



November 22, 2020
ONLINE WORSHIP

FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH

4515 Dobie Road
Okemos, MI 48864
517-349-0620

Christ the King

To make disciples for Jesus Christ. . .
. . .we **Gather** in faith for worship, prayer,
study and fellowship
. . .we **Equip** the people of God with a faith
that works in real life
. . .we **Serve** the world in the name of Jesus Christ

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Organist/Pianist:.....Bruce Williams
Church Secretary:..... Katie Love
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Introduction to the day

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 we await 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.

PRELUDE

Extracted from last year's November 17 service.

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

(arr. Dobrinski)

Faith Bells

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved.

Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,

we confess that we are not awake for you.

We are not faithful in using your gifts.

We forget the least of our siblings.

We do not see your beautiful image in one another.

We are infected by sin

that divides your beloved community.

Open our hearts to your coming,

open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,

open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

Beloved, we are God's children,

and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.

Through ✝ Jesus you are forgiven,

by Jesus you are welcome,

in Jesus you are called to rejoice!

Let us live in the promises prepared for us

from the foundation of the world.

Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Extracted from last year's November 17 service.

Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee



- 1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

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 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.

Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Because 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.

A reading from Ezekiel.

¹¹Thus 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.

NEW TESTAMENT READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

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

A reading from Ephesians.

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.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

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.

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹“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.

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.”

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

SERMON

I was hungry and you
gave me food,
I was thirsty and you
gave me something to drink.

Matthew 25:35, NRSV



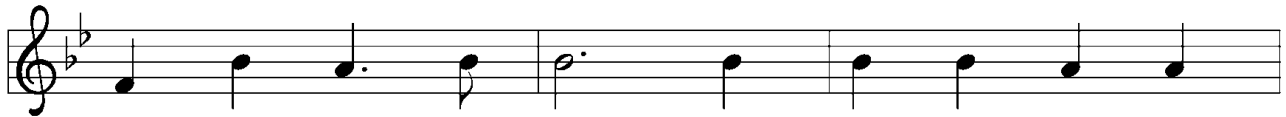
O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us



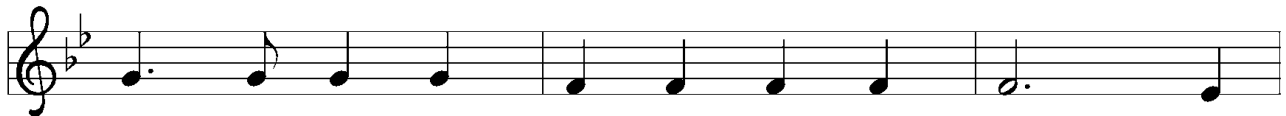
1 O Christ, what can it mean for us to claim you as our
 2 You came, the im - age of our God, to heal and to for -
 3 Though some would make their great - ness felt and lord it o - ver
 4 You chose a hum - ble hu - man form and shunned the world's re -



king? What roy - al face have you re - vealed whose
 give, to shed your blood for sin - ners' sake that
 all, you said the first must be the last and
 nown; you died for us up - on a cross with



praise the church would sing? As - pir - ing not to
 we might rise and live. To break the law of
 ser - vice be our call. O Christ, in work - place,
 thorns your on - ly crown. But still, be - yond the



glo - ry's height, to pow - er, wealth, and fame, you
 death you came, the law of love to bring: a
 church, and home, let none to pow - er cling; for
 span of years, our glad ho - san - nas ring, for



walked a dif - f'rent, low - ly way, an - oth - er's will your aim.
 dif - f'rent rule of righ - teous - ness, a dif - f'rent kind of king.
 still, through us, you come to serve, a dif - f'rent kind of king.
 now at God's right hand you reign, a dif - f'rent kind of king!

Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939

Music: ALL SAINTS NEW, Henry S. Cutler, 1824-1902

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PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

Prayers of intercession are prayed. To each petition, the assembly responds:

Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**

The presiding minister concludes the prayers, and the assembly responds:

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

DIALOGUE

The Lord be with you.

And also 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.

PREFACE

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,
through our Savior Jesus Christ;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
And so, with all the choirs of angels,
with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might: heaven and earth are full
of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the
name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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. **Amen**

LORD'S PRAYER

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

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

choir anthem from Nov. 24, 2019

Hosanna to the King

(Craig Courtney)

Ryan Thompson, soloist

Addie Thompson and Rich Weingartner on percussion.

Communion – *Communion is shared among us in people's homes*

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

Amen.

BLESSING

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Sovereign, ✝ Savior, and Spirit, be with you today and always.

Amen.

SENDING SONG

Extracted from last year's November 17 service.

Jesus Shall Reign

1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar

ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with

shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674-1748, alt.
Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

DISMISSAL

Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

“Jesus Shall Reign”

Extracted from last year's November 17 service.

arr. Benjamin Culli, Raymond Haan

Offering

11/8

World Hunger	\$ 50.00
Neves Luncheon	\$ 35.00
Neves Memorial	\$ 25.00
General Fund	\$ 4290.00
Parish House	<u>\$ 50.00</u>
Subtotal	\$ 4450.00
Simply Giving	
General	\$ 4290.00
Building	<u>\$ 75.00</u>
Total	\$8,815.00

11/15

Neves Memorial	\$ 500.00
General Fund	<u>\$1380.00</u>
Subtotal	\$1880.00
Simply Giving	
General	\$ 240.00
Total	\$2120.00

If you have the ability to support the church's work during this time, please do so as you normally would. You can mail your check to Faith Lutheran, 4515 Dobie Road, Okemos MI 48864 or consider signing up for "Simply Giving", our online offering tool. Contact jon.harrison@comcast.net for more information on how to sign up.

Everyone is invited to join our coffee hour fellowship time, via zoom, immediately following the online worship service. Please use the zoom link below to join.

Topic: FLC coffee hour

Time: Following Sunday Morning online worship

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://msu.zoom.us/j/4982126146>

Meeting ID: 498 212 6146

There is no password needed.

