

A King Unlike Any Other

Christ the King Sunday

GRACE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH | Seward, Nebraska

November 20, 2022

THEME OF THE DAY: A KING UNLIKE ANY OTHER

How could a man with no official authority, no military might, and no loyal allies possibly be a king? Yet this is what Jesus claimed to be. And for this bold statement the religious “leaders” at that time roused the people against Jesus to the point that they called for his crucifixion. But in the unlikeliest of ways, this is how Jesus would show himself to be the king he truly is. Because in going to the cross he would suffer the punishment for the sins of world and win paradise in heaven for all who believe in him. For the thief on the cross and for those of us who see Jesus as the king who is now at God’s right hand, ruling over all things. Even when

Worship Leader
Organist/Pianist

Pastor Justin Wilkens
Karma Ridpath

Acknowledgments

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The Service, Setting One (page 154 in Christian Worship 21)

Hymn: 621 Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Stand

In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Confession

CW 154

If we claim to be without sin, we deceive ourselves and the truth is not in us.

**If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just
and will forgive us our sins
and purify us from all unrighteousness.**

Let us confess our sins to the Lord.

Holy God, gracious Father,

I am sinful by nature

and have sinned against you in my thoughts, words, and actions.

I have not loved you with my whole heart;

I have not loved others as I should.

I deserve your punishment both now and forever.

But Jesus, my Savior, paid for my sins

with his innocent suffering and death.

Trusting in him, I pray: God, have mercy on me, a sinner.

Silence for meditation and reflection

Our gracious Father in heaven has been merciful to us. He sent his only Son, Jesus Christ, who gave his life as the atoning sacrifice for the sins of the whole world. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

Lord, Have Mercy

In peace let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen.

Glory Be to God

CW 157



Glory be to God on high, and on earth peace, good will toward men.



We praise you, we bless you, we wor - ship you, we glorify you,



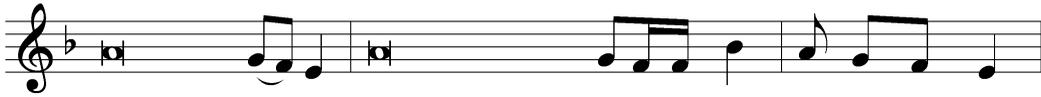
we give thanks to you, for your great glory, O Lord God, heav'n-ly King,



God the Fa-ther Al - mighty. O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Je-sus Christ;



O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sin of the world;



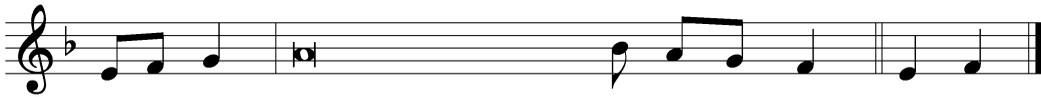
have mercy on us. You take away the sin of the world; re-ceive our prayer.



You sit at the right hand of God the Father; have mercy on us.



For you on-ly are holy; you on-ly are the Lord. You only, O Christ, with the



Ho - ly Spirit, are most high in the glory of God the Father. A - men.

THE WORD

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, by your victory you have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim you King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Be seated

First Reading

Jeremiah 23:1–6

Jeremiah speaks against the unfaithful work of the church leaders during his time, and he prophesies about the coming Good Shepherd who would rule over God's people out of perfect love and compassion.

The Righteous Branch

¹ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! declares the Lord.

² Therefore, this is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says about the shepherds who shepherd my people. You have scattered my flock. You have driven them away. You have not taken care of them, but I will certainly take care of you, because of the evil things you have done, declares the Lord. ³ I will gather what is left of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their pastures. They will be fruitful and multiply. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them. They will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing, declares the Lord.

⁵ Listen, the days are coming, declares the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, who will reign wisely as king and establish justice and righteousness on earth.

⁶ In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will dwell securely.

This is his name by which he will be called:

The Lord Our Righteousness.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm of the Day: 23A I Will Live in the House of the LORD

Second Reading

Colossians 1:13–20

Paul speaks about the reign of Christ and how he is the head of God's church who has redeemed all of God's people from their sins.

¹³ The Father rescued us from the domain of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of the Son he loves, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation, ¹⁶ for in him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, things seen and unseen, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and all things hold together in him.

³⁸ There was also an inscription written above him: "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹ One of the criminals hanging there was blaspheming him, saying, "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

⁴⁰ But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God, since you are under the same condemnation? ⁴¹ We are punished justly, for we are receiving what we deserve for what we have done, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom."

⁴³ Jesus said to him, "Amen I tell you: Today you will be with me in paradise."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

Be seated

Hymn of the Day: 531 The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns

Sermon

Stand

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Be seated

Prayer of the Church

Brief intercessory prayers may be added in a fitting place.

Lord Jesus Christ, blessed are you, the King who comes to set your people free.

Reign over us in your abundant mercy.

While we long for your final coming, we rejoice that you lengthen these end times so that many may hear of your saving work and believe.

Send your Spirit on us that we may use the gift of time to share our faith with others.

Lord and King, defend all who are imprisoned or insulted because of your name. Come to help those whose Christian faith is mocked as foolish or naïve, and rescue those who are straying from the faith.

Lead us to those who need help, guide us in our works of service, and strengthen us with a firm resolve to follow you in obedience.

Lord of the Church, develop in us a new awareness of the gifts you give us to use in our callings, that your kingdom of grace may flourish.

Bless and preserve Christian churches everywhere and raise up another generation of faithful workers.

Both in humiliation and glory you extended your loving hand to the weak and the hurting. Speak to those who are confused and wondering. Defend those who are oppressed and put down. Comfort those who are enduring pain or struggling with sadness. [Keep in your care... *here name the person and the cause of the petition.*] Abide with the aged who are alone as they die and protect pregnant mothers and their unborn children.

Move us to see your face in them, Lord Jesus and to help them as we serve you.

Mighty King, look with mercy on this land, its government, and all the kingdoms of the world. Relieve us from war, bloodshed, and rebellion.

Grant us wisdom as we deal with a changing economy. Provide for the unemployed and their families. Open the hearts of those who prosper to be generous and willing to share.

Hear us, Lord, as we pray in silence.

Silent prayer.

Coming King and Savior of the world, keep us faithful to the end as we watch and wait for your return.

Amen.

Offering

Offering Hymn: 620 O Worship the King

sts. 1–2

Lord's Prayer

**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 make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look on you with favor and + give you peace.

Amen.

Hymn: 753 My Worth Is Not in What I Own

Choir Sts. 1-2 with refrain; Congregation Sts. 3-5

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: 8:00 AM Bible Study, 8:45 AM Worship, 9:45 AM Fellowship and Sunday School

Sunday: 8:00 AM Bible Study, 8:45 AM Worship and Communion, 9:45 AM Fellowship and Sunday School

Christmas Decorating

On November 27th we will decorate Grace for the upcoming Christmas season. There will be snacks after church, a potluck lunch starting around 1:00-1:30, and a Christmas carol sing.

Thanksgiving Day Service

We will have our Thanksgiving Day service at 8:45PM.

Thrivent Food Shelf Challenge

Members of Grace are asked to provide items for a food drive from November 1 through November 27. The items can be left along the wall south of the bookcase in the fellowship hall. Items will be packed up on Sunday, November 27 to be delivered to Blue Valley in Seward the following week. Our goal is to collect 500 items and if we reach this goal, Thrivent will provide an additional \$500.00 to Blue Valley.

CONNECTION CARDS: Visitors or members with changes in contact information, please fill out a connection card online at www.graceseward.org on the member connect tab or scan this code.



Find us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/gracelutheranseward



Personal assisted listening devices are available.

Given to the Lord: Attendance: Sunday Bible Class 16, Sunday School 6, Worship 37 in person, Facebook Reached 35, Audio/YouTube 32. Offerings: Home 4,449.84, WELS 85.00, NELHS 25.00, Trinity 2,500.00. **To God be the glory!**

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