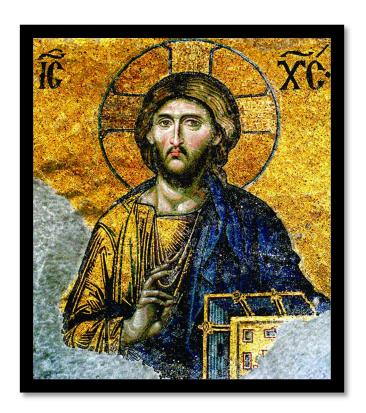
Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham

P.O. Box 100, Durham PA, 18039 610-346-8500 durhamlutheran.org

Rev. James Heckman, Bridge Pastor

November 26, 2023 Christ the King



Introduction to Worship

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. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. 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.

You can find the live stream at the following locations:

www.youtube.com/@DurhamLutheran

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Prelude: Rejoice, the Lord is King

Welcome

Confession and Forgiveness (Stand if you are able)

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity,

→ one God, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved.

C: Amen.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Holy One,

C: we confess that we are not awake for you. We are not faithful in using your gifts. We forget the least of our siblings. We do not see your beautiful image in one another. We are infected by sin that divides your beloved community. Open our hearts to your coming, open our eyes to see you in our neighbor, open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.

P: Beloved, we are God's children, and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us. Through Jesus you are forgiven, by Jesus you are welcome, in Jesus you are called to rejoice! Let us live in the promises prepared for us from the foundation of the world.

C: Amen.



Opening Hymn: ELW 855

Crown Him with Many Crowns



Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4 Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816–1893

P: The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, The Love of God, and the Communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

Kyrie



Prayer of the Day

- L: The Lord be with you. C: And also with you.
- L: 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.

C: Amen. (Please be Seated)

First Reading - Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The Lord will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

L: A reading from Ezekiel, the thirty-fourth chapter.

¹¹Thus says the Lord GoD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GoD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

L: The Word of the Lord. C: THANKS BE TO GOD.

Psalm: 95:1-7a

- L: ¹Come, let us sing to the LORD; let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
- C: ²Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.
- L: ³For you, LORD, are a great God, and a great ruler above all gods.
- C: 4In your hand are the caverns of the earth; the heights of the hills are also yours.
- L: ⁵The sea is yours, for you made it, and your hands have molded the dry land.
- C: 6Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the LORD our maker.
- L: ^{7a}For the LORD is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

A reading from Ephesians, the first chapter:

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

L: The Word of the Lord. **C: THANKS BE TO GOD.**

Gospel Acclamation (Please stand if you are able)



The Gospel – Matthew 25: 31-46

Jesus tells a parable about his second coming, indicating that it is not sufficient merely to maintain things as they are. Those who await his return should make good use of the gifts that God has provided them.

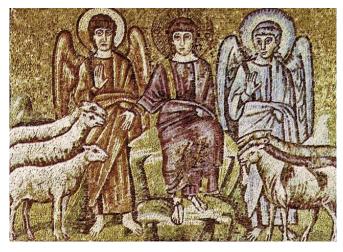
P: The Gospel according to Matthew. C: Glory to you, O Lord

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, ³³ and 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; ³⁵ for 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: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you. O Christ.



Hymn of the Day: ELW 431

O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us



Text: Delores Dufner, osb, b. 1939
Music: ALL SAINTS NEW, Henry S. Cutler, 1824–1902
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Children's Sermon / Sermon (please be seated)

Nicene Creed

- We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.
- We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.
- For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.
- We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

P: Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

P: Holy God, from Christ we receive our call to feed, clothe, and welcome. Direct your church to respond to this call with faithfulness and generous love. We pray for the work of ELCA World Hunger and partnerships with global feeding ministries. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: In Christ, the rock of our salvation, we are brought into union with all of creation. With mountains, seas, dry lands, and animals of the field, we seek your guidance and protection. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: In Christ we know merciful judgment. Guide rulers of every nation in ways of humble leadership and wise decision-making. Allow aid to come to all who are underserved and care to any who are neglected. Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

P: In Christ we feel the depth of your love and care toward us. Nourish all who hunger, connect any who are isolated, and surround all who experience rejection or abuse. We pray for those who suffer (especially those we name aloud, or in our hearts). Hear us, O God.

C: Your mercy is great.

- P: In Christ we are made the people of his pasture. Inspire the outreach and social ministries of this congregation. We pray for all people who serve and attend to the needs of others. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

- P: Holy God, in Christ we are welcomed home. We praise you for the faithful witness of those who have served you and extended your welcome and love to us. Unite us with them as one body of Christ. Hear us, O God.
- C: Your mercy is great.
- P: We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.
- C: Amen.

Sharing of the Peace

- P: Sisters and brothers, rejoice. Mend your ways, encourage one another, agree with one another, live in peace. The peace of the Lord be with you always.
- C: And also with you.

OFFERING

Choir Anthem: The King Shall Come When Morning Dawns - K. Lee Scott

Presentation of the Gifts

WE ARE AN OFFERING - ELW 692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands.
Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be,
We give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
We are an offering, we are an offering.

Offering Prayer

P: God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

C: Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Great Thanksgiving

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 our thanks and praise.

Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



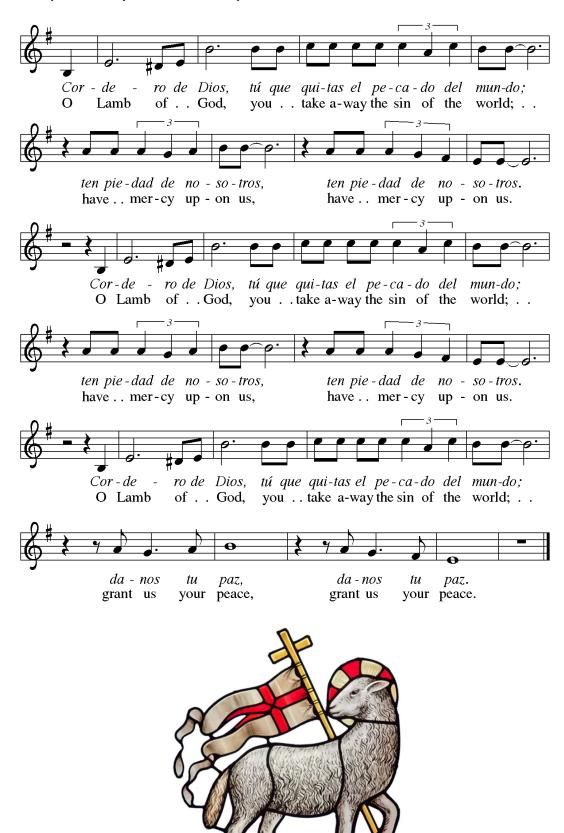


Eucharistic Prayer (said by Pastor)

- P: Let us pray with confidence in the words our Savior gave us:
- 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.

Invitation to Communion

P: There is a place for you at the banquet. Come and feast at Jesus' table.



Distribution of Bread & Fruits of the Vine (please follow ushers)

Hymn during Communion: ELW 679

For the Fruit of All Creation



Text: Fred Pratt Green, 1903–2000 Music: AR HYD Y NOS, Welsh traditional; arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1872–1958 Text © 1970 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved, Used by permission. Outside USA: Arr. from *The English Hymnal*, © Oxford University Press 1906.

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Prayer after Communion

P: Lord Jesus, in this simple meal you have set a banquet. Sustain us on the journey, strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children, and give us glad and generous hearts as we meet you on the way.

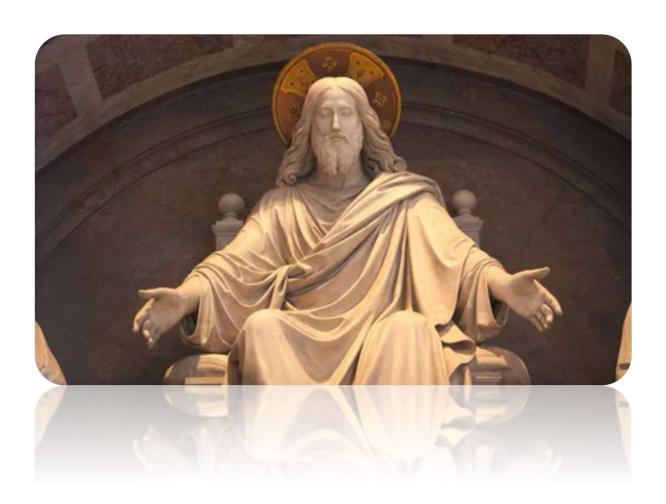
C: Amen.

Announcements

BLESSING

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

.C: Amen.



SENDING SONG: ELW 430

Rejoice, for Christ Is King!



Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt. Music: LAUS REGIS, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

DISMISSAL

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

<u>ANNOUNCEMENTS</u>									
	BIRTHDAYS		ANNIVERS	ARIES	BAPTISMS				
<u>November</u>									
29					Bruce Crouse				
30					Kathy Hlavaty, Jordyn Trauger				
<u>December</u>									
2 Cla	yton Leichliter								
		Ţ	HIS WEEK'S ACT	<u> </u>					
Sunday, November 26 Christ the King Sunday (communion)		10:00 AM		Worship					
Wednesday, November 29		10:00 AM - 1:00 PM 11:00 AM - 11:15 PM 12:00 PM		Office Hours Care -A-Lot Visit Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim					
Thursday, November 30		10:00 AM - 11:00 AM 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM 1:00 PM - 3:00 PM		Choir rehearsal Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's					
			UPCOMING ACT	IVITIES					
Sunday, De	cember 3	10:00 AM		Worship					
First Sunday in Advent (Communion)		After Worship		Advent family wreathmaking event					
Monday, December 4		7:00 PM		Palm Meeting @ St. Luke's, Ferndale					
Wednesday, December 6		10:00 AM - 11:00 PM 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM 11:00 AM - 11:15 PM 12:00 PM		Choir rehearsal Office Hours Care -A-Lot Visit Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim					
Thursday, December 7 10:		10:0	0 AM - 1:00 PM PM - 3:00 PM	Office hours Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's					
Sunday, December 10 Second Sunday in Advent (Communion)		10:00 AM After Worship		Worship - Pr. Jim Heckman Congregational Meeting - 2024 Budget Approval					
Monday, De	ecember 11	7:00	PM	Council Meeting					
1		11:0	0 AM - 1:00 PM 0 AM - 11:15 PM 0 PM	Office Hours Care -A-Lot Visit Chat & Chew with Pr. Jim					
Thursday, D	December 14	10:0	0 AM - 11:00 PM	Choir rehea	rsal				

	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	Office hours	
	1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Adult Bible Study @ Hlavaty's	
Saturday, December 16	9:00 AM	Decorate church for Christmas.	
	5:00 PM & 7:00 PM	Live Nativity @ Durham	



November Outreach - The November envelope will go to Help to Help. a joint project of Emmanuel church and Rotary in Souderton, who are raising funds to build a school building in Santa Barbara, Honduras.



For Healing of those in our Congregation:

Joanne & David Antoni; Brian Ashmore; Esther Crouse; Frank Erceg; Kenneth Hager; George Kreitz; Paul McGinn; Cheryl Mesko; Wes Simmons; Ed Xander; Joanne and Bobby Ziegenfuss.

Lynn Bailey; Ron & Kathy Ballek; Jason Bigley; Melissa Carafa; Deb Carmichael; Peggy Coleman; Stephanie Courtney; Nancy Edelen; Diane Ellington; Leon Errico; Fred Foerster; Gerry Foran; Gabriella Froehlich;

Debbie Gardner; Cindy Gilligan; Candie Gimbar; Josephine Gimelson & family; Baree Lee Goodman; Penni Griffith; Bill Hunt; Lois James & family; Martine King; Sue Kiry; Jim McAnally; Letitia McCrea; Sue Odor; Cindy Oswald; Lucia Otero; Jennifer Phelps; Jean Pratt; Connie Rugen; Linda Saunders; Paul Sauter; Debbie Schultz; The Schutt Family; David Sebring; Alex Sempt; Shawn Stadt; Pat Stangil; Kay Stokes; Donna Storm; Russ Trauger; Kelly Walsh; Henry Wong and Scotty Yurconis.

For those who are Homebound:

Cleo & Ken Eck; Norma Fox; Phyllis Lanshe; Jayne Miller; and Silas Rodenbach.

For families and friends grieving the loss of:

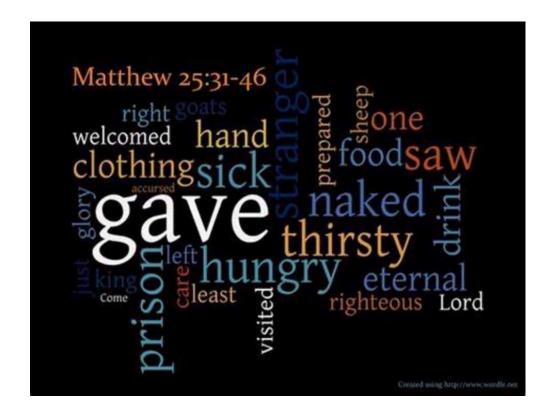
Rev. Dennis Durasoff

If you want to add or remove someone from the prayer list, please contact Joan Mammana either by phone (610-258-5717 or 610-417-6553) or by email at:

PrayerChain@durhamlutheran.org

Helping in Worship

Preacher	Rev. James Heckman	
Choir Director / Organist	Carolyn Williams	
Greeter(s)	The Williams family	
Altar Guild	Linda Sauter & Becky Praster	
Acolyte	Ben Williams	
Lector	Linda Sauter	
Head / Communion Usher	Mark Harwick	
Council Counting Team	Barb Naska & Dave Sauter	
Administration & Technology	Ken Anderson	
Custodian	Dianna Streletz	



Christmas Flowers

It is time to order Poinsettias to decorate our chancel for Christmas. Orders will be taken until December 11. You can place your check and completed order form in Victoria Phillipps mailbox located in the back of the church, or you can order by mail. Send your check and completed order form to: Victoria Phillipps, 100 Meadows Lane, Riegelsville, PA 18077. Make checks payable to Evangelical Lutheran Church of Durham. Please make sure to include your name, phone number and in honor of or in memory of in the space provided below. The flowers will be in the church on the 17th and can be taken home after Xmas Eve service. Any questions, please contact Victoria at 610-346-1996

Name:			Phone Number:		
	Plant		Total		
Quantity	Description	Price	Amount	In Honor/In Memory of	
	Red Poinsettia	\$8.00			
	White Poinsettia	\$8.00			
	Grand Total				





