

REIGN OF CHRIST

A REIGN OF LOVE AND PEACE

St. Matthews Lutheran Church

WHERE COMMUNITY GATHERS AND GROWS

November 26, 2023

Christ the King Sunday
Sunday, November 26, 2023
(indicates the assembly stands)*

Gathering

Prelude	<i>"In Faith and Peace"</i>	S. Rogers
Words of Welcome & Service Announcements		
*Hymn 434		<i>"Jesus Shall Reign"</i>
*Greeting		
*Prayer of the Day		
Celebration Bells	<i>"Come, Thou Almighty King"</i>	B. Kinyon
Children's Message		

Word

*Gospel Acclamation	<i>"Alleluia"</i>	p. 102
*Gospel Reading		Matthew 25:31-46
Sermon		
*Hymn of the Day 1059 v. 1 duet (see page 4)		<i>"Come Now, You Blessed"</i>

Healing

Introduction		
Prayers of Intercession		A: hear us, O God.
Laying on of Hands		
Hymns during Laying on of Hands 218, 611		
*Blessing		
*Peace		

Meal

*Offering Hymn 522, v.1		<i>"As We Gather at Your Table"</i>
*Offering Prayer		
*Great Thanksgiving		p. 107
*Holy, Holy, Holy		p. 108

*Thanksgiving at the Table I	p. 108
*Lord's Prayer (<i>Our Father, who art in heaven...</i>)	p. 112
Lamb of God	p. 112
Communion Hymn 432	<i>"The Head That Once Was Crowned"</i>
Table Blessing	
Prayer after Communion	
Sending	
General Announcements	
*Blessing	
*Hymn 660	<i>"Lift High the Cross"</i>
*Dismissal	A: Thanks be to God.
Postlude	<i>"Festival Trumpet Tune"</i> M. Thewes

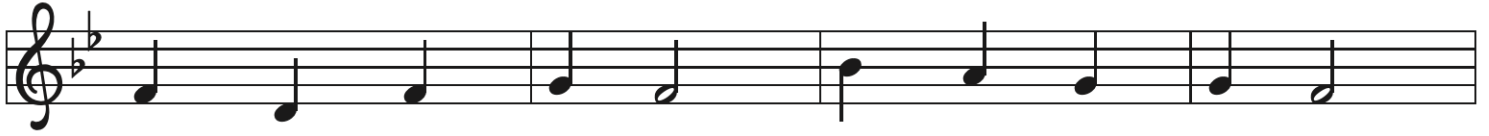
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On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

Annual Budget Meeting will be held today in the Fellowship Hall following worship.

All voting members please consider attending!

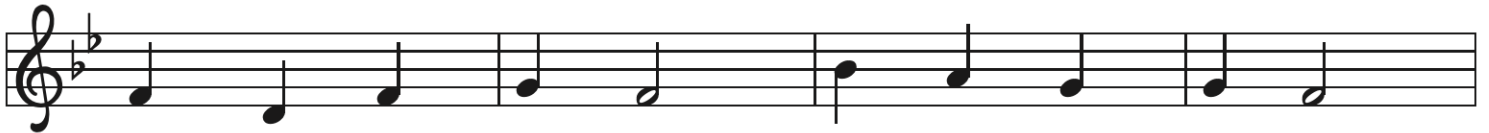
Come Now, You Blessed



1 "Come now, you bless - ed, eat at my ta - ble,"
2 When did we see you hun - gry or thirst - y?
3 "When you gave bread to earth's hun - gry chil - dren,
4 Christ, when we meet you out on life's road - ways,



said Je - sus Christ to the righ - teous a - bove.
When were you home - less, a strang - er a - lone?
when you gave wel - come to war's ref - u - gees,
look - ing to us in the fac - es of need,



"When I was hun - gry, thirst - y, and home - less,
When did we see you sick or in pris - on?
when you re - mem - bered those most for - got - ten,
then may we know you, wel - come and show you



sick and in pris - on, you showed me your love."
What have we done that you call us your own?
you cared for me in the small - est of these."
love that is faith - ful in word and in deed.

Text: Ruth Duck, b. 1947

Music: MATTHEW 25, Emily R. Brink, b. 1940

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Music © 1994 Faith Alive Christian Resources

Leading Worship Today

Minister: Rev. Sebastian Meadows-Helmer

Diaconal Minister of Music: Deacon Scott Knarr

Assisting Minister: Linda McLellan

Vocalists: Julia Crnko, Lana Moses

Celebration Bells: Julia Crnko, Christine Klaver-Schmidt, Gwenanne Jorgenson, Linda McLellan, Chloe Schmidt, Sam Schmidt, Simon Thompson, Mary-Ellen Winkler.

Communion Server: Ivan George

Broadcast: Jason Smolak

Building Monitor: Steve Dickin (519-580-8407)

Worship Notes

In our prayers Jeanette, Meaghan, Henry, Marie, Grace, Maureen and John.

Rite of Healing/ Anointing/ Laying on of Hands

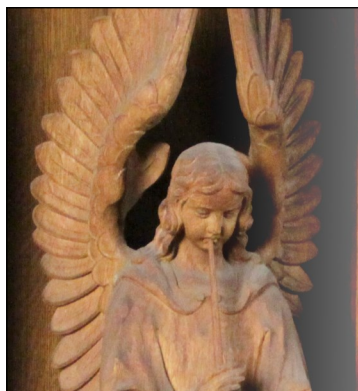
During today's worship service, an option will be offered for the congregation to participate in a rite of healing and anointing.

"The order for healing is an expression in worship of the church's ministry of healing. Here all who would sense the need for God's healing in any aspect of their lives may join in prayer for others and themselves. Here each person may come to receive a word of blessing and prayer. Here each one may also receive a physical gesture of healing; the laying on of hands, which may be accompanied by anointing with oil. These signs, first given to us in baptism, tell us again that we are sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked forever with the cross of Christ, who is health and salvation for the whole world." –excerpt from Evangelical Lutheran Worship p. 276.

All are welcome at the meal where Jesus is present loving and forgiving us. For the wine, there is a common cup station and a pouring chalice station (please take an empty small glass). There is also a small tray of pre-poured grape juice glasses. Gluten-free wafers are also available; please indicate this request to the Pastor. If you would (also) like to receive a blessing, please approach the Pastor with your arms crossed over your chest. If you'd like to receive Communion in your pew, the pastor will come to you. Please let an usher or the pastor know before worship if possible.

General Announcements

The **2024 Offering Envelope Boxes** are available for pickup outside the church office.



Advent Carol Service

featuring

A Ceremony of Carols
by Benjamin Britten

Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 7 pm

Our annual **Advent Carol Service** takes place on Sunday, December 3, 2023 at 7 pm. The Sanctuary Choir will be joined by guest artist Lori Gemmell, harpist with the former Kitchener-Waterloo Symphony, to present selections from Benjamin Britten's A Ceremony of Carols.

Calling All Bakers! Your St. Matthews Women of Faith Group is hosting next Sunday's (Dec. 3) Advent Carol Service Reception, with the theme "A Very Britten-ish Christmas!" While most of the preparations are complete, there remains a need for baked goods and sweets (cookies, squares etc.). Any members of the congregation who would like to contribute any such items are asked to either bring them down to the Fellowship Hall before or after the Sunday morning service on December 3, or to drop them off at the Hall before the beginning of the Carol Service, which starts at 7pm. We would ask that any contributions be nut-free. Any members of the congregation with a knowledge of, or background from, the British Isles, and would like to share with us a

treat that is a common part of the Christmas tradition in England, Scotland, Wales or Ireland would be helping to make this event an extra-special & authentic experience! Please feel free to reach out to Marjorie Kuschnerreit if you have any questions, and we thank you for any contributions you might be able to provide.

West Tower Door for Emergency Only. Due to the ongoing construction planning, when going in to the church house or washrooms, use the west stair tower door and stay on that floor. Use the hallway by the office to the stairway to the floor below. The stairs in the west tower are closed to the lower level sanctuary and should only be used in case of an emergency to exit the building.

Important Information for today's worship

- **Offering:** Please place your offering in one of the offering plates in the Narthex (entranceway) upon entering. The offering plates will be presented at the High Altar during the service.
- **The Peace:** We support people's choices for passing of the peace.
- **Exiting:** At the end of the service, please remain in place until the end of the postlude.
- **Please join us for Fellowship Time** after worship in the Fellowship Hall! Use the door nearest to the piano, and follow the signs.

Fire Exits: All Sanctuary fire exits remain operational during lower-level demolition and renovations. This includes the three Narthex (Entrance) doors, the mid-tower door (half-way up the right side), and the staircase at the front left, piano side.

Church Fire Plan For everyone's awareness, a copy of the Church Fire Plan for safe exit from the Sanctuary appears in the back of the worship books. Please take a moment to review for your own safety.



St. Matthews Lutheran Church

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