



“Return of the King”

Sunday, November 21, 2021 9:00AM

Worship Service

AS WE GATHER

The Last Sunday of the Church Year is here as we prepare to celebrate the return of Christ our King. When will it be? How will we know so that we are ready? There are the signs in nature, the sight of the Son of Man, and the angels. For these things, we keep an eye on the sky while we watch and wait, living our lives under God’s grace as His righteousness draws near.

PREPARATION

OPENING HYMN

“O Worship the King”

LSB 804

- 1 O worship the King,
all-glorious above.
O gratefully sing
His pow’r and His love;
Our shield and defender,
the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor
and girded with praise.
- 2 O tell of His might,
O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light,
whose canopy space;
His chariots of wrath
the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path
on the wings of the storm.
- 3 This earth, with its store
of wonders untold,
Almighty, Thy pow’r
hath founded of old,
Established it fast
by a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast,
like a mantle, the sea.
- 4 Thy bountiful care
what tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air,
it shines in the light,
It streams from the hills,
it descends to the plain,
And sweetly distills
in the dew and the rain.

5 Frail children of dust
and feeble as frail,
In Thee do we trust,
nor find Thee to fail.
Thy mercies, how tender,
how firm to the end,
Our maker, defender,
redeemer, and friend!

6 O measureless Might,
ineffable Love,
While angels delight
to hymn Thee above,
Thy humbler creation,
though feeble their lays,
With true adoration
shall sing to Thy praise.

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Stand

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES

Isaiah 51:4, 6; Psalm 39:7; 93:2, 5; Mark 13:33

P 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.

C And now, O Lord, for what do I wait? My hope is in You.

P Lift 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.

C Your throne is established from of old; You are from everlasting.

P Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits Your house, O LORD, forevermore.

C Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Luke 23:42; Philippians 1:6

P As we live in the last days, waiting for Jesus to return, we are called to remember His promises and that we are His people. Yet, sometimes we forget what He has asked us to do. As God's beloved, we are called to build ourselves up in our most holy faith.

C Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect being built up by Your Word and Spirit. Forgive us and remember us.

P As God's beloved, we are urged to pray in the Holy Spirit.

C Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect to converse with You in prayer and to guide our prayer life according to Your Word and Your will. Forgive us and remember us.

P As God's beloved, we are urged to keep ourselves in the love of God.

C Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect to remember our Baptism. Forgive us and remember us.

- P** As God's beloved, we are urged to wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.
- C** **Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect to embrace the mercy that is ours in You as we look forward to Your return. Forgive us and remember us.**
- P** As God's beloved, we are urged to have mercy on those who doubt.
- C** **Lord Jesus, we confess that we fail to love others as You have first loved us. Forgive us and remember us.**
- P** As God's beloved, we are urged to share our faith with others.
- C** **Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect opportunities to share Your saving grace with others. Forgive us and remember us.**

Silence for private confession

- P** As Jesus was on the cross, the thief next to Him asked, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." As Jesus remembered the thief, He remembers you are His beloved child, and He remembers your sin no more. As a called and ordained servant of Jesus the 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.
- C** **Amen.**
- P** And I am sure of this, that He who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ.
- C** **Amen. Thanks be to God!**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT

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

- P** We are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.
- C** **O LORD, make me know my end and what is the measure of my days;**
- P** let me know how fleeting I am!
- C** **Behold, you have made my days a few handbreadths,**
- P** and my lifetime is as nothing before you.
- C** **And now, O Lord, for what do I wait?**
- P** My hope is in you.
- C** **Deliver me from all my transgressions.**
- P** Do not make me the scorn of the fool!
- C** **Hear my prayer, O LORD, and give ear to my cry;**
- P** hold not your peace at my tears!
- C** **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.**
- P** We are looking forward to a new heaven and a new earth, the home of righteousness.

KYRIE

LSB 168

P In peace let us pray to the Lord.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

P 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.

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Lord, have mercy.

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

C Amen.

THIS IS THE FEAST

LSB 171

P This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.

C Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,
whose blood set us free to be people of God.
Power and riches and wisdom and strength
and honor and blessing and glory are His.
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia.
Sing with all the people of God,
and join in the hymn of all creation:
Blessing and honor and glory and might
be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen.
This is the feast of victory for our God,
for the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign.
Alleluia, alleluia.

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P Let us pray.

Lord God,

C You reign, robed in majesty over all that was, is, and will be. You are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. As we wait for Your triumphant return, keep us steadfast in the one true faith and lead us to live lives that reflect Your presence so that You may work through us as You save others by snatching them from the fire;

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.

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

Psalm 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; it shall never be moved.
C Your throne is established from of old; You are from everlasting.

P The floods have lifted up, O Lord,
C the floods have lifted up their voice;

P the floods lift up their roaring.
C Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the Lord on high is mighty!

P Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits Your house, O Lord, forevermore.

EPISTLE

Jude 20–25

²⁰But you, beloved, build yourselves up in your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit; ²¹keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. ²²And have mercy on those who doubt; ²³save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

²⁴Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, ²⁵to 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.

Stand

VERSE

Revelation 22:13

P Alleluia.

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

P Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 13:24–37

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

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

²⁴[Jesus 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.**

Sit

HYMN of the DAY

“The Day is Surely Drawing Near”

LSB 508

- 1 The day is surely drawing near
When Jesus, God’s anointed,
In all His power shall appear
As judge whom God appointed.
Then fright shall banish idle mirth,
And flames on flames shall ravage earth
As Scripture long has warned us.
- 2 The final trumpet then shall sound
And all the earth be shaken,
And all who rest beneath the ground
Shall from their sleep awaken.
But all who live will in that hour,
By God’s almighty, boundless pow’r,
Be changed at His commanding.
- 3 The books are opened then to all,
A record truly telling
What each has done, both great and small,
When he on earth was dwelling,
And ev’ry heart be clearly seen,

And all be known as they have been
In thoughts and words and actions.

4 Then woe to those who scorned the Lord
And sought but carnal pleasures,
Who here despised His precious Word
And loved their earthly treasures!
With shame and trembling they will stand
And at the judge's stern command
To Satan be delivered.

5 My Savior paid the debt I owe
And for my sin was smitten;
Within the Book of Life I know
My name has now been written.
I will not doubt, for I am free,
And Satan cannot threaten me;
There is no condemnation!

6 May Christ our intercessor be
And through His blood and merit
Read from His book that we are free
With all who life inherit.
Then we shall see Him face to face,
With all His saints in that blest place
Which He has purchased for us.

7 O Jesus Christ, do not delay,
But hasten our salvation;
We often tremble on our way
In fear and tribulation.
O hear and grant our fervent plea:
Come, mighty judge, and set us free
From death and ev'ry evil.

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SERMON

"Stay Awake!"

Mark 13:37

Stand

NICENE CREED

**☩ 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 for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Lord Jesus, You reign, robed in majesty. Keep us awake, alert, and blameless as we wait for Your return so we may join You in Your kingdom. Your salvation will be forever,

C and Your righteousness will never be dismayed.

P As we make our pilgrimage through this world, we are attacked in heart, soul, strength, and mind. We remember those among us who are struggling, [*especially . . .*], and we place them in Your healing hands. Your salvation will be forever,

C and Your righteousness will never be dismayed.

P You are the Lord of all and the ruler above all rulers. Give wisdom to those who govern our country. Guide and protect those who serve as first responders in our communities. Your salvation will be forever,

C and Your righteousness will never be dismayed.

P As You have saved us and brought us to faith in You, work Your saving work through us and all of Your missionary people around the globe so others experience Your mercy. Your salvation will be forever,

C and Your righteousness will never be dismayed. Amen.

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, Lord God, King of the universe, for You are the ruler of all things and are enthroned in majesty. As we lift our eyes to the heavens, we are reminded that You came to earth in the person of Your Son, Jesus, who came to give us life to the fullest through His perfect life, death, and resurrection. As we watch and wait for His return, we thank You for Your Spirit, who calls us by the Gospel, enlightens us with His gifts, makes us holy, and keeps us in the one true faith. 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, the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end, for You have had mercy on us and given Yourself so that whoever believes in You will not perish but have life everlasting with You in Your kingdom.

In Your righteous judgment, You condemned Adam and Eve's sin and have rightly judged their rebellious children. Yet, in Your great mercy, You have promised salvation through the sacrifice of Your life on the cross and Your glorious resurrection.

Thank You for the Table You have set for us with the very body and blood of Jesus, the Christ. Give us Your Holy Spirit, that we may faithfully enjoy the fruits of His labors and be presented blameless before the presence of Your 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.

- 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 ∇ 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 ∇ 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.

AGNUS DEI

LSB 180

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, grant us peace.

Sit

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“O Lord, We Praise Thee”

LSB 617

- 1 O Lord, we praise Thee, bless Thee, and adore Thee,
In thanksgiving bow before Thee.
Thou with Thy body and Thy blood didst nourish
Our weak souls that they may flourish:
O Lord, have mercy!
May Thy body, Lord, born of Mary,
That our sins and sorrows did carry,
And Thy blood for us plead
In all trial, fear, and need:
O Lord, have mercy!
- 2 Thy holy body into death was given,
Life to win for us in heaven.
No greater love than this to Thee could bind us;
May this feast thereof remind us!
O Lord, have mercy!
Lord, Thy kindness did so constrain Thee
That Thy blood should bless and sustain me.
All our debt Thou hast paid;
Peace with God once more is made:
O Lord, have mercy!
- 3 May God bestow on us His grace and favor
That we follow Christ our Savior
And live together here in love and union

Nor despise this blest Communion!
 O Lord, have mercy!
 Let not Thy good Spirit forsake us;
 Grant that heav'nly-minded He make us;
 Give Thy Church, Lord, to see
 Days of peace and unity:
 O Lord, have mercy!

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“O God of God, O Light of Light”

LSB 810

- 1 O God of God, O Light of Light,
 O Prince of Peace and King of kings:
 To you in heaven's glory bright
 The song of praise forever rings.
 To Him who sits upon the throne,
 The Lamb once slain but raised again,
 Be all the glory He has won,
 All thanks and praise! Amen, amen.

- 2 For deep in prophets' sacred page,
 And grand in poets' wingèd word,
 Slowly in type, from age to age
 The nations saw their coming Lord;
 Till through the deep Judean night
 Rang out the song, “Goodwill to men!”
 Sung once by firstborn sons of light,
 It echoes now, “Goodwill!” Amen.

- 3 That life of truth, those deeds of love,
 That death so steeped in hate and scorn—
 These all are past, and now above
 He reigns, our King once crowned with thorn.
 Lift up your heads, O mighty gates!
 So sang that host beyond our ken.
 Lift up your heads, your King awaits.
 We lift them up. Amen, amen.

- 4 Then raise to Christ a mighty song,
 And shout His name, His mercies tell!
 Sing, heav'nly host, your praise prolong,
 And all on earth, your anthem swell!
 All hail, O Lamb for sinners slain!
 Forever let the song ascend!
 Worthy the Lamb, enthroned to reign,
 All glory, pow'r! Amen, amen.

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DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

LSB 621

- 1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence
 And with fear and trembling stand;
 Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
 For with blessing in His hand

Christ our God to earth descending
Comes our homage to demand.

- 2 King of kings yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth He stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture,
In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav'nly food.
- 3 Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way
As the Light of Light, descending
From the realms of endless day,
Comes the pow'rs of hell to vanquish
As the darkness clears away.
- 4 At His feet the six-winged seraph,
Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence
As with ceaseless voice they cry:
"Alleluia, alleluia!
Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

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POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE

LSB 181

- C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev'ryone what He has done.
Let ev'ryone who seeks the Lord rejoice and proudly bear His name.
He recalls His promises and leads His people forth in joy
with shouts of thanksgiving. Alleluia, alleluia.

POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING

- P** Let us pray.

O Lord, our righteousness and our salvation, 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. Come, Lord Jesus.

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.

- 1 Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav’nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless king
Through all eternity.
- 2 Crown Him the virgin’s Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now His brow adorn:
Fruit of the mystic rose,
Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The babe of Bethlehem.
- 3 Crown Him the Lord of love.
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their wond’ring eyes
At mysteries so bright.
- 4 Crown Him the Lord of life,
Who triumphed o’er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.
- 5 Crown Him the Lord of heav’n,
Enthroned in worlds above,
Crown Him the king to whom is giv’n
The wondrous name of Love.
Crown Him with many crowns
As thrones before Him fall;
Crown Him, ye kings, with many crowns,
For He is king of all.

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