



Online Worship
November 21, 2021 at 10:30 am
Christ the King / Reign of Christ Sunday

Christ Lutheran Church . Woodcliff Lake, NJ

www.clc4u.com

201-391-4224

All text in *italics* is spoken by the leader. Text in **bold** is your invitation to join in. Please speak those words as you are able.

OPENING & WELCOME

*In the name of the Father,
and of the † Son,
and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.*

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Have mercy on us, O God.

**We confess that we have sinned against you
and against our neighbor.**

**We have built walls instead of tables
and have turned away the stranger.**

**We have sought glory for ourselves
and have treasured that which does not satisfy.**

**Help us to love as you love,
to welcome those you send,
and to treasure mercy and justice.**

**Turn us from our ways to your ways,
and free us to serve those in need. Amen.**

*God, who makes all things new,
forgives your sins for † Jesus' sake
and remembers them no more.*

*Lift up your heads and your hearts.
Yours is the kingdom of God.*

Amen.

SONG - Thine is the Glory

[played and sung by Argine Safari and David Scance.]

Thine is the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the vict'ry
Thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment
Rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded grave clothes
Where thy body lay.

Thine is the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the vict'ry
Thou o'er death hast won!

Lo, Jesus meets thee,
Risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee,
Scatters fear and gloom;
Let his church with gladness,
Hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth;
Death hast lost its sting!

[song continues in the next column]

Thine is the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the vict'ry
Thou o'er death hast won!

No more we doubt thee,
Glorious Prince of life;
Life is naught without thee;
Aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conqu'rors
Through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan
To thy home above.

Thine is the glory,
Risen, conquering Son;
Endless is the vict'ry
Thou o'er death hast won!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

A MESSAGE FOR ALL OF GOD'S CHILDREN

A READING FROM Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire.

A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.

As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

A READING FROM Revelation 1:4b-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The GOSPEL ACCORDING to John 18:33-37

Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jewish Leaders. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON - Looking Forward

[By Pastor Marc]

SONG - Be the Centre

[played and sung by Argine Safari and David Scance.]

*Jesus, be the centre.
Be my source, be my light,
Jesus.*

*Jesus, be the centre.
Be my hope, be my song,
Jesus.*

*Be the fire in my heart.
Be the wind in these sails.
Be the reason that I live,
Jesus, Jesus.*

*Jesus, be the centre.
Be my source, be my light,
Jesus.*

*Jesus, be my vision.
Be my path, be my guide,
Jesus.*

*Be the fire in my heart.
Be the wind in these sails.
Be the reason that I live,
Jesus, Jesus.*

*Jesus, be the centre.
Be my source, be my light,
Jesus.
Be my source, be my light,
Jesus.*

[song continues in next column ->]

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 to the dead. 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

OFFERING

When God's creative spirit dreamed up the gift of faith, God knew we would need each other to make that gift grow. Jesus is the vine and we are called to be his branches. So let us return to God a portion of what God has first given us. And may the good news of Jesus bear fruit in our lives so that all people know how the gospel is for them.

*Holy God, the earth is yours and everything in it, yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures. Thank you for always keeping us connected to you and for all the times we have been aware of the fullness of life you offer. Help us to discern the gifts we have from you that can be used to share your life with others. In Jesus, the vine, **Amen.***

RESPONSIVE PRAYERS OF THE DAY

*Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need. When you hear the words “God, in your mercy,” please respond with, “**hear our prayer.**”*

*God, you sent your Son Jesus to testify to the truth. We pray for our bishops, Elizabeth and Tracie, and all preachers, missionaries, evangelists, and teachers who carry your forgiveness and love to the world. Fill their words and actions with compassion and kindness so that your truth will shine. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.*

*God, you sent your Son Jesus to liberate all of creation. We pray for all living things longing for the freedom to flourish, from ancient trees and wild grasses to endangered animals and rare insects. Give human beings compassionate hearts to care for them. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.*

*God, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us into the way of peace. Guide all elected and soon to be installed government officials including Joseph the President, Philip, NJ's Governor, and all mayors, council leaders, and school board members in the towns we call home. Direct the members of international alliances in choosing a nonviolent path toward the future. Give them the humility and wisdom to make just decisions to benefit all. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.*

*God, you sent your Son Jesus to make us into your own people, set free to serve you. We pray for people who serve the well-being of others, especially ministries in our community such as the Tri-Boro Food Pantry, the Center for Hope and Safety, and Lutheran Social Ministries of New Jersey. May the piles of potatoes, carrots, apples, and more that decorate our altar feed the 100+ families who rely on the Tri-Boro Food Pantry and may you, O gracious God, bless the work of their director Janelle and all the volunteers who reflect your love into our local community. Renew them and all who bring hope to all. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

God, you sent your Son Jesus to rule in all times and places. We pray for the friends of our congregation who are unable to join our worship in person and for all who are sick and suffering especially: Jon Acito, Dolores Albert, Steve Albert, Anthony C., Sue Bachstetter, Mary Badame, Sharon Bongard, Jim Christensen, Addie Everheart, Jackson Fehr, Jean Helom, Mae Hulburt, Laura, Mark, Rich Markert, Ruben Moreno, Faye Rekosik, Kim Ritter, JoDee Roach, Lorraine Sadlon, Lata Sharma, Alice Sheer, Miriam and Earl Valder, the family of Michael Minchak, and all those we hold in our hearts during this moment of silence.

[a moment of silence]

*Join their prayers with ours and unite them with us in the body of Christ. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

*God, you sent your Son Jesus to be our beginning and our ending. We give thanks for those whose lives have given us a glimpse of Jesus' reign of justice and peace. Empower us to join their witness. God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.***

*God our hope and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray. Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.***

THE PEACE

I invite you to take a look at everyone who surrounds you in your sacred space. If you are currently by yourself, know that the entire church is, through Jesus, always with you. Send a blessing to those physically closest to you or send a text/type out a DM/or make a plan to call someone you care about - and wish that the peace of Christ may be with them.

Let us now think about all who are worshipping with us online, via conference call or in-person. In our hearts, let's send to your entire faith community a blessing and wish that the peace of Christ may be with them.

Finally, let the blessing we offer each other go out to our families, friends, neighbors, and to the entire world. With God's help, our hearts are big enough to extend peace that far. Let us embody the peace of Christ after we leave worship today.

HOLY COMMUNION

[We invited you to gather a bit of bread (or similar item), drink (wine or grape juice). The elements used during communion remind us of a substantial meal we would eat during a celebration.]

*The Lord be with you. **And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me. Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered together by the Holy Spirit across phone lines, social media, and the internet - let us pray as Jesus taught us:

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.

You are here, not because you are perfect, but because, through Christ Jesus, you are welcomed and loved.

This is the body of Christ, given for you.

This is the blood of Christ, shed for you.

[After consuming the elements.]

May the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Amen.

Let us pray. Blessed Jesus, at this table, you have been for us both host and meal. Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet. Amen.

SONG - Come to Us

[played and sung by Argine Safari and David Scance.]

*Scattered and broken,
Bent in our way,
We are Your people
gathered to praise You.
A vineyard uprooted,
Narrow in sight.
Come, Lord of glory!
Come, Lord of light!*

*Come to us, O Lord of glory
and shine in our hearts.
Come to us, O Lord of glory
and make us anew.
Lord, we wait for You.
Lord, we wait for You.
Lord, we wait for You.
Come, Lord of glory.*

*Come, Lord, our dayspring,
Come from on high,
As we Your people
Gathered to praise You.
Unworthy to taste from
Your heavenly vine,*

*But Your word will heal us.
Come, light divine.*

*Come to us, O Lord of glory
and shine in our hearts.
Come to us, O Lord of glory
and make us anew.
Lord, we wait for You.
Lord, we wait for You.
Lord, we wait for You.
Come, Lord of glory.*

*Come to us, O Lord of glory
and shine in our hearts.
Come to us, O Lord of glory
and make us anew.
Lord, we wait for You.
Lord, we wait for You.
Lord, we wait for You.
Come, Lord of glory.*

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

[by Rev. Nora Vedress.]

*So now we leave this space of worship
And while so much of the road ahead is uncertain,
the path constantly changing,
we know some things that are as solid and sure
as the ground beneath our feet,
and the sky above our heads.*

*We know God is love.
We know Christ's light + endures.*

*We know the Holy Spirit this there,
found in the space between all things,
closer to us than our next breath,
binding us to each other,
until we meet we again,
Amen.*

*Led on by the saints before us,
go in peace to serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

“LORD, HEAR OUR PRAYER!” Our Prayer Chain is available for daily prayer for anyone. Contact the church office with concerns/celebrations.

SUNDAY SCHOOL HAS RETURNED! Sunday School will meet on November 28 at 9:45 am.

Thursday, November 25

Happy Thanksgiving!

Sunday, November 28

9:00 am Worship (In-person)

9:45 am Sunday School

10:30 am Worship (In-person & Online)