



Risen Christ Lutheran Church  
Christ the King Sunday Worship

November 26, 2023

**YOU ARE IN GOD'S SANCTUARY. AS YOU ENTER,  
PLEASE SIT QUIETLY, READ THROUGH YOUR WORSHIP  
FOLDER, AND PREPARE FOR WORSHIP.**



**CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY**



*Risen Christ Lutheran Church*  
46250 Ann Arbor Road, Plymouth, MI 48170  
734.453.5252 [www.risenchrist.info](http://www.risenchrist.info)

**ABOUT HOLY COMMUNION** – (2nd & 4th Sundays) We believe: that Christ’s body and blood are truly present for forgiveness and spiritual strength, that God desires our sincere confession, continuous seeking and giving forgiveness and, that being genuine in taking Communion so that we not harm ourselves by taking it in an unworthy manner. If you believe the above, are a baptized believer who trusts in the death and resurrection of Jesus for the forgiveness of sins, and have examined yourself, you are welcome to commune with us. Please talk to Pastor if you have any questions. The bread is offered before the “individual” and “common” cups of wine. (Note: White Non-Alcoholic Wine is in the center of the tray.)

**OFFERING** – Through the offerings of His faithful people, our Lord provides for the ongoing work of His Church. If you are a visitor, we are glad that you came to be served by the Lord this day. If you choose to contribute to the ongoing work of the Gospel, we give thanks that God has moved you to contribute toward the work of sharing the Gospel here in Plymouth and around the world! You can also take advantage of Online Giving by visiting [www.RisenChrist.info](http://www.RisenChrist.info)

**A WORD TO OUR GUESTS** – Welcome and thank you for coming. Please complete a Worship Card and place it in the offering plate. Pastor will send you a welcome card. Please indicate that you “desire” a call for any further contact.

**Large Print Bulletins** – Available from an usher.

**Listening Assistance Devices** – Available at the Sound Booth.

**Parent Room** – A row of seating and plenty of area for standing or walking is available in the Welcome Area/Lobby (“Narthex”)

**For Children** – Children’s Book Cart for Worship: Available in the Welcome Area.

**As We Gather** – Too often we think about God’s being up in His heaven, looking down on us. Today’s Readings give us the correct perspective. Through Ezekiel, God announces that He is the One who will provide pasture for His people and that He will send them David to be their king. In the Psalm, we reflect that God is our maker. Christ is not only the first to rise from death, Paul explains in the Epistle; He is also the foremost, the One to subject all things under Him. And so His decisions when judging on the Last Day cannot be questioned. First and foremost, then, today is a day to let God’s Word give us a correct perspective. This last Sunday of the Church Year is an opportunity to “make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise” (Psalm 95:2).

**Pre-service and Postlude Music** *by Jennifer Kirk*

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Invocation**

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✝}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

## Come, Thou Almighty King

1. 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.

2. Come, Thou incarnate Word,  
Gird on Thy mighty sword;  
Our prayer attend.  
Come and Thy people bless,  
and give Thy Word success,  
And let Thy righteousness  
On us descend.

3. Come, holy Comforter,  
Thy sacred witness bear  
In this glad hour!  
Thou, who almighty art,  
Now rule in every heart,  
And ne'er from us depart,  
Spirit of power.

4. To Thee great One in Three,  
Eternal praises be  
Hence evermore!  
Thy sovereign majesty  
may we in glory see,  
And to eternity  
Love and adore.

### Confession and Absolution

*Ezekiel 34:11; 1 Corinthians 15:27*

**P** Let us confess our unworthiness and ask His grace and mercy.

Through Ezekiel, God said that He would “search for My sheep and will seek them out.”

**C** **We confess that we have wandered away as erring sheep, preferring the pleasures of this world rather than the rich pastures You have provided. Forgive us, O Lord.**

**P** Paul wrote that “God has put all things in subjection under [Christ’s] feet.”

**C** **We confess that we have not always been loyal subjects of our Lord, but have made decisions based on our own thoughts and desires. Forgive us, O Lord.**

**P** Jesus foretold that He will judge people about how they treated others—the hungry, strangers, and prisoners.

**C** **We confess that we have not always sought to share Your love and meet the needs of the people around us. We cannot change without Your grace, mercy, and strength. Forgive us, O Lord.**

**P** Rejoice! The One who comes to judge is the same Jesus who is the one who gave His body and shed His blood for you on the cross. He is the first to rise from death, and by His grace we shall follow Him to His eternal kingdom. As a called and ordained servant of Christ and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

### Introit

*Psalms 39:4–5a, 7–8, 12; antiphon: 2 Peter 3:13 NIV*

In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth,  
**the home of righteousness.**

O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days;  
**let me know how fleeting I am!**

Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,

**and my lifetime is as nothing before you.**

And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?

**My hope is in you.**

Deliver me from all my transgressions.

**Do not make me the scorn of the fool!**

Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry; hold not your peace at my tears!

**For I am a sojourner with you, a guest, like all my fathers.**

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

In keeping with his promise we are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth,  
**the home of righteousness.**

## Salutation and Prayer of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**G** **And also with you.**

**P** Let us pray.

Eternal God, merciful Father, You have appointed Your Son as judge of the living and the dead.

**G** **Enable us to wait for the day of His return with our eyes fixed on the kingdom prepared for  
Your own from the foundation of the world;**

**P** through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**G** **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

*Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24*

<sup>11</sup>“For thus says the Lord GOD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. <sup>12</sup>As a shepherd seeks out his flock when he is among his sheep that have been scattered, so will I seek out my sheep, and I will rescue them from all places where they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. <sup>13</sup>And I 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 ravines, and in all the inhabited places of the country. <sup>14</sup>I will feed them with good pasture, and on the mountain heights of Israel shall be their grazing land. There they shall lie down in good grazing land, and on rich pasture they shall feed on the mountains of Israel. <sup>15</sup>I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares the Lord GOD. <sup>16</sup>I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. . . .

<sup>20</sup>“Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. <sup>21</sup>Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, <sup>22</sup>I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. <sup>23</sup>And I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. <sup>24</sup>And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them. I am the LORD; I have spoken.”

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**G** **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

*Psalm 95:1–7a; antiphon: v. 7a*

- L** For He is our God,  
**I** *and we are the people of His pasture,*  
**II** *and the sheep of His hand.*
- L** Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;  
**I** *let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!*  
**II** *Let us come into His presence with thanksgiving;*  
**C** **let us make a joyful noise to Him with songs of praise!**

- L** For the LORD is a great God,  
and a great King above all gods.  
**I** *In His hand are the depths of the earth;*  
**II** *the heights of the mountains are His also.*

- I** *The sea is His, for He made it,*  
**II** *and His hands formed the dry land.*

- L** Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!

- C** **For He is our God, and we are the people of His pasture, and the sheep of His hand.**

## Epistle

*1 Corinthians 15:20–28*

<sup>20</sup>But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. <sup>21</sup>For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. <sup>22</sup>For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. <sup>23</sup>But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. <sup>24</sup>Then comes the end, when he delivers the kingdom to God the Father after destroying every rule and every authority and power. <sup>25</sup>For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. <sup>26</sup>The last enemy to be destroyed is death. <sup>27</sup>For “God has put all things in subjection under his feet.” But when it says, “all things are put in subjection,” it is plain that he is excepted who put all things in subjection under him. <sup>28</sup>When all things are subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to him who put all things in subjection under him, that God may be all in all.

- L** This is the Word of the Lord.

- C** **Thanks be to God.**

## In Christ Alone

1. In Christ alone my hope is found  
He is my light my strength, my song  
This Cornerstone this solid Ground  
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm  
What heights of love what depths of peace  
When fears are stilled when strivings cease  
My Comforter my All in All  
Here in the love of Christ I stand

2. In Christ alone who took on flesh  
Fullness of God in helpless babe  
This gift of love and righteousness  
Scorned by the ones He came to save  
Till on that cross as Jesus died  
The wrath of God was satisfied  
For every sin on Him was laid  
Here in the death of Christ I live

3. There in the ground His body lay  
Light of the world by darkness slain  
Then bursting forth in glorious day  
Up from the grave He rose again  
And as He stands in victory  
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me  
For I am His and He is mine  
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

4. No guilt in life no fear in death  
This is the power of Christ in me  
From life's first cry to final breath  
Jesus commands my destiny  
No power of hell no scheme of man  
Can ever pluck me from His hand  
Till He returns or calls me home  
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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## Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made,  
being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made;  
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man;  
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried.  
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
who spoke by the prophets.

And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

## Verse

*Revelation 22:13*

**P** Alleluia. I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last,  
**C** the beginning and the end. Alleluia.

## Holy Gospel

*Matthew 25:31–46*

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty-fifth chapter. **C** **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>31</sup>[Jesus said:] "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on his glorious throne. <sup>32</sup>Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. <sup>33</sup>And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the King will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world. <sup>35</sup>For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me.' <sup>37</sup>Then the

righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? <sup>38</sup>And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? <sup>39</sup>And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' <sup>40</sup>And the King will answer them, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did it to one of the least of these my brothers, you did it to me.'

<sup>41</sup>"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Depart from me, you cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. <sup>42</sup>For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not clothe me, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' <sup>44</sup>Then they also will answer, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not minister to you?' <sup>45</sup>Then he will answer them, saying, 'Truly, I say to you, as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

📖 This is the Gospel of the Lord. 🙌 **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## Sermon – “Your Take Home Final – Allowing Christ to be King and Lord of All”

1. Take Home Final – Believers do have a take home final!
  - a. There can be no diving wall between – how we are in every place and situation, including what we do for a living – and Whom we live to serve.
  - b. If Jesus is not Lord ***of All***, He is not Lord at all.
2. Christ the King Sunday uses texts that demonstrate the Lordship of Christ... not the typical Lord and King of which the world thinks!
  - a. Jesus is the God of Great Reversals
  - b. He is the one person we encounter in our life who is hungry, who is thirsty, who is alone, who is alien, who is naked, who is sick, who is imprisoned... found in every fellow broken human we are to love.
3. When Jesus finally judges all nations, it is ***not*** how obediently we stand in awe and worship of Christ the King that will determine our accountability before the throne... you know... like just showing up to church, but leaving Jesus there...
4. Our “take home” exam answers are rooted in the Gospel that takes foothold in our souls... and it is based on Jesus’ own mission statement given to Believers... and it flows from Jesus’ own mission...
5. Jesus turned His mission statement into our take-home final... but there ***IS*** a time limit known only to God.
  - a. When we fail, as we live in daily repentance, God meets us exactly where we are with His unconditional love, forgiveness, and mercy.
  - b. We are not the sum of all our failures. Let God have the final say!
6. In the “Son of Man” judgment scenario, every action that we’ve done and do in our lives Jesus takes personally.
7. As we bring Jesus with us into every situation from regular worship to our daily living, loving and serving all people as He commands, these are the times Christ is enthroned as King.

**Offering – ONLINE GIVING** available at [www.RisenChrist.info](http://www.RisenChrist.info) – Whether you are a visitor or a member, please turn in a **Worship Card** so we may know whom the Lord has served with His Word.

## **Come Let Us Worship and Bow Down**

Come let us worship and bow down  
Let us kneel before the Lord  
Our God our Maker  
Come let us worship and bow down  
Let us kneel before the Lord  
Our God our Maker  
For He is our God  
And we are the people of His pasture  
And the sheep of His hand  
Just the sheep of His hand

Dave Doherty  
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## **Prayer of the Church**

**P** Let us pray for people here and around the world who are destitute, fearful of God’s wrath, shunned by society, unjustly accused, or dealing with issues of health.

As You have promised, Lord our God, seek out, we pray, those who, devoid of basic necessities, face today without homes, with few possessions, and an uncertain future.

**C** **For the sake of our Good Shepherd, lead them to the food, shelter, and security they desperately need.**

**P** With the Gospel in the hearts and on the lips of Christ’s Church, heavenly Father, enable our brothers and sisters to answer the spiritual thirst of people here and around the world.

**C** **Grant them faith that they may join us in singing praise to You, the rock of our salvation.**

**P** Many of the people we see each day are lonely strangers, gracious Lord; but their hopes and fears are known to You.

**C** **Increase our faith, Lord Jesus, that we may reach out to them with the news of Your resurrection and the Kingdom You so graciously offer to all. Guide the Church wherever people gather around Your Word for nourishment and strength.**

**P** Shower Your blessings, O Holy Spirit, on all whose vocations work for the common good—those who till the soil and tend flocks; those who prepare and distribute food, clothing, and shelter; those who maintain peace at home and abroad; those who are first to respond in emergencies; and those who treat illnesses of all sorts.

**C** **Guide them, Lord of all, to use the gifts You have given them, so that praise may resound to You, the Lord, our Maker.**

**P** Where people are forgotten, unjustly imprisoned, or oppressed in any way, O God, surround them with caring people intent on meeting their physical and spiritual needs.



**C** Use us to serve You and love them according to Your gracious plans for us all.

**P** Into Your hands we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting Your mercy for the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**C** Amen.

### Lift Up Your Hearts

**P** The Lord be with you    **C** And also with you

**P** The Lord be with you    **C** And also with you

**P** Lift up your hearts

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### *All Sing*

We lift them to the Lord  
Let us give thanks  
To the Lord our God  
It is right to give Him  
Thanks and praise

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

### The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: "Take, eat; this is My  $\text{†}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me."

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: "Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{†}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me."

## Proclamation of Christ

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

**C** **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.**

**P** O Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, in giving us Your body and blood to eat and to drink, You lead us to remember and confess Your holy cross and passion, Your blessed death, Your rest in the tomb, Your resurrection from the dead, Your ascension into heaven, and Your coming for the final judgment. So remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

## 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.**

## Pax Domini

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** **Amen.**

## Communion

### There Is a Redeemer



1 There is a Re - deem - er— Je - sus, God's own Son;  
2 Je - sus, my Re - deem - er, Name a - bove all names;  
3 When I stand in glo - ry, I will see His face;



Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Ho - ly One.  
Pre - cious Lamb of God, Mes-si - ah, Hope for sin - ners slain.  
There I'll serve my King for-ev - er In that ho - ly place.



Thank You, O my Fa - ther, For giv-ing us Your Son,



And leav - ing Your Spir-it Till the work on earth is done.

## You Are My King (Amazing Love)

I'm forgiven, because You were forsaken,  
I'm accepted, You were condemned.  
I'm alive and well, Your Spirit is within me,  
Because you died and rose again.

***CHORUS: Amazing love, how can it be  
That You my king would die for me?  
Amazing love, I know it's true;  
It's my joy to honor You  
In all I do, I honor You.***

***Bridge:*** You are my king, Jesus, You are my king! ***CHORUS***

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## Grace Flows Down

Amazing grace how sweet the sound  
Amazing love now flowing down  
From hands and feet that were nailed to the tree  
Grace flows down and covers me

***It covers me  
It covers me  
It covers me  
And covers me***

CCLI Song # 1223050  
David E. Bell | Louie Giglio | Rod Padgett  
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## Post-Communion Thanksgiving

- P** Let us pray.  
Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood.
- C** **Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end;**
- P** through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C** **Amen.**

## King of Kings

**1.** In the darkness we were waiting  
Without hope without light  
Till from Heaven You came running  
There was mercy in Your eyes  
To fulfil the law and prophets  
To a virgin came the Word  
From a throne of endless glory  
To a cradle in the dirt

**CHORUS: Praise the Father**  
***Praise the Son***  
***Praise the Spirit three in one***  
***God of Glory***  
***Majesty***  
***Praise forever to the King of kings***

2. To reveal the kingdom coming  
And to reconcile the lost  
To redeem the whole creation  
You did not despise the cross  
For even in Your suffering  
You saw to the other side  
Knowing this was our salvation  
Jesus for our sake You died

3. And the morning that You rose  
All of heaven held its breath  
Till that stone was moved for good  
For the Lamb had conquered death  
And the dead rose from their tombs  
And the angels stood in awe  
For the souls of all who'd come  
To the Father are restored

4. And the Church of Christ was born  
Then the Spirit lit the flame  
Now this Gospel truth of old  
Shall not kneel shall not faint  
By His blood and in His Name  
In His freedom I am free  
For the love of Jesus Christ  
Who has resurrected me **CHORUS**

CCLI Song # 7127647

Brooke Ligertwood | Jason Ingram | Scott Ligertwood

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## **Benediction and Dismissal**

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and  $\text{✠}$  give you peace.

**C** **Amen.**

**P** Go in peace as you serve the Lord. **C** **Thanks be to God.**

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