

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
229 South Broad Street
Jersey Shore, PA 17740
570-398-1676

Sunday, November 21, 2021

Christ the King Sunday
A Brief Congregational Meeting



CHILDREN'S CHURCH in social room at 9:30 a.m. Please take your child downstairs before worship begins.

Introduction to the day

Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRELUDE

GATHERING The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

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

Amen.

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.
Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Have mercy on us, O God.

**We confess that we have sinned against you
and against our neighbor.
We have built walls instead of tables
and have turned away the stranger.
We have sought glory for ourselves
and have treasured that which does not satisfy.
Help us to love as you love,**

**to welcome those you send,
and to treasure mercy and justice.
Turn us from our ways to your ways,
and free us to serve those in need. Amen.**

P: God, who makes all things new,
forgives your sins for ✠ Jesus' sake
and remembers them no more.
Lift up your heads and your hearts.
Yours is the kingdom of God. **Amen.**

GATHERING SONG: *Lead On, O King Eternal* 495

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.

KYRIE P. 139

HYMN OF PRAISE: *This is the Feast* p.140

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray.

**Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.**

The assembly is seated.

WORD

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

FIRST READING: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

To the community for whom this passage was written, it seemed as though the oppression they were experiencing would never end. Daniel's message is: It shall end. The Ancient One, who is judge, will call all nations to account and will give dominion to "one like a human being," the Messiah.

⁹As I watched,
thrones were set in place,
and an Ancient One took his throne,
his clothing was white as snow,
and the hair of his head like pure wool;
his throne was fiery flames,
and its wheels were burning fire.

¹⁰A stream of fire issued
and flowed out from his presence.
A thousand thousands served him,
and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.
The court sat in judgment,
and the books were opened.

¹³As I watched in the night visions,
I saw one like a human being
coming with the clouds of heaven.
And he came to the Ancient One
and was presented before him.

¹⁴To him was given dominion
and glory and kingship,
that all peoples, nations, and languages
should serve him.
His dominion is an everlasting dominion
that shall not pass away,
and his kingship is one
that shall never be destroyed.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM Psalm 93

Ever since the world began, your throne has been established. (Ps. 93:2)

¹The LORD is king, robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength.
The LORD has made the world so sure that it cannot be moved.

²**Ever since the world began, your throne has been established;
you are from everlasting.**

³The waters have lifted up, O LORD, the waters have lifted up their voice;
the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

⁴**Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea,
mightier is the LORD who dwells on high.**

⁵Your testimonies are very sure,
and holiness befits your house, O LORD, forever and forevermore.

Second Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

^{4b}Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,
even those who pierced him;
and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

L: The word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The assembly stands.

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.

P: The holy gospel according to John.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

GOSPEL: John 18:33-37

In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.

³³Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” ³⁴Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” ³⁵Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” ³⁶Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” ³⁷Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

P: The gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

The assembly is seated.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY: Beautiful Savior 518

THE 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

A: Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.

A brief silence.

A: God, you sent your Son Jesus to testify to the truth. We pray for preachers, missionaries, evangelists, and teachers who carry your forgiveness and love to the world. Fill their words and actions with compassion and kindness so that your truth will shine. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God, you sent your Son Jesus to liberate all of creation. We pray for all living things longing for the freedom to flourish, from ancient trees and wild grasses to endangered animals and rare insects. Give human beings compassionate hearts to care for them. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us into the way of peace. Direct the members of international alliances in choosing a nonviolent path toward the future. Give them the humility and wisdom to make just decisions to benefit all. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God, you sent your Son Jesus to make us into your own people, set free to serve you. We pray for people who serve the well-being of others, especially ministries in our community (*local social ministries or agencies may be named*). Renew them in their work. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God, you sent your Son Jesus to rule in all times and places. We pray for the friends of our congregation who are unable to join our worship in person and for all who are sick and suffering (*especially*). Join their prayers with ours and unite them with us in the body of Christ. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: God of Creation, we give you thanks for the many outdoor ministries across our nation that provide us with a sacred space in your creation, especially Camp Mount Luther. May your hand guide their work, and may their ministry continue to share love, build community, and change lives. Lord, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

A: God, you sent your Son Jesus to be our beginning and our ending. We give thanks for those whose lives have given us a glimpse of Jesus' reign of justice and peace. Empower us to join their witness. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

P: God our hope and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray. Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

Our Offering of Music

CHOIR ANTHEM *Exalted is the Lord*

OFFERTORY

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit with me.

Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me.

Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Holy God,
the earth is yours and everything in it,
yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures.
Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine,
and strengthen us to be your body for the world
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING P.144

Dialogue

Preface by the Pastor

Holy Holy Holy

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, mighty Lord, gracious Father:

Endless is your mercy and eternal your reign.

You have filled all creation with light and life; heaven and earth are full of your glory.

We praise you for the grace shown to your people in every age;
the promise to Israel, the rescue from Egypt, the gift of the promised land,
the words of the prophets; and, at this end of all ages, the gift of you Son,
who proclaimed the good news in word and deed and was obedient to your will,
even to giving his life.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup,
we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Therefore, O God, with this bread and cup we remember the life our Lord offered for us.
And, believing the witness of his resurrection, we await his coming in power to share with us the
great and promised feast.

Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

Send now, we pray, your Holy Spirit, that we who share in Christ's body and blood may live to
the praise of your glory and receive our inheritance with all your saints in light.

Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and every place,

and unite them with the ceaseless petitions of our great high priest until he comes as victorious Lord of all.

Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen.

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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

P: A feast of love is offered here for you and for all the saints.

COMMUNION

When giving the bread and cup, the communion ministers say

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond **Amen.**

COMMUNION SONG *Lamb of God You Take Away p.146*

SONG AFTER COMMUNION *Jesus, Name Above All Names*

(repeat twice)

Jesus, name above all names, beautiful Savior, glorious Lord,

Emmanuel, God is with us, blessed Redeemer, living Word

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Blessed Jesus,,at this table, you have been for us both host and meal.

Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts

until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet.

Amen.

SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God, the beginning and the end,
who has written your name in the book of life,
✠ bless and keep you in grace and peace
from this time forth and forevermore.

Amen.

SENDING SONG: *Jesus Shall Reign 434*

DISMISSAL

P: Led on by the saints before us,
go in peace to serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

PLEASE SIT DOWN AND REMAIN FOR A BRIEF CONGREGATIONAL MEETING.

Announcements

We welcome our visitors and ask that you sign a Visitor Attendance and Holy Communion Card that is located in the pew rack. We ask that cards be returned via the offering plate during the receiving of the offering. We practice “open Communion” here at St. John meaning that all who believe in the “real presence” of Christ are welcomed to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion. We offer two choices for Holy Communion, wine or grape juice. Those worshipers desiring grape juice are asked at the communion rail to place their right hand over their heart after receiving “The Body of Christ”.

Remember in prayer: Rowan Aldridge, Luke Antolick, Dave Barner, Darlene Bilby, Stan Breon, Agnes Cryder, Don Delaney, Mary Ellen Dougherty, Charlie Dunne, Joanne Fisher, Joyce Hudson, Steve Keller and sister Janet Grazier, Bud Long, Mary Miller, David Mitchell, Bob and Phyllis Moriarity, Kathy Neal, Ruth Nice, Penny Parks-Dean, Jean Ann Snyder, Shane Snyder, John Truax, and all of our shut-ins; the safety of our military troops around the world (Mark Baier, Isaac Boring, Loudon Boring, Jake Cordrey, Ben Cramer, Patrick Hamlin, Paul Laidacker, Kenny Leitch, Steven Moore, Maddison Myers, Tyler O’Neal, Adam Shaffer, Richie Speicher, Aaron Stabley, Paul St. James, Jenna White); Family Promise. Bishop Eaton, our Presiding Bishop; and Bishop Collins, Bishop of the Upper Susquehanna Synod. For our Companion Synod in Liberia and Ansbach-Wurzburg, Germany; and for the New Love Center as it seeks to build a new food hub.

Special Thanks to this week’s helpers: Lector Shane Snyder; Assisting Ministers –Gary Johnson and Karen Aucker; Head Usher –Gina Johnson; Teller –Deb Heydrich; Children’s Church – Molly Hollick; Bulletin Sponsor –Gary and Gina Johnson.

Next week's helpers: ; Lector –Deb Heydrich; Assisting Ministers –Joyce Braucht and Carl Schaefer; Head Usher – Gina Johnson; Teller –Deb Heydrich; Children's Church—Holly Ditmer; Bulletin Sponsor – Gary and Gina Johnson; Flowers -- needed

The Sanctuary Candle is sponsored in memory of loved ones by Bob and Phyllis Moriarity.

The altar flowers are given in loving memory of Nancy Aldridge by her family.

EXTRA SPECIAL THANK YOU !!! to Grace Welshans for sharing her gift of song by opening the Veterans' Day Service last Sunday with America the Beautiful.

Pastor Aucker & St. John's congregation,

Thank you all so very much for all your prayers for my Father and my family during Dad's sickness and in his passing. They were very much appreciated.

Thank you also to the Women of the Church for the wonderful luncheon.

Sincerely,

Sue Willits & Family

The 2022 Flower calendar has been posted on the upstairs bulletin board. The Sanctuary Candle sign-up sheet and the Bulletin Sponsors sheets are in the downstairs hallway

The Lutheran Church Women's Prayer Chain is a vital ministry of St. John Lutheran.

Anyone in need of prayers is asked to contact any of the following persons:

Gloria Ely – 570-873-3597

Sarah Davidson - 570-398-0659

Joyce Braucht - 570-398-2852

This past week Mr. Mark Cooley from Cooley **Organ** Company came to replace leather and do other work on the **pipe organ**. That cost us \$1,199. Mr. Cooley has worked on our organ for many years. Originally, he worked for the Moller Company that built our **pipe organ**. Mr. Colley believes the last time he came to do any major cleaning of the organ was in 2015. Imagine what your attic or cellar would look like after six years of dust and cobwebs. That's our **organ**. He did what he could, but we need an extreme cleaning where some ranks (pipes) would be removed so there is access to other ranks for cleaning and repairs. To do a complete cleaning and repairs which may take 5-6 days with his two helpers would cost \$4400-\$5000. We were really blessed as we have received \$2900 in Fall Cash Sunday offerings. If anyone would like to make an end-of-the-year donation to completely clean and repair the **Moller pipe organ**, your gifts would be appreciated. Note on your check "**organ repairs.**"

"DAVID" playing at Sight and Sound !! August 6, 2022 -- Children 10 and under \$125.00; Adults \$190.00. Fare includes bus, play, meal, tip for driver and fund raiser for Luke Antolick. Payments may be made during the course of the year! Thank You! Joyce Braucht.

FREE Community Thanksgiving Day Dinner on Thursday, November 25, 2021 from 11 am until 2pm at Trinity United Methodist, 1427 Allegheny St. Everyone invited! All are welcome! No Cost! Current they plan on serving take out, deliver, and dine in, but this is subject to change. We are strongly requesting everyone to call and pre-order their meals and how they will be enjoying the meal, take out, delivery or dine in. Please call (570) 398-2913 to pre-order. Please leave your name, address, phone number and whether you want take out, delivery, or dine in. This is a community meal prepared and served by the Ecumenical Ministry of the churches and other organization in Jersey Shore.

Youth Ministry -- **Christmas in the Grove at Knoebels**

Saturday, December 4, leaving 3:30 pm. We will stop for dinner along the way to Knoebels' Grove where we will drive through a spectacular Christmas light display. Leave Cathy Eisner or Pastor know if you are going.

The **angels** are on the tree in the Tower for the **Toys-For-Tots program**.

We invite you to pick an angel and donate the gift to community children in need.

The gifts need to be back at the church office by Sunday Dec 5. All unwrapped. Please attach the angel to the gift so we know which child the gift is for. Any questions please contact Lynette Yost 570-419-5620 or Carol Yost 570-295-6335.

THIS WEEK'S EVENTS

Sunday, November 21, 2021

9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

Christ the King Sunday

7:00 p.m. NA meeting

Monday, November 22, 2021

10:00 a.m. Bible Study on Ephesians 2:14 on. Please come join us!

7:30 p.m. N/A meeting

Wednesday, November 24, 2021

10:00 a.m. Worship at Trinity Episcopal Church

11:30 a.m. Fellowship Time at Shore Diner

6:30 p.m. NO Choir Rehearsal

7:00 p.m. Valley Thanksgiving Service at Immaculate Conception

7:30 p.m. N/A meeting

Sunday, November 28, 2021

First Sunday of Advent

9:30 a.m. Sunday School Starts

9:30 a.m. Nave Worship Service

7:00 p.m. NA meeting

Upcoming!

Friday, December 3 at 5:00 p.m. SET UP for the Bazaar

Sunday, December 5 – Unwrapped Toys for Tots with Angel attached DUE back

Sunday, December 12 –Poinsettia Orders and Money DUE

Friday, December 17 – Food Distribution 9-1

Sunday, December 19 – Gary Johnson recruiting readers for Christmas Play

Christmas Dinner - bring a covered dish to share. Meat provided.

Friday, December 24 at 4:00 p.m. – Holly Dittmer recruiting for a children’s Christmas presentation

Christmas Eve Worship – December 24

4:00 p.m. – Worship at St. John Lutheran

7:00 p.m. – Worship at St. James Lutheran

10:00 p.m. – Special Music at St. John Lutheran

10:30 p.m. – Worship at St. John Lutheran

