



As We Gather Last Sunday of the Church Year Nov. 24,2024

The Last Sunday of the Church Year is about the last things, the day of judgment when Jesus Christ “will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,” Christ, “whose kingdom will have no end” (Nicene Creed). Christ is the king not only over all the ancient nations of the world but also over our own! With great and glad celebration, therefore, we gather to rejoice over our assurance that Jesus Christ, the King of kings, rules ultimately over all things, always for our good, our healing, our salvation, and our destiny in the day of resurrection.

Mesquite Lutheran Church & Childcare Center

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Please meet with an usher for prayer requests.

Ask us about Associate Memberships for Lutherans who are part-time residents.

A Gentle Reminder to turn off cell phones and hold any applause for acknowledgements during the announcements. Thank You.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP & HOLY COMMUNION



As Lutheran Christians, we believe that our Lord's Body and Blood are truly present (not symbolic) in the Bread and Wine and received by all who attend. Since our Lord reminds us that thoughtless or faithless reception of the Sacrament can incur His judgment, all are encouraged to examine themselves that they may receive it worthily. (1 Corinthians 11:27-32)

Please use the following questions and LSB p. 329 as a personal guide before partaking of this Holy Sacrament:

- *Do I renounce sin, Satan and my own flesh, and seek true forgiveness and reconciliation with God and my neighbor?**
- *Do I believe that Jesus Christ is my Savior from sin, death, and the power of the devil?**
- *Do I believe that Christ's own words, this is my body and this is my blood shed for you for the forgiveness of sins (Mt. 26:28), mean exactly what they say for us today?**
- *Do I earnestly desire to live a Godly life by the power of the Holy Spirit and in thanksgiving to Christ?**

Because attendance at Communion is also a testimony to this faith in the Triune God confessed and taught here, and to unity in belief as brothers and sisters in Christ (1 Corinthians 10:16-17), we ask that any visitors not yet instructed, or who hold a confession differing from that of this congregation, and who desire to receive the Sacrament introduce themselves to the Pastor or Elder beforehand if possible.

Please Note

An invitation for children not confirmed in the Lutheran church to come and receive a blessing at the altar.

We offer a traditional communion wafer,
Off-White Color Wafers are Gluten Free.

While communing, please point to the bread meeting your preference.
Clear Color Wine is Alcohol Free

PRELUDE
WELCOME

PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN #578 “Thy Strong Word”

INVOCATION

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 93:1; 95:6*

- P** The LORD reigns; He is robed in majesty;
C **the LORD is robed; He has put on strength as His belt.**
P Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
C **let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION *John 18:37*

- P** Jesus said, “Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice.” Today we kneel humbly before Him, our king, confessing the truth that we have sinned against our creator’s clear commands. Let us make our heartfelt petition for mercy, forgiveness, and salvation.
- C** **Most merciful Lord, whose majesty has been shown to all nations by Your triumph over all sin and death on Your glorious cross, from Your exalted throne at the right hand of the Father You live and reign over all creation. Receive our humble plea for mercy, life, and forgiveness of our sin, and grant to us Your enlivening grace by speaking Your liberating word of truth.**
- P** Jesus said, “Everyone who is of the truth listens to My voice.” Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C** **Amen.**

WORD

KYRIE

- P** In the peace won for us on the cross, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For the peace of a world that does not know Him, for the well-being of the Church whose head He is, and for the unity of all who ask Him to remember them, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** For this holy house and for all who, having seen in Jesus' sacrifice the love of the invisible God revealed, respond here in worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.
- C** **Lord, have mercy.**
- P** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.
- C** **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE "This Is The Feast" *LSB 155*

This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us free to be people of God. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation: Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia. This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

SALUTATION

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

PRAYER OF THE DAY

- P** Let us pray.
Lord Jesus Christ, so govern our hearts and minds by Your Holy Spirit that, ever mindful of Your glorious return, we may persevere in both faith and holiness of

living; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING **Isaiah 51:4–6**

⁴“Give attention to me, my people, and give ear to me, my nation; for a law will go out from me, and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples. ⁵My righteousness draws near, my salvation has gone out, and my arms will judge the peoples; the coastlands hope for me, and for my arm they wait. ⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens, and look at the earth beneath; for the heavens vanish like smoke, the earth will wear out like a garment, and they who dwell in it will die in like manner; but my salvation will be forever, and my righteousness will never be dismayed.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

PSALM *Psalms 93*

P The LORD reigns; he is robed in majesty;

C the LORD is robed; he has put on strength as his belt.

P Yes, the world is established;

C it shall never be moved.

P Your throne is established from of old;

C you are from everlasting.

P The floods have lifted up, O LORD,

C the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring.

P Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea,

C the LORD on high is mighty!

P Your decrees are very trustworthy;

C holiness befits your house, O LORD, forevermore.

EPISTLE READING **Jude 20–25**

“But you, beloved, build yourselves up in your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit; keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. And have mercy on those who doubt; save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh. Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus

Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.”

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

VERSE *Revelation 22:13*

P Alleluia, alleluia!

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

HOLY GOSPEL **Mark 13:24–37**

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the thirteenth chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁴Jesus said: “In those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. ³²“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning— ³⁶lest he come suddenly and find you asleep.

³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

HYMN OF THE DAY **#525 “Crown Him with Many Crowns”**

SERMON “A Mysterious Certainty” Mark 13:24-37

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 of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Let us pray. Almighty and eternal God, Lord and king of all creation, . . . Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
P [*Petitions...*] Lord, in Your mercy,
C hear our prayer.
P Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
C Amen.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *LSB 805*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. men.

(Text: Thomas Ken, 1637–1711 Text: Public domain)

SACRAMENT

PREFACE

- P** The Lord be with you.
C **And also with you.**
P Lift up your hearts.
C **We lift them to the Lord.**
P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

PROPER PREFACE

- P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth, who loved us and freed us from our sins by His blood and made us a kingdom, priests to His God and Father. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

SANCTUS *LSB 178*

- C** **Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might:
Heav'n 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.**

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.

WORDS OF OUR LORD “Remember Me” by Martin Nystrom, Gerrit Gustafson

P (*sung*) “On the night ... This is My blood poured out for you and as you drink it remember Me.”

C (*sung*) **“So we thank You for the wine and for the bread;
For we see the life You gave And the blood you shed.
And we remember Your wondrous love
You gave your body You shed Your blood
And we remember Your wondrous love
You gave your body You shed your blood.”**

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LORD'S PRAYER

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:

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.

AGNUS DEI *LSB 163*

C **Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.**

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

#621 Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence #537 Beautiful Savior
#804 O Worship the King #709 The King of Love My Shepherd Is

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

C Amen.

BENEDICTION

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 ✠ give you peace.

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN # 549 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

+ + + + +
Altar flowers today are given by JoAnne Arney

Reader Today: Steve Raddatz Attendance Last Sunday: 98

PRAYER LIST: Judy Duncker, surg. Tues.

WEEKLY CALENDAR

Mon. Nov. 25 10:00 am Women's Bible Study
Mon. Nov. 25 1:00 pm Men's Bible Study
Tue. Nov. 26 10:30 am Preschool Chapel
Wed. Nov. 27 4:00 pm **THANKSGIVING SERVICE**

Sun. Dec. 1 8:30 a.m. Bible Study; 10:00 a.m. Worship; 11:00 a.m. Fellowship.
Sun. Dec. 1 11:30 a.m. OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS NATIVITY SETUP
Sun. Dec. 1 3:00 p.m. Small Group Gathering – MLC Fellowship Hall

THE CHILDCARE ANGEL TREE is up in the narthex. Please consider taking a tag from the tree and purchasing a Christmas gift (\$25 limit) for one of our childcare children. When you take a tag please also **sign your name on the list that is on the table.** Gifts need to be returned to the church by **December 15, wrapped with the tag attached.** Thank you for participating in this ministry. If you have any questions, please contact Maureen Smith at 630.301.0514.

ADVENT MID-WEEK SERVICES will be on **Wednesdays at 12:00 noon,** with a soup luncheon following in the fellowship hall. There is a sign-up sheet on the table in the narthex. There will be three Wednesday services and lunches, Dec. 4, 11 and 18.

ALL ARE WELCOME to join us for **BIBLE STUDY AND FELLOWSHIP,** whether you are a couple or a single person. We meet the 1st and 3rd Sundays at 3:00 pm in the fellowship hall. We are currently studying the book of James. If interested, please contact Dave or Jan Hinrichsen. Dave - 402-699-3543 Jan – 402-699-4744.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGE: WED. DEC. 4th – BREAKFAST AT EUREKA Mason Street Courtyard. We are switching from Casa Café to meeting at the Eureka Mason Street Grill at 8:00 a.m. on the first Wednesday of each month.

HELPING HANDS ministry at MLC coordinates a few meals to be delivered to those in temporary need because of illness or recovery from surgery/hospitalization. If you find yourself with such need, place your name and number on a card in the Helping Hands box on the table in the narthex or contact Jan Hinrichsen at 402-699-4744. Volunteers willing to help out and provide a meal as needed can contact Jan.

BIRTHDAYS

Nov. 25 Kay McPhail	Dec. 1 Ann Scott	Dec. 1 Harold Sersland
Dec. 3 Gayle Malwitz	Dec. 5 Christine Fourman	Dec. 8 Wendy Fullmer
Dec. 9 Lori Gnacinski	Dec. 17 Crystal Camara	Dec. 18 Rita Owens
Dec. 25 Diane Herman		

ANNIVERSARIES

Nov.25 Harold & CC Sersland
Dec. 18 Scott & Sheri Asay
Dec. 28 Ernie & Judy Duncker

Dec. 12 David & Lori Gnacinski
Dec. 23 Christine & Ed Fourman

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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