Come, inherit the kingdom prepared for you

MATTHEW 25:34

Highland Lutheran Church

38809 NE 41st Ave. La Center www.HighlandLutheranChurch.com 360.263.2302

Welcomes You

Sunday, November 22, 2020

Christ the King Sunday

WELCOME to worship today!

There will be no refreshments following 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.

WE GATHER FOR WORSHIP

Welcome

Greeting

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.

Prayer of the Day

O God,
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.

Music for Reflection

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

Lector: Pastor Erik

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: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 95:1-7a

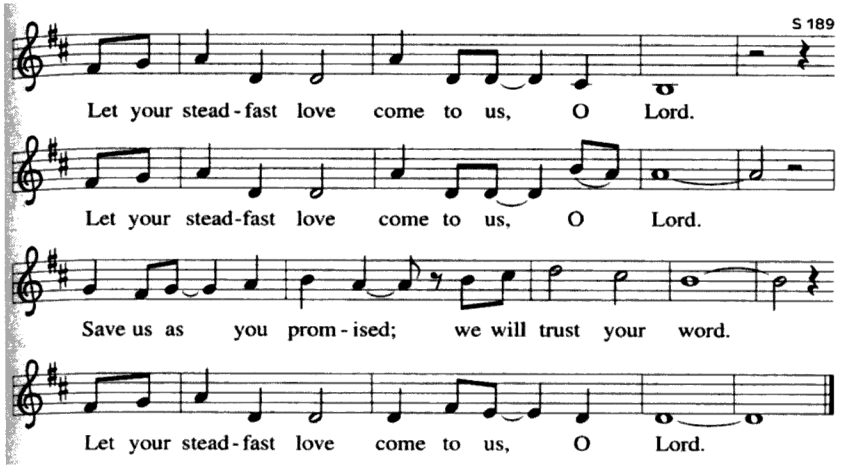
Come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
Let us come before God's presence with
thanksgiving and raise a loud shout to the Lord
with psalms.
For you, Lord, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.
In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.
The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.
Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord our maker.
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.

L: The Word of the Lord.
C: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation



GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

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.

P: This is the Gospel of the Lord,
C: Thanks be to God.

~Message~

Hymn of the Day *Solo*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

P: Hear us, O God.
C: Your mercy is great.

Today we pray for the Lord's care: for those impacted by the Coronavirus and for the nation as we seek racial harmony. Also for: Laurel Mate, J Price, Billie Rebello, Derry Lounsbury, Pauline Morrison, Dan Smith, Robert Collinger, Scot Leppenan, Brian Dooney, Daniel Vickoren, Topanga Howell, Jake Culvert, Evvy Allen, Doyle Seale, Britney Thompson, Bruce Cowan, Nathaniel Cowan, Judy Briggs, Bill Raybell, & Anders Johnson~

Today we thank God for the lives of those marking special days this week.

Birthdays: 11/23 Mike Morton, 11/25 Emily Nelson, 11/26 Mark Ikerd & Kim York, 11/27 Gary Morkert~
Anniversaries: 11/27 Mr. & Mrs. Collins~

The Lord's Prayer

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.

THE OFFERING

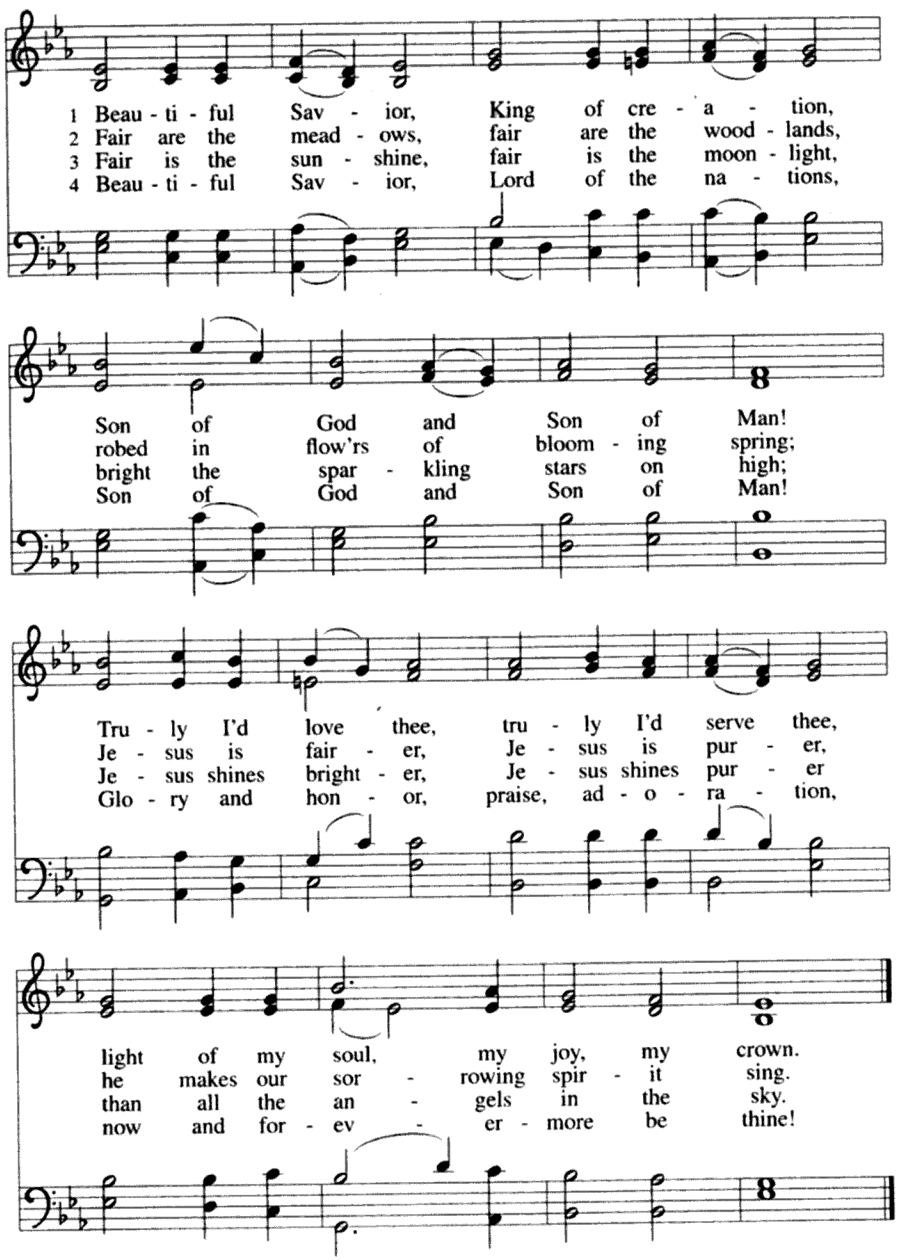
We invite members and friends to give in response to God's grace among us. Our offering is a sign of caring for the work of the Gospel and is a significant act of worship.

If you wish to make an offering to the church, our mailing address is:
Highland Lutheran Church
38809 NE 41st Ave,
La Center, WA 98629

you can also give digitally through our website, highlandlutheranchurch.com
or through the GivePlus app, available on Android and Apple phones

Blessing

Sending Hymn ELW 838 *"Beautiful Savior"*



Announcements

Dismissal

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

C: Thanks be to God.

Announcements

Winter Festival 2020—Online! All of the bidding will be done via computers, smartphones, tablets, etc.
The bidding will open at 7am on Friday, November 27th (Black Friday) and final bidding will be at 8pm on Saturday, November 28th.

How to get to the auction website:
You can either go to the highland website www.highlandlutheranchurch.com and click on the link to the auction, or you can enter the following address in your web browser search bar: charityauction.bid/highland

You can register *now* as a bidder, so that you are in the system when the auction officially starts. If it doesn't work the first time for you, please be patient and try again! This is our first time creating an online auction so there are still issues to be worked on.

Special Thanks goes to Denise Wilder, who has been helpful beyond belief in setting up the auction website, and to J Price, for setting up the payment processing for the auction~

Lutheran Disaster Relief Update:

The situation:

On Nov. 2, Hurricane Eta, a powerful Category 4 storm, hit Nicaragua, Honduras and Guatemala. Throughout Central America, at least 171 people died. Winds as high as 150 mph caused power outages and structural damage while heavy rains caused catastrophic flooding and landslides, damaging homes, crops, roads and bridges. Just two weeks later, Hurricane Iota made landfall in Nicaragua, 15 miles from where Hurricane Eta had made landfall. Iota was the first Category 5 hurricane of the 2020 season, but it weakened to a Category 4 hurricane as it made landfall. It brought strong winds and rains to areas already devastated by Hurricane Eta, hampering any ongoing recovery.

Our response:

To assess the immediate needs and initiate a response, Lutheran Disaster Response is engaging with many companion churches and ecumenical partners in the region. While the extent of the damage is not yet known, we will accompany devastated communities from immediate relief through long-term recovery. This is the commitment we make as a church.

What you can do:

Pray
Please pray for people who have been affected by hurricanes. May God's healing presence give them peace and hope in their time of need.

Give:

Your gifts designated for "Hurricane Response" will be used entirely (100%) for direct response until it is complete. Together, we can help provide immediate and long-lasting support for those whose lives have been impacted by hurricanes.

FIRST READING: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Thus 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 scat-
tered on a day of clouds and thick dark-
ness. 13I will bring them out from the peo-
ples 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 moun-
tain 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 butt-
ed 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.

Psalm 95:1-7a

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23 [not printed]

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

[Jesus said to the disciples:] "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 foun-
dation 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 strang-
er 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 an-
swer 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 hun-
gry 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."

Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 64:1-9; Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37.

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