Nancy Aldridge by her family.

The Sanctuary Candle is given in memory of loved ones and in honor of everyone’s birthday by Agnes Cryder.

The Lutheran Church Women’s Prayer Chain is a vital ministry of St. John Lutheran.  Anyone in need of prayers is asked to contact any of the following persons: Gloria Ely – 570-873-3597       Sarah Davidson - 570-398-0659 Joyce Braucht - 570-398-2852

**Christian Education** is seeking volunteers to lead Children’s Church once a month. If interested please see Cathy Eisner. The 4th and 5th Sundays are open.

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO RESUME NURSERY**. We are in need of adult and teen volunteers to supervise toddlers/babies in the nursery during church. Please contact Molly Hollick, or Ken Dougherty if you would be willing to help out or have any questions. Our hope is to get enough volunteers to have a monthly rotation cycle.

There is a **Congregation Meeting** following the service TODAY. It will be our annual meeting to elect council members, synod delegates, Trinity Endowment members, and approve our pledge to Mission Support and the 2023 budget.

Paster will be conducting a **FIRST COMMUNION CLASS** after worship next Sunday, November 27. If you have an interested youth, please plan to attend.

**ANGEL TREE GIFTS**, unwrapped with the angel tag are due back on Sunday, December 4. That gives you two weeks! Thank you for your participation and donations.

**GINGERBREAD HOUSES !!!** The Youth will be constructing their Gingerbread Houses after church on Sunday, December 4.

Mark your calendar! The **Annual Christmas Bazaar** will be December 10, 2022 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. And as we start to prepare ….

Start saving your items for the **Cherish Moments Table**. You can bring them in and store them in the old kitchen.

It’s time to plan your **Baked Goods** for the table at the Bazaar. There will be a **Cookie Sigh Up Sheet** on the bulletin board. Baked goods cannot come in early as we are working around the food pantry. Baked goods can be delivered starting at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 9 as we set up.

THIS WEEK’S EVENTS

Sunday, November 20, 2022  *Christ the King Sunday*

8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class

9:30 a.m. Children’s Church

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service.

10:30 a.m. Congregation Meeting

Monday, November 21, 2022

1:00 p.m. Bible Study

6:00 p.m. Christian Ed Meeting

7:00 p.m. Youth Committee Meeting

Tuesday, November 22, 2022

9:30 am – 11:00 a. Visitation

11:00 a.m. Funeral for Ralph Lehman at St. John

Wednesday, November 23, 2022

10:00 a.m. Trinity Episcopal Worship. You are invited to attend.

6:30 p.m. NO Choir rehearsal

7:00 p.m. Valley Thanksgiving Service at Immaculate Conception.

Thursday, November 24, 2022

Thanksgiving Day

Sunday, November 27, 2023 *Advent 1*

8:30 a.m. Adult Sunday School Class

9:30 a.m. Children’s Church

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service.

10:30 a.m. First Communion Class

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