

St. John Lutheran Church ELCA Waseca, MN

Sunday, November 22, 2020

Christ the King



GATHERING

Introduction

Our first lesson from Ephesians clearly states that our salvation is a gift of God's grace, not something we earn by virtue of our good works, and is received by faith – the simple acknowledgement that Jesus is our merciful ruler. And yet, our risen Jesus calls us to good works for the sake of our neighbor. In our gospel parable of the final judgment, those who acknowledge Jesus as their merciful ruler are those who minister to the poor, hungry, naked, sick, imprisoned or the estranged. They are surprised to learn that, in doing this, they have ministered to the risen Jesus himself. Wherever deeds of love and mercy are needed, Jesus is present. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Jesus and his victory over death, yet we await the final day when his kingdom will fully come. Acknowledging Jesus as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

Welcome and Announcement

Ministry Moment **WELCA**

(please stand)

Call to Worship (*Psalm 100*)

P *Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.*

C **Worship the Lord with gladness; come into his presence with singing.**

P *Know that the Lord is God. It is he that made us, and we are his;*

C **we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.**

P *Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise.*

C **Give thanks to him, bless his name.**

P *For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever,*

C **and his faithfulness to all generations.**

Opening Hymn: #123 Shine, Jesus, shine

~Refrain~

***Shine, Jesus, shine, fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.***

***Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your Word, Lord, and let there be light!***

*1. Lord the light of your love is shining, in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us, set us free by the truth you now bring us.*

Shine on me, shine on me:

~Refrain~

*2. As we gaze on your kingly bright ness, so our faces display your likeness,
Every changing from glory to glory, mirrored here, may our live tell your story.*

Shine on me, shine on me:

~Refrain~

Prayer of the Day

P: The Lord be with you!

C: And also with you!

P: Let us pray,

C 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.

Hymn of Praise: #70 I will call upon the Lord (2 times)

I will call upon the Lord who is worthy to be praised.

So shall I be saved from my enemies. I will call upon the Lord.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock, and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

The Lord liveth, and blessed be the Rock and let the God of my salvation be exalted.

(please be seated)

Bible project to Fourth Graders

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

First Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

While we were dead in our sinfulness, God acted to make us alive as a gift of grace in Christ Jesus. We are saved not by what we do but by grace through faith. Thus our good works are really a reflection of God's grace at work in our lives.

¹You were dead through the trespasses and sins ²in which you once lived, following the course of this world, following the ruler of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work among those who are disobedient. ³All of us once lived among them in the passions of our flesh, following the desires of flesh and senses, and we were by nature children of wrath, like everyone else. ⁴But God, who is rich in mercy, out of the great love with which he loved us ⁵even when we were dead through our trespasses, made us alive together with Christ—by grace you have been saved—⁶and raised us up with him and seated us with him in the heavenly places in Christ Jesus, ⁷so that in the ages to come he might show the immeasurable riches of his grace in kindness toward us in Christ Jesus. ⁸For by grace you have been saved through faith, and this is not your own doing; it is the gift of God—⁹not the result of works, so that no one may boast. ¹⁰For we are what he has made us, created in Christ Jesus for good works, which God prepared beforehand to be our way of life.

R The Word of God, word of life.

C Thanks be to God.

(please stand)

Gospel Acclamation #7 Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go?

Alleluia, Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia, alleluia.

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P *The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the twenty fifth chapter.*

C Glory to you, O Lord.

Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46

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.”

P *The Gospel of the Lord.*

C Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated)

Hymn: (purple) #25 By grace we have been saved

1. *By grace we have been saved through faith and not by keeping law.
God's saints believed by what they heard and not by what they saw.*

~Refrain~

***Oh, how I love Jesus! Oh, how I love Jesus!
Oh, how I love Jesus, because he first loved me!***

2. *For all have sinned and fallen short. God's plan, not one obeyed.
Christ has for all fulfilled the law. Believe, confess, be saved.*

~Refrain~

3. *God gave to earth a perfect love through Jesus on the cross.
While we were foes, Christ died for us. We gained by God's own loss.*

~Refrain~

4. *We know the wage of sin is death; thank God, we shall revive.
For just as Jesus rose again, we too are made alive.*

~Refrain~

5. *Set free, we now have peace with God. Salvation is secured.
How beautiful the feet of those who share this gospel word.*

~Refrain~

Message

Living UNDER God's Grace

Pastor John Omans

Message Song

#53 Great is the Lord (2 times)

*Great is the Lord, he is holy and just, by his power we trust in his love.
Great is the Lord, he is faithful and true, by his mercy he proves he is love.
Great is the Lord, and worthy of glory. Great is the Lord, and worthy of praise.
Great is the Lord, now lift up your voice, now lift up your voice:
Great is the Lord! Great is the Lord!*

(Please Stand)

Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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.

The Prayers of the Church

Hymn #178 Hear our Prayer

*Hear our prayer, hear our prayer, Lord make us whole; peace to all people,
hope for each soul. God of grace, in this place, hear now our prayer.*

The Peace

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

P Share a greeting of Christ's peace with one another.

(We share Christ's Peace)

(please be seated)

Offering Invitation (Offering plates are located at the front of our worship space on either side.
Thank-offering envelopes may also be included)

Stewardship Minute

Today, we give thanks for musicians who enhance our worship. Those who accompany us with keyboard and guitar and other instruments. Those who direct choirs, both adults and children. Those who sing. Those who hum along. Those who clap or play percussion or rhythm instruments. Those who lead up front, those who participate from the pews, and those who worship and sing at home. To all of you, thank you for the sharing of your time, talents, voices, hands, hearts, and love! We are truly blessed!

Offering Prayer

P: Let us pray together:

C: Merciful God, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first give us – ourselves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Lord's Prayer

P Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

C Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

P: May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us be loved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad! The blessing of God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you today and always.

C: Amen.

(please stand

Sending Song

Blessed Be Your Name

*Blessed be Your name in the land that is plentiful,
where Your streams of abundance flow, blessed be Your name.*

*Blessed Be Your name, when I'm found in the desert place
though I walk through the through the wilderness, blessed be Your name.*

*Every blessing You pour out, I'll turn back to praise
when the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say,
"Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name,
blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious name."*

*Blessed be Your name, when the sun's shining down on me,
when the world's "all as it should be." Blessed be Your name.
Blessed be Your name. On the road marked with suffering,
though there's pain in the offering, blessed be You name.*

*Every blessing You pour out, I'll turn back to praise.
When the darkness closes in, Lord, still I will say,
"Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious name.*

*You give and take away, You give and take away.
My heart will choose to say, "Lord, blessed by your name" (Repeat...both of these lines)*

*Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your name.
Blessed be the name of the Lord, blessed be Your glorious name.*

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SENDING

P: Beloved of God, go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Postlude

PLEASE WAIT FOR USHERS TO EXIT YOU OUT OF PEWS.

Leaders in the Service

Pastor: John Omans

Organist: Jan Macklay

Acolyte: Mia Mitchell

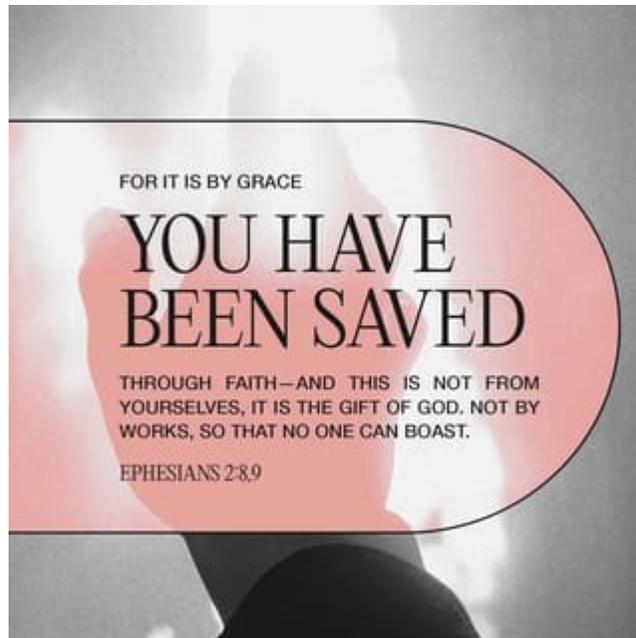
Reader: Linda Sandborg

Ushers: Myra Battenfeld, Linda Sandborg

Council Person: Gary Conrath

Videographer: Dennis Sommers

Thank you to all these members of St. John for offering their time and talents.



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