

REIGN OF CHRIST



November 26, 2023

10:00am

GATHERING

Prelude

Dialogue on the Mixtures*

Jean Langlais

* The dialogue is created by playing on each of the 3 keyboards using the highest-pitched (smallest) pipes of each.

Opening Hymn *Crown Him with Many Crowns*

(All) 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 they matchless King through all eternity.

(Choir) 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.

(Choir) Crown him the Lord of love, behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds yet visible above in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.

(All) Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole that wars may cease, absorbed in pray'r and praise.
This reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet
Fair flow'rs of Paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.

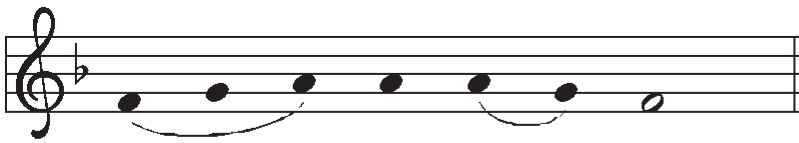
(All) Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres in effably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For though hast died for me;
Thy praise and glory shall not fail throughout eternity.

Apostolic Greeting

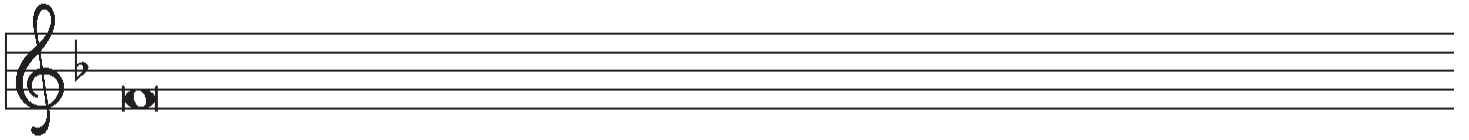
Kyrie

In peace, let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mer - cy.

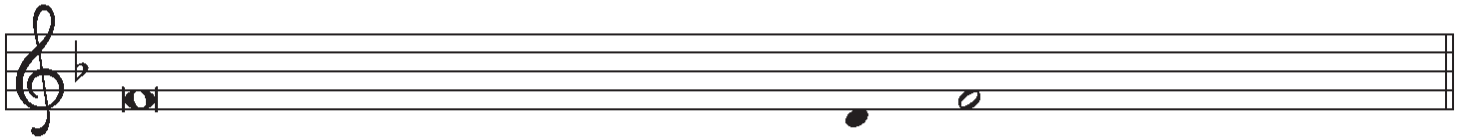
For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



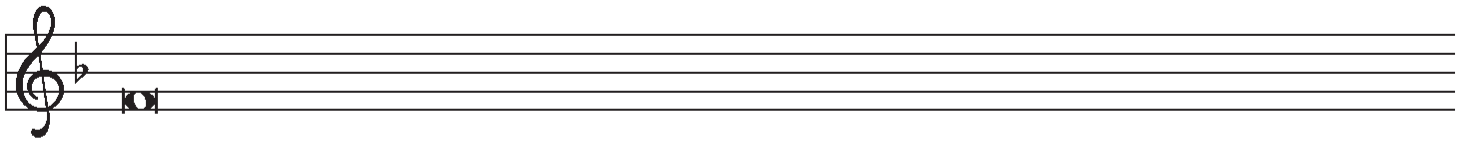
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.

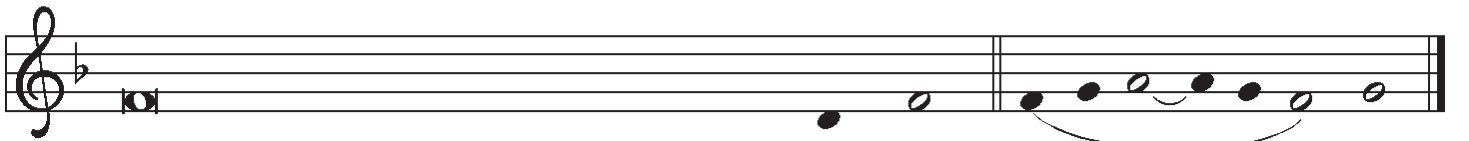


For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. A - men.

Prayer of the Day

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.

WORD

Children's Message

The first lesson comes from Ezekiel, chapter 34

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.

Word of God, Word of Life.

Thanks be to God!

The Second lesson comes from Ephesians, the first chapter (First Nations version)*

Ever since I heard of the trust you have in Creator-Sets-Free (Jesus) and your deep love for all his holy people, I have never stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you when I send my voice to the Great Spirit. I pray that the Father of honor and beauty, who is the Great Spirit of our Honored Chief Creator-Sets-Free (Jesus) will gift you with a spirit of wisdom to know him deeply and understand his mysterious ways. I am asking him to shine his light into your hearts so you can clearly see the hope he has chosen us for and the beautiful treasure he has in us, his holy people. I pray he will show how much greater his power is for all who put their trust in him. This is the same power he used when he brought the Chosen One back to life from the dead and gave him the seat of honor at his right hand. This is a high spiritual place greater than all rulers, authorities, and powers. It is a

* During the month of November, we will be using The First Nations Version: An Indigenous Translation of the New Testament. This is a translation created by a council coming out of twelve indigenous tribal heritages. It leans on language traditions common across tribal groups, and is rendered in English as most members of those tribal groups lost their original languages through rigorous, brutal governmental assimilation policies. The translation was created foremost as a "gift to English-speaking First Nations people and [then] to the entire sacred family, which is the body of the Chosen-One. Among the choices they made was to render names of people and places in terms of their meaning. So, Creator-Sets-Free is Jesus. The council rendered this without hyphens, but Pastor Phil has added those so you know when a naming is occurring. They also include the more common name in parentheses.

place higher and stronger than all names that can be named, not only in this world but also in the one that is coming. This is how he brought all things, seen and unseen, under his loving power and made him the elder of his sacred family. This sacred family is his body on earth, made whole by the one who gives everything and everyone their full meaning and purpose.

Word of God, Word of Life.
Thanks be to God!

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

The Gospel for today comes from **Matthew, chapter 25 (NRSV)** **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Pastor Phil Ruge-Jones

Hymn We Are Marching in the Light of God

#866

Holy Baptism of Noah Collin Pomplun

page 227

Prayers of the Church

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.

... Hear us, O God.

Your mercy is great.

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

MEAL

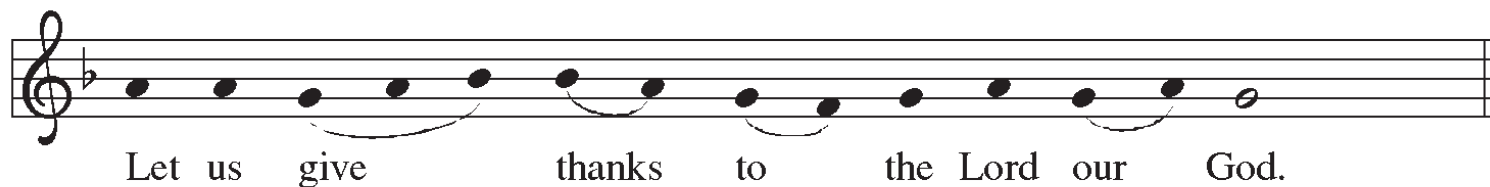
Offering

Offering Prayer

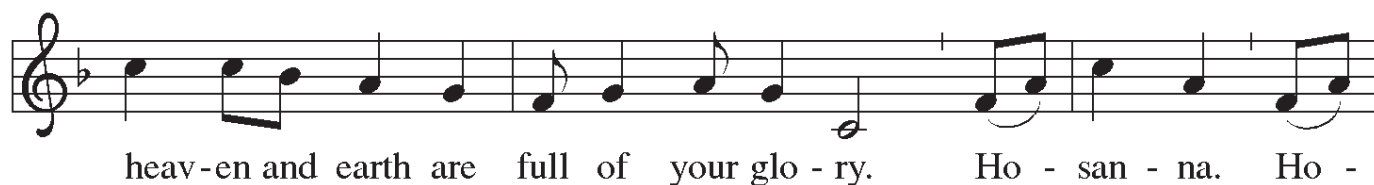
God of all goodness, generations have turned to you, gathered around your table, and shared your abundant blessings. Number us among them that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance, and give thanks for your rich blessings, we may feast upon your very self and care for all that you have made,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

Amen.

Great Thanksgiving



It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy, ... we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



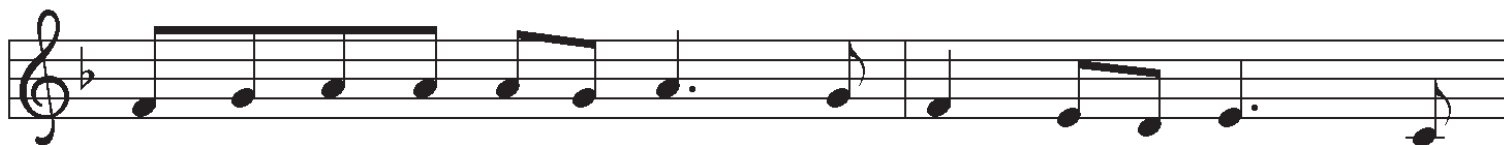
Eucharistic Prayer

Lord's Prayer (sing)

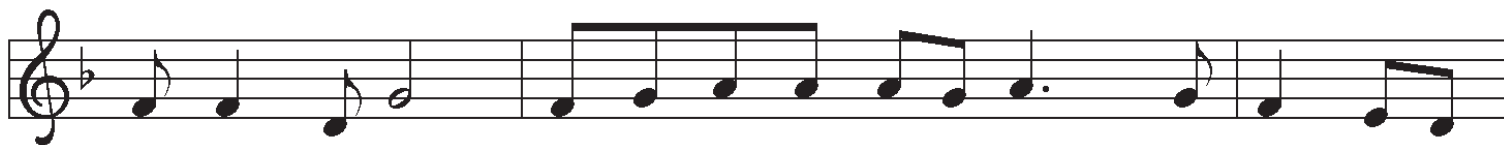
Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever. Amen.

Communion

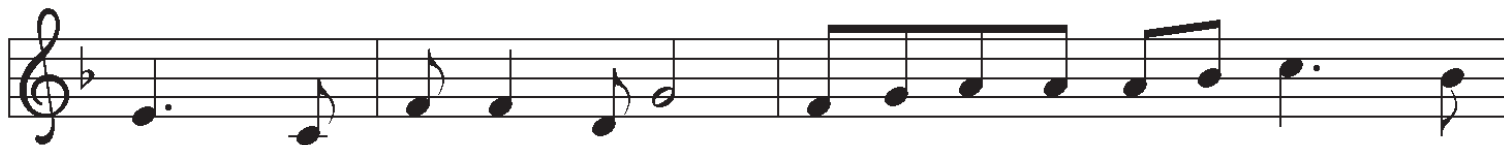
Our communion bread is gluten free and the communion cups with clear liquid have grape juice instead of wine.



Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the world; have



mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the sin of the



world; have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the



sin of the world; grant us peace.

Prayer After Communion

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.

Amen.

SENDING

Blessing

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.

Amen.

Sending Hymn *Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing*

#389

Dismissal

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

Thanks be to God.

Postlude *Now Thank We All Our God*

J. S. Bach

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Minister: Pastor Phil Ruge–Jones

Assisting Minister: Paul Lokken

Reader: Suzette Peltier

Organist: Elaine Mann

Choir Director: Diana Cataldi

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Weekly Calendar

SUNDAY (26th)

Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

TUESDAY

Prayer Group – 11am
Strong Bodies – 1pm

WEDNESDAY

Text Study – 12pm
Choir Rehearsal – 7pm

THURSDAY

Strong Bodies – 1pm
Pacibells Rehearsal – 6pm

FRIDAY

Warming House – 9am

SUNDAY (3rd)

Coffee Hour – 9:30am
Worship – 10am

Other groups using the building this week: Jonah, Scouts, ECWiT, ADRC, City of Eau Claire

Warming House

On December 1 Grace will open our Parlours to the community for the parade warming house. Want to help serve coffee and hot chocolate? Please let Pastor Phil know you are willing and able to help. The warming house opens at 5pm and goes until the parade ends. Come greet our neighbors and listen to Bells and Sung Carols provided by Grace. Then pop out to watch the parade and fireworks. **We are also looking for some kind of light up display (a manger perhaps?) that we could position near the warming house entrance. Anyone have something to loan us?**

Helping Hands at Beacon House

There was lots of happy noise at the shelter as there were 5 families needing this help. The five families hosted were of 7 adults and 12 children (2 teenagers and 10 children under the age of 5). Our Grace members provided evening meals for Nov. 5, 6, 7, and 8 with a variety of food – 2 different casseroles, shredded turkey sandwiches and chicken nuggets along with salads, veggies, fruit and desserts - the families received tasty and nutritious food.

Thank You to all who have supported this mission.

Joyce Simpson Memorial Service

The memorial service for Pastor Dean's mother, Joyce Simpson, will be at 11am on Monday, December 4th, at Lake Street United Methodist Church.



Visual Ministry Christmas Decorations

The Visual Arts ministry will be preparing the sanctuary for Christmas beginning at 10am on Saturday, December 9th. This is a delightful party of active preparation which would be even more wonderful with your presence so please join us. Come and help us make our space beautiful for Christ's arrival.

Other Memorials

On Saturday, Pastor Phil led a funeral service for Thomas Oas, brother of Barb Oas, at the Altoona Celebration of Life Center. Next weekend he will preside over the funeral of Cecil Berlin, the longtime companion of Marilyn Lee who was a member of Grace until her death.

Sunday School

Classes will be held during the worship service following the children's message on the following dates:

- December 3
- December 17

Family Choir Schedule

The Family Choir will meet to rehearse after the worship service on the following dates:

- December 3
- December 17

The first rehearsal is this Sunday. See you there.

Blessing Box

A special thank you to our church members for supporting the Blessing Box, located at the front entrance of Grace Church. The Blessing Box provides non perishable food as well as hygiene items to our neighbors in need. As the weather becomes colder, we will not be collecting canned goods or liquid items since they may freeze and explode.

Some suggested items:

- cereal
- crackers
- soap
- hats
- packaged soup
- packaged noodles
- toothpaste
- hand warmers
- tuna pouches
- packaged potatoes
- scarves
- socks
- granola bars
- peanut butter
- gloves



You are always welcome to put your items directly in the Blessing Box at any time.

Thank you for your continued support!

Mission Outreach Ministry

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers today were given in memory of Mark Schaaf by John & Nancy Schaaf. Thank you.

If you would like to donate altar flowers, there are forms available in the entryway between the narthex and the parable chapel. Also, you can order flowers through our website by going to the GIVE page.

Church Office Hours

Monday — Thursday : 10AM — 2PM

Phone: 715-832-9713

Email: info@grace-church.org

Rev. Dr. Phil Ruge-Jones: pastorphil@grace-church.org

Services are live streamed Sundays at 10am on:

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gracelutheraneauclaire/>
- Youtube embedded in our website: <https://grace-church.org> go to “Our Ministry.”

Bulletins can also be found at <https://grace-church.org/> under the “Our Ministry.”

Recordings of worship services are also broadcast on:

- Televised on Sundays 10:30am WQOW Channel 18, Cable 9, 618HD (every other week)
- Radio Service Sunday 8:30am WAYY 790 AM

If you missed one of our services, they are posted at “Grace Lutheran Church ELCA Eau Claire Wisconsin” YouTube page <https://www.youtube.com/channel/Uck3CdLQ1sDO6esaa3zUMKCQ>

Do you have information for the bulletin and Grace at a Glance? Deadline is Thursday by 12:00 p.m. by emailing Andrew at info@grace-church.org or by calling the office at 715-832-9713