

Christ the
King 

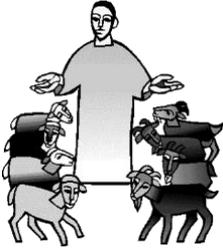
S U N D A Y

The Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 22, 2020

Grace Lutheran Church

Yorba Linda, California



The week was Holy and Jesus was preparing for his battle to secure heaven for us. He also used that last week to prepare his disciples – and us – for his departure to prepare a place for us and what to do while we wait. That preparation is what Matthew 25 is all about. In three parables Jesus encourages us to pray:

Nov.8: Keep Us Watchful (Matthew 25:1-13)

Nov.15: Keep Us Faithful (Matthew 25:14-30)

Today: Keep Us in Your Kingdom (Matthew 25:31-46)

Look for a devotion – Keep Us Thankful (Thanksgiving Eve)



GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

Gathering around Grace – Growing in Grace – Going with Grace

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Music – Online: David and Alexis Stansfield
Video editor: Eric Ericson



CALLING ON GOD'S NAME

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

C: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION BEFORE OUR KING

M: We are frail children of dust who need God's forgiveness and strength in order to serve our Lord Jesus. Therefore, we confess our sins, and trusting in Jesus as our Savior and King, ask God to forgive us.

C: We confess that we are in bondage to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sought to rule our own lives, and have not submitted to Your gracious reign. Our thoughts are of ourselves; our words are often meant to manipulate and control others and not meant to build them up; our deeds are centered on our own desires, not Yours, O Lord. Forgive us, for the sake of our King, Jesus.

M: Come, you are blessed by the Father. Take the inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you for in Christ, He declares you righteous or perfect in his sight and forgives your sins. Therefore, in the place and by the command of our Lord, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

M: In the peace of this forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

♪ **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 wond'ring eye At mysteries so bright.**

**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.**

(#341:2,3)

PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, by your victory you have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim you King of kings and Lord of lords to you unending praise and glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen.

The Old Testament kings were not "shepherding" His people, so God would step in to judge and to save. And again he announces the rule of the perfect King, the Son of David, our Savior Jesus.

Note too, the similar picture to our sermon lesson.

THE FIRST READING

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

¹¹ "For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. ¹² As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. ¹³ I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. ¹⁴ I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵ I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. ¹⁶ I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice.

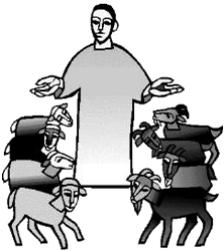
²⁰ "Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says to them: See, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹ Because you shove with flank and shoulder, butting all the weak sheep with your horns until you have driven them away, ²² I will save my flock, and they will no longer be plundered. I will judge between one sheep and another. ²³ I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd. ²⁴ I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the LORD have spoken.

♫ **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 thy matchless King Through all eternity.**

**Crown him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above;
Crown him the King to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of Love.
Crown him with many crowns As thrones before him fall;
Crown him, ye kings, with many crowns For he is King of all. (#341:1,4)**

GOSPEL and SERMON LESSON

Matthew 25:31-46



³¹ “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left.

³⁴ “Then the King will say to those on his right, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me.’

³⁷ “Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?’

⁴⁰ “The King will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.’

⁴¹ “Then he will say to those on his left, ‘Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me.’

⁴⁴ “They also will answer, ‘Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?’

⁴⁵ “He will reply, ‘Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me.’

⁴⁶ “Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.”

APOSTLES’ CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
Born of the virgin Mary,
Suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

The third day he rose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven

And is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty.

From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

The holy Christian Church – the communion of saints,

The forgiveness of sins,

The resurrection of the body,

And the life everlasting. Amen.

Offerings are part of our worship life and our life in the church. During this time of social distancing, your offering may be mailed or you may give online at www.gracelutheran.church.

OFFERING

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH and LORD'S PRAYER

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.

BLESSING

M: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look on you with favor and give you peace.

C: Amen.

SERMON HYMN

My Heart is Filled with Thankfulness

Words & Music: Keith Getty and Start Townend

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who bore my pain;
Who plumbed the depths of my disgrace
And gave me life again;
Who crushed my curse of sinfulness
And clothed me in His light
And wrote His law of righteousness
With pow'r upon my heart.

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To Him who walks beside;
Who floods my weaknesses with strength
And causes fears to fly;
Whose ev'ry promise is enough
For ev'ry step I take,
Sustaining me with arms of love
And crowning me with grace.

My heart is filled with thankfulness
To him who reigns above,
Whose wisdom is my perfect peace,
Whose ev'ry thought is love.
For ev'ry day I have on earth
Is given by the King;
So I will give my life, my all,
To love and follow him.



CALENDAR

THURSDAY – HAPPY THANKSGIVING (look for a devotion online)

Sunday– Worship online
 Confirmation class

PRAYERS