SERVICE OF PRAYER AND MISSION

ZION LUTHERAN GHURGH

STANDING STRONG + GROWING TOGETHER + REACHING OUT

Last Sunday Of The Church Year - Christ The King Sunday

November 22, 2020

AS WE GATHER

Today is the Last Sunday of the Church Year. This Sunday is traditionally filled with themes of Christ's roles as King and Judge. But consider these words from Psalm 95: "We are the people of His pasture and the sheep of His hand." We are God's chosen sheep. He is our Shepherd. We follow Him as He goes to seek the lost, bring back the stray, and bind up the injured.



PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

"Now Thank We All Our God" by Dallas Blair

David Garcia, organ; Raul Candelaria, trumpet

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTION TO WORSHIP

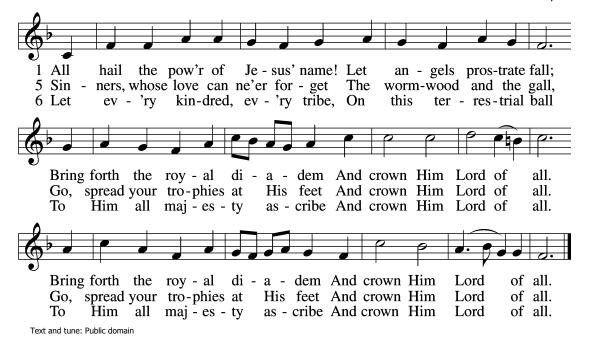
Pastor Stephen Heimer

MISSION PRAYER

Almighty God, Heavenly Father Your mercies are new to us each morning and your faithfulness reaches to eternity. Today You again invite us to celebrate Your gift of life in Christ and to pray for Your Church and world. We offer You new this day our lives, our thanks, and also the heartaches and hopes of the world; we bring before You the names and needs of our families and friends, our neighborhoods and our nation, our city and our world, Pour out Your Holy Spirit upon Your Church and upon this congregation that we boldly live the joy and healing power of Your Son's resurrection. In the precious Name of Jesus. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" v.1,5-6 Lutheran Service Book 549



INVOCATION AND BAPTISMAL REMEMBRANCE

The sign of the Holy Cross + may be made by all in remembrance and celebration of their baptism. In the name of the Father and of the ⅓ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen.

ADORATION Psalm 95:1–7a

- P Oh come, let us sing to the LORD
- let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- **P** Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
- let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
- **P** For the LORD is a great God,
- and a great King above all gods.
- **P** In his hand are the depths of the earth;
- **G** the heights of the mountains are his also.
- P The sea is his, for he made it,
- and his hands formed the dry land.
- P Oh come, let us worship and bow down; let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
- For he is our God, and we are the people of his pasture, and the sheep of his hand.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Indeed, our heavenly Father has called us to be His people. He has led us to green pastures and still waters. Yet, there have been times when we have treated our fellow sheep with disdain, when we have wandered away from our Shepherd. But our Good Shepherd does not abandon us, and we confess our sins before Him and one another.

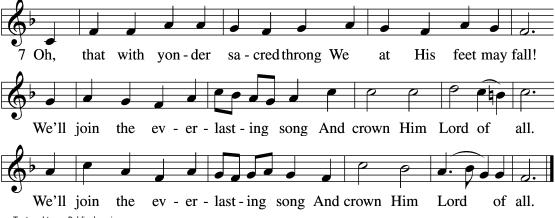
Silence for reflection

- P Heavenly Father,
- we confess that we have wandered away from You. We confess that we have acted shamefully toward our brothers and sisters in Christ. We have sinned in our thoughts, words, and actions. We have failed by our inactivity. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, O Lord, that we might follow You to the green pastures and still waters of everlasting life.
- P Our heavenly Father has heard Your confession and sent His only Son, Jesus, to be our Good Shepherd. Jesus searches for each one of His sheep. He brings back those who have strayed. He binds up the injured. He even lays down His life for the sheep. By Christ's death and resurrection, God forgives you all your sins. 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.
- Amen. We are sought by our Shepherd. We are forgiven in Christ.

ENTRANCE HYMN

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name" v.6-7 LSB 549



Psalm 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 be- | fore you.

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

My hope | is in you.

Deliver me from all my trans- | gressions.*

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 be- | ginning,* is now, and will be forever. | Amen.

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- Let us pray. Heavenly Father, You care for all people regardless of their wealth or heritage, and You have made us heirs of Your salvation. Strengthen us, that we care for the poor, weak, and lonely, and that all our neighbors may know Your gracious love; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- Amen.

READINGS FROM HOLY SCRIPTURE

OLD TESTAMENT LESSON

(God will search for His sheep.)

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

¹¹"For thus says the Lord GoD: Behold, I, I myself will search for my sheep and will seek them out. ¹²As 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. ¹³And 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. ¹⁴I 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. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I myself will make them lie down, declares 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, and the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them in justice. . . .

²⁰"Therefore, thus says the Lord GoD to them: Behold, I, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you push with side and shoulder, and thrust at all the weak with your horns, till you have scattered them abroad, ²²I will rescue my flock; they shall no longer be a prey. And I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³And I 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 am the LORD; I have spoken."

A This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE LESSON

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

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- Thanks be to God.

RESPONSE

- **L** Forever, O Lord, Your Word is firmly set in the heavens.
- Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.
- Blessed are those who hear the Word of God and keep it.
- Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.
- L Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit.
- Lord, I love the habitation of Your house and the place where Your glory dwells.

GOSPEL LESSON

(The separation of the sheep and the goats)

Matthew 25:31-46

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

³¹[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. ³²Before him will be gathered all the nations, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³And he will place the sheep on his right, but the goats on the left. ³⁴Then 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. ³⁵For I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you clothed me, I was sick and you visited me, I was in prison and you came to me. '37Then the righteous will answer him, saying, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you drink? ³⁸And when did we see you a stranger and welcome you, or naked and clothe you? ³⁹And when did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?' ⁴⁰And 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.' 41"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. ⁴²For I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me no drink, ⁴³I 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.' 44Then 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?' ⁴⁵Then 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.' 46And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

- **P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- Praise to You, O Christ.

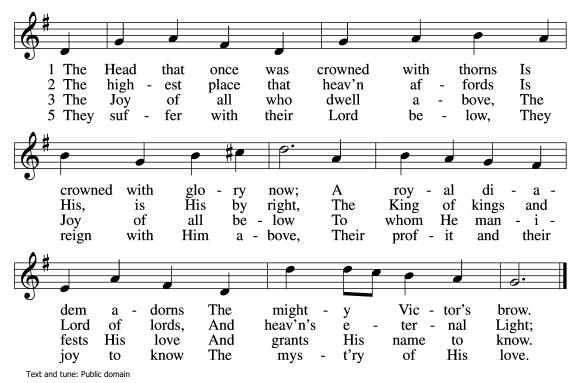
APOSTLES' CREED

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

And 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY



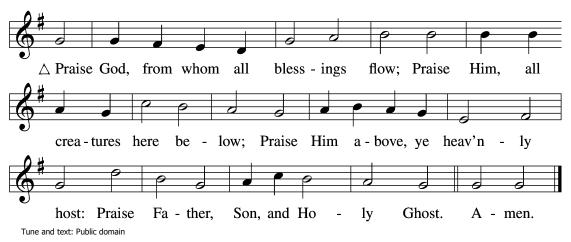
SERMON "Christ Will Lift You Up"

OFFERING

Bruce Nehring, *piano*

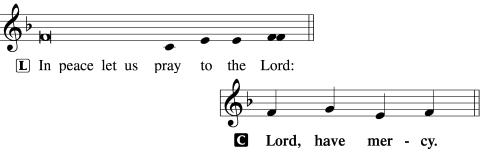
OFFERTORY

"Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow" LSB 805



PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

The congregation's response may begin just as the leader's petition ends so that the word "Lord" is sung simultaneously by both leader and congregation.



- For the peace from above and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord:
- **■** Lord, have mercy.
- E 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.
- L For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord:
- **■** Lord, have mercy.
- For all pastors in Christ, for all servants of the Church, and for all the people, let us pray to the Lord:
- **■** Lord, have mercy.
- For our president, for all public servants, for the government and those who protect us, that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray to the Lord:
- **■** Lord, have mercy.
- For those who work to bring peace, justice, health, and protection in this and every place, let us pray to the Lord:
- **■** Lord, have mercy.
- For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray to the Lord:
- **■** Lord, have mercy.
- For favorable weather, for an abundance of the fruits of the earth, and for peaceful times, let us pray to the Lord:
- **C** Lord, have mercy.
- **L** For our deliverance from all affliction, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray to the Lord:
- **■** Lord, have mercy.
- For . . . [additional bids for prayer may be inserted here] . . . let us pray to the Lord:
- **⚠** Lord, have mercy.

The prayers then continue:



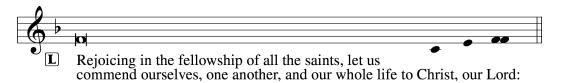
before us and are with Christ, let us give thanks to the Lord:





Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord.

Silence for individual prayer may follow.





COLLECT FOR THE MORNING

Almighty God, Your mercies are new every morning and You graciously provide for all our needs of body and soul. Grant us Your Holy Spirit that we may acknowledge Your goodness, give thanks for Your benefits, and serve You in willing obedience all our days; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

LORD'S PRAYER

P 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.

MORNING PRAYER (Martin Luther)

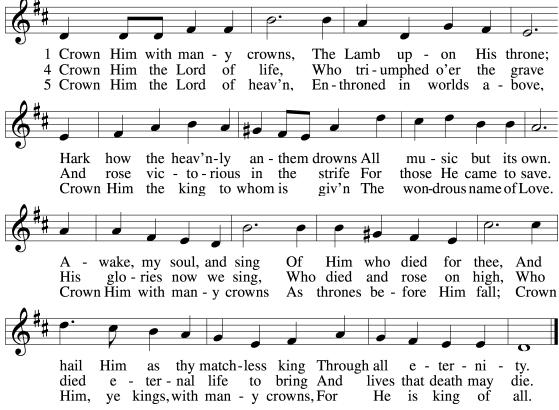
I thank You, my heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ, Your dear Son, that You have kept me this night from all harm and danger; and I pray that You would keep me this day also from sin and every evil, that all my doings and life may please You. For into Your hands I commend myself, my body and soul, and all things. Let Your holy angel be with me, that the evil foe may have no power over me.

BLESSING

- P Go out into the world in Christ's peace; have courage; hold to what is good; return no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the suffering; honor all people; love and serve the Lord, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. And Almighty God the Father, the + Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you. (Romans 12:9-12)
- C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Crown Him With Many Crowns" v.1,4-5 LSB 525



Tune and text: Public domain

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

"Marche Joyesue" by John Head

David Garcia, *organ*; Raul Candelaria, *trumpet*

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Offerings

You can contribute offerings using three main methods:

Online donations: You can make a secure contribution from your credit card or bank account at www.zionelpaso.org. We use Vanco, a reputable agency which specializes in donations to churches and nonprofits. Your contribution can be set up to be recurring, such as each week or month, or as a one-time donation.

Mail donations: Mail your check to the Zion church office at 2808 Pershing Drive, El Paso, TX 79903. The mail is checked every day.

Donations via an app: If you prefer using your phone or tablet, you can download the Vanco Give Plus app. You can easily set up an account and donation through the app.

Your offerings and support are crucial to our congregation and we are very grateful for your support!

Altar Flowers today are given to the glory of God in thanks for His countless blessings!

Come help decorate the Zion sanctuary for Advent and Christmas on Saturday, November 28th, at 10:00am. If you have any questions, please call the church office at (915) 566-4667. We look forward to seeing you there!

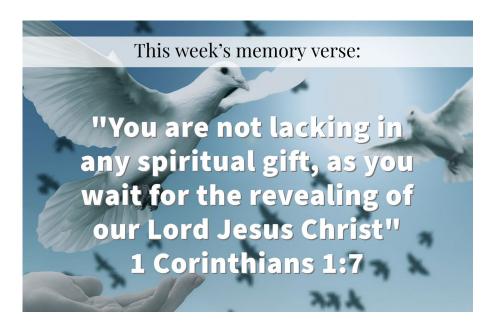
2021 Offering Envelopes have arrived and are available to be picked up at the Zion office! The office is open from 10:00am to 3:00pm, Tuesday through Friday. If you have any questions or if you would like to have your envelopes delivered to you, please call the church at (915) 566-4667.

Collecting Toys for YLM's Christmas Gift Distribution: LWML will be collecting toys (in the \$10 to \$12 price range) to donate to YLM for their annual Christmas Gift Distribution, this year entitled, "2020 Joy Distribution". We are inviting the members and friends of Zion to join us, once again, in this Outreach project. A Thrivent Action Grant

is being applied for to help us kickstart the project; we will be collecting toys until Sunday, November 29, 2020. You may bring your donations to church and place them, unwrapped, in the designated bins in the Auditorium or you may call Lydia Williams, if you would like to have a member of LWML pick up your donation at your home. In addition, if you are not able to go out and shop/purchase a toy, contact Lydia, and a member of LWML will be happy to do that for you. Thanks, in advance, for your support in this special outreach to families in need! (This will be the only Christmas toy collection/outreach at Zion this year; because of the pandemic, Zion will not be participating in Angel Tree this year. If you were planning to buy an Angel Tree gift, you are asked to please consider contributing to this collection for YLM's toy distribution. Thanks!!)

Eastside Bible Study group will be taking a break during the Season of Advent and will resume meeting on Tuesday, January 12, 2021, at 7:00 p.m., on Zoom. We will be studying the CPH series: "Faith on the Edge: Science and the Savior". New members are always welcome and encouraged to join us! For more information, contact the church office or Lydia Williams.

This Week's Memory Verse



Join Any Zion Bible Study from Home!

We are working to continue being a channel for the Holy Spirit through God's word, and to help keep our Zion family connected.

All are invited, please contact the Zion office for login information or questions. Never attended an online meeting? No problem! Call 915.566.4667 for assistance.

THIS WEEK AT ZION

11/23	Monday	7:00 PM	Berea Bible Study
11/25	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Thanksgiving Eve Communion Service
11/27	Friday	10:00 AM	"Faith That Sees Through the Culture" Bible Study
11/29	Sunday	9:15 AM	"Households of Faith" Bible Study
	·	10:30 AM	Worship Service

ZION STEWARDSHIP OF + TIME + TALENT + TREASURE

Preacher & Liturgist: Pastor Stephen Heimer

Organist: David Garcia **Elders:** Jim Smith

Reader:Gabryelle RodriguezAcolyte:Gabryelle RodriguezCamera Operator:Jaden HeimerSound Director:Brenna RodriguezOffering Counter:Sharon Amastae