

Come,
inherit the
kingdom
prepared
for you

MATTHEW 25:34



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
November 22, 2020

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
106 Scheid Road, Sandusky, OH 44870
(419) 625-2192 www.stjohnlcsandusky.com
Parking Lot Worship 9:00 am Zoom Worship 10:30 a.m.

November 22, 2020 Christ the King Sunday

**In the church parking lot, please turn your car
radio to 101.7 FM to listen to our worship service at 9 AM.
This signal is only 1500 feet.
You can also join us on Zoom for worship at 10:30 AM.**

Welcome to Worship. 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.

Confession And Forgiveness

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

Amen.

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.

Gathering Hymn

“Come, Thou Almighty King”

ELW 408

Come, thou almighty King,
help us thy name to sing;
help us to praise;
Father all-glorious,
o'er all victorious,
come and reign over us,
Ancient of Days.

To thee, great One in Three,
eternal praises be
hence evermore!
Thy sov'reign majesty
may we in glory see,
and to eternity
love and adore.

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.

Canticle of Praise

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest;
glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest; glory to God, glory to God,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.
Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest; glory to God, glory to God,
and peace to God's people on earth.

For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest; glory to God, glory to God,
and peace to God's people on earth, and peace to God's people on earth.

Prayer of the Day

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

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.

Psalm 95:1-7a

¹Come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

²**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

³For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴**In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.**

⁵The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶**Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

^{7a}For the LORD is our God,

and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. **R**

Second Lesson: 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.

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.

Gospel Acclamation

“Lord, Let My Heart Be Good Soil”

ELW 512

Lord, let my heart be good soil,
open to the seed of your word.
Lord, let my heart be good soil,
where love can grow and peace is understood.
When my heart is hard, break the stone away.
When my heart is cold, warm it with the day.
When my heart is lost, lead me on your way.
Lord, let my heart, Lord, let my heart,
Lord, let my heart be good soil.

Gospel: Matthew 21:31-46

The Holy Gospel according to Matthew the twenty-first chapter.

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.

[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

Hymn of the Day
430

“Rejoice, for Christ Is King”

ELW

Rejoice, for Christ is king!
Your Lord and king adore;
rejoice, give thanks, and sing,
and triumph evermore:

He sits at God's right hand
till all his foes submit
and bow to his command
and fall beneath his feet: Refrain

Refrain
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;
rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Apostles' Creed

Living together in trust and hope, we confess our faith.

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.

He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.

He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried.

He descended into hell.* On the third day he rose again.

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again 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

*Or, He descended to the dead.

Praying this week's prayer requests

Prayer requests can be emailed to stacylauer@gmail.com, texted to 419-680-0358, or mailed to the church.

Prayers of Intercession

Response: Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Peace

The peace of the Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offering

We give back to God what God first gives us. Offering can be mailed in to the church at 106 Scheid Road, Sandusky OH 44870, by texting give to 614-389-9681, given on our church website, on your way out of the parking lot or in the plate on your way out of the sanctuary..

Offertory

"He Has Made Me Glad"

I will enter his gates with thanksgiving in my heart,

I will enter his courts with praise.

I will say this is the day that the Lord has made;

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

He has made me glad, he has made me glad,

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

He has made me glad, he has made me glad,

I will rejoice for he has made me glad.

Thanksgiving for the Word

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Lord, remember us in your kingdom, and teach us to pray:

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

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

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

ELW 855

Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns
all music but its own.

Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.

All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.

Dismissal

Go in peace. Share the good news.

Thanks be to God.

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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is:

“A Family of Disciples, Faithfully Making Christ Known”

And a congregation of the

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA)

PEOPLE OF ST. JOHN'S, MINISTERS

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Like us on Facebook: St. John's Lutheran Church, Sandusky

Council Prayer: We ask the members of St. John's to pray this month for patience, strength and love of one another as we work on the different ways our St. John's family will be worshipping during the next two months.

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

As I spoke with some of you this week, I heard frustration, fear, anger, and sadness. You are not alone. This is an incredibly difficult time, but we have not been forgotten by our God. The God who created us continues to walk with us, bringing us love and hope.

Our action team at St. John's met this week. After a wonderful in-person worship service last week, we hope to grow it and continue it in the weeks ahead. Barry and Kerry have improved our sound system (thanks to them!) and others have given wonderful suggestions. We are working on increasing our music and making everything flow more smoothly.

Unfortunately, right before we met, our Governor addressed the state. We also read in the Register and heard first hand reports that the Firelands covid unit is over capacity and staff are off with the virus. After prayer and conversation, the St. John's action team decided to continue with the plans we have in place. **For now, if Erie county is level three or red, there will not be any sanctuary worship.** Parking lot worship will be at 9 AM and Zoom worship is at 10:30.

I know this is disappointing. I may be the most disappointed of anyone. However, we heard the plea to love our neighbors and do our part to keep businesses open. We are still going to worship our God together, it just won't be in the sanctuary for now. I'm praying this keeps people safe so we can worship inside soon, and I hope you will join us in the parking lot or on Zoom.

Please know that this was such a difficult decision. If you would like to talk, or want to share your questions or concerns, I am available.

Walking with you in Christ,

Pastor Stacy

Here are a few educational opportunities coming up at the beginning of November.

November 18th at noon on Zoom we will have the second Bible Study. It will also be fairly short and fun for all! The topic is Sabbath Rest, and there is a brief video at: <https://bibleproject.com/church-at-home/week2-sabbath-rest/>

November 18 at 7 PM on Zoom will be a catechism class.

The week of November 22nd we will be sending out Advent care packages. **If you would like to help deliver these to porches, please let me know. If your address has changed, please let me know that as well! We will be having an Advent Wreath making competition. Use what you find around your home, and make a wreath. Care packages will include four small candles.**

November 23rd we will be professionally recording a Christmas Eve Service. This will be a full service, and will be sent out around Christmas Eve. If you will not be able to view a link sent to you, please let us know and we can order a DVD.

November 29: Worship is at 9 AM in the parking lot and at 10:30 on Zoom. Advent wreath picture submissions are due.

December 2nd at noon is a Bible study on the Gospel of the Kingdom. There is an optional video to view before the Bible study: <https://bibleproject.com/church-at-home/week3-gospel-of-the-kingdom/>

December 2 at 7 PM on Zoom will be a catechism class.

December 6 Worship: 10:30 on Zoom. Deacon Erin Bodestab will lead worship

December 8th at 9:30 on Zoom is the Book Club. We are reading Just Mercy, chapters 3 and 4.

December 13 will be the youth Christmas program at 10:30 on Zoom. Parking lot worship will be at 9:00, and the video sermon will be sent out at a later time in email. There will not be a Sunday School class until the new year.

December 16th will be a Bible Study on Water of Life at Noon on Zoom. An optional video to view before the study: <https://bibleproject.com/church-at-home/week5-water-of-life/>

December 16 at 7 PM on Zoom will be a catechism class.

December 20 worship: 9 @ , 10:30 on Zoom

December 24: Christmas Eve worship

December 27: Worship 9 @, 10:30 on Zoom

View Stein Hospice Light Up A Life Trees:

Sandusky Date: Friday, December 4th **Location:** Jackson and W. Washington Streets, Downtown Sandusky **Time: Please feel free to drive by at your leisure on December 4th, 5th or 6th. Trees will turn on at 5:00 pm each day.**

Norwalk Date: Friday, December 11th **Location:** St. Peter Evangelical Lutheran Church, Benedict and Executive, **Norwalk Time: Please feel free to drive by at your leisure on December 11th, 12th or 13th. Tree will turn on at 4:30 pm each day.**

No in-person LUAL worship service/reception until 2021

New address: Nancy and Dale Osburn have moved to Medina. If you would like to keep in contact with the Osburn's or wish them well in their new home, their temporary address is 673 E Reagan Pkwy, Apt. 134, Medina, Ohio 44256.

Thank you Rev. Stacy and St. John's Faith Life Team. Thank you so very much for the Portals of Prayer and the cookie you made for me. I am thoroughly thankful for the delicious cookie. I ate it last night for my desert. I am in Bellevue Ohio at the Willows. They take care of their patients. A friendly place to be when you need some care. I appreciate that you remembered me. Sincerely, Aileen Wilson

Happy Birthday and Anniversary wishes!

24 —John Miller
26 —Jack Maguire
 Lisa Fryer
27 —Dale Osbun