



**St. James Lutheran Church
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Pastor: Rev. Dr. Glenn E. Schaeffer
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Christ the King Sunday
Our Pledge of Allegiance Sunday
November 26, 2023
The Order of Worship

The Preservice Music, the Call to Worship, the Welcome, & Announcements

The Opening Hymn: LSB 905, “Come, Thou Almighty King”

The Invocation and Opening Versicles

P: In the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen!

P: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

C: Who is this King of glory? The LORD, strong and mighty, the LORD, mighty in battle!

P: Lift up your heads, O gates! And lift them up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

C: Who is this King of glory? The LORD of hosts, he is the King of glory! (Psalm 24:7-10)

A Hymn of Praise: LSB 804, “O Worship the King”

The Prayer of the Day

P: “Blessed are you, O LORD, the God of Israel our father, forever and ever. Yours, O LORD, is the greatness and the power and the glory and the victory and the majesty, for all that is in the heavens and in the earth is yours. Yours is the kingdom, O LORD, and you are exalted as head above all. Both riches and honor come from you, and you rule over all. In your hand are power and might, and in your hand it is to make great and to give strength to all. And now we thank

you, our God, and praise your glorious name.” (1 Chronicles 29:10-13)

C: Amen!

The First Reading: Psalm 145:1-7, 10-13a, 21

I will extol you, my God and King, and bless your name forever and ever. Every day I will bless you and praise your name forever and ever. Great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised, and his greatness is unsearchable. One generation shall commend your works to another, and shall declare your mighty acts. On the glorious splendor of your majesty, and on your wondrous works, I will meditate. They shall speak of the might of your awesome deeds, and I will declare your greatness. They shall pour forth the fame of your abundant goodness and shall sing aloud of your righteousness. ... All your works shall give thanks to you, O LORD, and all your saints shall bless you! They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power, to make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom. Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations. ... My mouth will speak the praise of the LORD, and let all flesh bless his holy name forever and ever.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to Christ our King!

A Song: AGPS #151 “King of kings” (3x)

The Second Reading: Colossians 1:13-20

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom

we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities – all things were created through him and for him. And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

A: This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to Christ our King!

A Choral Anthem: “Rejoice, the Lord is King” (Larry Shackley)

The Gospel Lesson: Matthew 27:32-37

As they went out, they found a man of Cyrene, Simon by name. They compelled this man to carry his cross. And when they came to a place called Golgotha (which means Place of a Skull), they offered him wine to drink, mixed with gall, but when he tasted it, he would not drink it. And when they had crucified him, they divided his garments among them by casting lots. Then they sat down and kept watch over him there. And over his head they put the charge against him, which read, “This is Jesus, the King of the Jews.”

P: This is the Gospel of Christ our King!

C: Thanks be to Christ our King!!

A Song: Amazing Love/You Are My King (Christ Tomlin)

Our Pledge of Allegiance

*I pledge allegiance to my Lord
and to my brothers and sisters in Christ
for we are citizens in one kingdom under God,
forgiven of our sins in Christ,
united by the Holy Spirit in Holy Baptism,
called to be His own
and to live under Him in His kingdom
to serve Him and our fellow kingdom citizens
in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness,
for our King is risen from the dead,
And He lives, and reigns to all eternity. Amen.*

The Hymn of the Day: LSB 829, “Christ the Eternal Lord”

The Sermon

The Offering (Bell Choir: “Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”)

A Hymn: LSB 554, “O Jesus, King Most Wonderful”

The General Prayers of the Church & the Lord’s Prayer

A Hymn: LSB 785, “We Praise You, O God”

Your Benediction: (Pastor Schaeffer will introduce our “Pledge of Allegiance.” After Pastor has shared what we are doing and concluded with prayer, you are encouraged to place your “Pledge of Allegiance” commitment form on the altar as an act of worship to Christ our King and to leave the sanctuary silently.)

Please join us for a special “Pledge of Allegiance” treat following the service.

This Week at St. James

Today (11/26)..... Gizmo on FB – 8:00 AM
..... Service - 9:30 AM
..... Pledge of Allegiance Celebration – 10:45 AM
..... Bible study – 11:00 AM

Monday (11/27)..... Communion Service – 6:30 Pm
..... Deacon’s meeting – 7:30 PM

Tuesday (11/28)..... Governing Board meeting – 6:30 PM

Wednesday (11/29)..... Darrell Bible Study – 10:00 AM

Thursday (11/30)..... Bell Choir – 6:00 PM
..... Choir 7:15 PM

Saturday (12/2)..... Pastor’s Day Off

Sunday (11/26)..... Gizmo on FB – 8:00 AM
..... Communion Service - 9:30 AM
..... Voter’s Meeting – 11:00 AM
..... Advent by Candlelight – 6:00 PM

Serving Today

Serving Today (11/26)

Lector.....Sherry Schmidt
Organist..... Beth McKay
Deacon(s) Jerry Talen
Ushers..... Dale & Grace Rosema
Video/Sound/Recording..... Nathan Urbanski/John & Marjie Weiss
November Altar Guild.....Sherry Schmidt

Financial Discipleship: November 19, 2023

General Fund	\$4560.00
<i>Needed each week for budget \$5,769.00 (-\$1209.00)</i>	
Memorials (Donna Nacke)	\$25.00
ISJ Academy	\$100.00
Tessaro (LBT)	<u>\$35.00</u>
TOTAL Contributions	<u>\$4720.00</u>

Announcements

ADVENT by CANDLELIGHT" -- LWML invites you and your friends, and children 6+, to our annual event on Sunday, Dec. 3rd at 6 pm! This year's program will focus on 3 seasons of Mary's life, and how Christ's everlasting Light shines in us and through us. *Please RSVP on the table by the office, or by email or phone, no later than Friday, 12/1.*

A Voter's meeting will be held on Sunday, December 3rd following the service. We will be passing our budget for 2024 and we will be appointing members to our governing board. There will also be reports shared.

Midweek Advent Services begin December 6. The services will begin at **6:30 p.m.** A meal will be served prior to the service starting at 5:30 p.m.

Parent Night Out: December 8th from 5:30-9:00. Come for a fun-filled Christmas night! Dinner is served! All children from birth to grade 8 are welcome to attend. Cost is \$15 per child. All proceeds go to support the ministry of ISJ Academy. Register: www.immanuelgr.org/upcoming-events No kids at home? Love our families with children and fill a spot to serve during the event! Sign Up here: <http://bit.ly/23PNO> Email Emily Gustafson with questions at kidmin@immanuelgr.org.

The members of St. Matthew's (5125 Cascade Road SE Grand Rapids) invite you to attend the installation service of Rev. Jonathan Meyer on Sunday, December 10th. The service begins at 4:00 p.m. A catered dinner will be served immediately following Pastor Meyer's Installation. There is no cost, but please complete the RSVP by Sunday, November 26th. To RSVP go to: <https://stmatthewgr.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2023859>.