

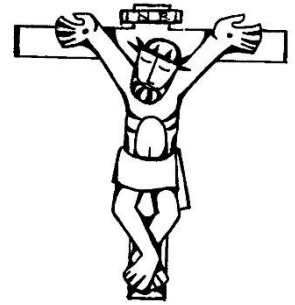


## St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA

*"A Legacy of Worship and Outreach in San Antonio since 1857"*

502 East Nueva, San Antonio, Texas 78205  
Phone 210-223-2611 ♦ info@StJohnsSA.org  
www.StJohnsSA.org ♦ www.PrJimDew.com

November 24, 2019  
Christ the King Sunday



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### GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God*

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#### Prelude

#### Bells

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### Temple Talk

**Deacon John Dellis**

#### Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, † one God,  
who forgives all our sin,  
whose mercy endures forever.

**Amen.**

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid:  
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love  
you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Gracious God,

**Have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into  
the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us  
our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn  
us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in  
newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together  
with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of † Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.  
Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts  
through faith.

**Amen.**

#### Gathering Hymn

**"Crown Him with Many Crowns"**

**ELW #855**

#### Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with  
you all.

**And also with you.**

*Refrain*  
Assisting minister

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

All

1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us

free to be peo-ple of God. Pow - er and rich - es and wis - dom and

strength, and hon - or and bless-ing and glo - ry are his.

*Refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al - le - lu - ia.

2 Sing with all the peo - ple of God and join in the

hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing and hon - or and glo - ry and

might be to God and the Lamb for - ev - er. A - men.

*Final refrain*

This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain

has be - gun his reign. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

## Prayer of the Day

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**Amen.**

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## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture and preaching; we respond in profession of faith and prayer*

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### First Reading: Jeremiah 23:1-6

*Today's reading builds on the common ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, the Lord will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.*

<sup>1</sup>Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. <sup>2</sup>Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. <sup>3</sup>Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. <sup>4</sup>I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD. <sup>5</sup>The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup>In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Word of God, word of life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### Psalm 46



Psalm 46:10

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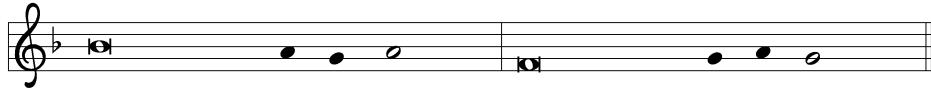


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- <sup>1</sup>God is our ref- | uge and strength,  
a very present | help in trouble.
- <sup>2</sup>**Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;**
- <sup>3</sup>though its waters | rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble | with its tumult.
- <sup>4</sup>**There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God,  
the holy habitation of | the Most High.**
- <sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall | not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the | break of day.
- <sup>6</sup>**The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth | melts away. R**



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- <sup>7</sup>The LORD of | hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.
- <sup>8</sup>**Come now, regard the works | of the LORD,  
what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;**
- <sup>9</sup>behold the one who makes war to cease in | all the world;  
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.
- <sup>10</sup>**“Be still, then, and know that | I am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth.”**
- <sup>11</sup>The LORD of | hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob | is our stronghold. **R**

## Second Reading: Colossians 1:11-20

*An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.*

<sup>11</sup>May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins <sup>15</sup>He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; <sup>16</sup>for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup>He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup>He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup>For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup>and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

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.

*Cantor: Alleluia.* Blessed is the one who comes in the name | of the Lord.\* Blessed is the coming kingdom of our an- | cestor David. *Alleluia. (Mark 11:9)*

## The Holy Gospel: Luke 23:33-43

*Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one's life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God's hands.*

The good news of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke:  
**Glory to you, O Lord.**

<sup>33</sup>When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. <sup>34</sup>¶Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."¶ And they cast lots to divide his clothing. <sup>35</sup>And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" <sup>36</sup>The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, <sup>37</sup>and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup>There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." <sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup>But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup>And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup>Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." <sup>43</sup>He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

The Gospel of the Lord.  
**Praise to you, O Christ.**

*Children are invited to go to their Sunday lesson and activity. They will return at Holy Communion. Parents are welcome to accompany them.*

**Sermon**

**Pastor James Dew**

## Re-Dedication of the Sanctuary

I was glad when they said to me,  
**"Let us go to the house of the LORD."** (Psalm 122:1)

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the Universe. The heavens and earth cannot contain you. We give you thanks for the gifts of those who built this house of prayer to your glory; we praise you for the gathering of those who regard it as holy; and we pray that all who continue to seek you here may indeed find you. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Hymn: "All Are Welcome" ELW # 641 (Verse 1)*

**Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,  
a place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;  
here the love of Christ shall end divisions.  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

*Re-Dedication of the Place of Holy Baptism (font)*

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters, and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight. Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the Jordan River your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as daughters and sons, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all. We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Pour out your Holy Spirit, so that newness of life may be given to all who are baptized at this font. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Hymn: "All Are Welcome" ELW # 641 (Verse 2)*

**Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong and true,  
where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness and as symbol of God's grace;  
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus.  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

*Re-Dedication of the Place of the Word (lectern and pulpit)*

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for you spoke light into darkness, called forth beauty from chaos, and brought life into being. You called your people Israel to proclaim freedom from captivity, a pathway home from exile, and wisdom for life with you. As faith comes through hearing, and what is heard from this lectern is the Word of God, give us renewed reverence in both our speaking and our listening. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

*and*

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for you have revealed your love for us through Jesus, your Living Word, who calls us to lead lives fully given in service and discipleship, marked by the Cross of Christ upon us. Purify the lips of those who are called to speak your Word from this pulpit. Open the ears of your people to receive the Gospel proclaimed. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Hymn: "All Are Welcome" ELW # 641 (Verse 3)*

**Let us build a house where love is found in water, wine and wheat:  
a banquet hall on holy ground where peace and justice meet.  
Here the love of God, through Jesus, is revealed in time and space;  
as we share in Christ the feast that frees us.  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

*Re-Dedication of the Place of the Holy Eucharist (altar)*

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, for the gift of the holy meal which you richly provide at this altar, for through it you nourish your people with the very body and blood of Christ. Bless and sanctify all who are fed the Holy Sacrament at this table, and give them grace to become what they receive, until at last we all behold you face to face at the heavenly feast where your saints and angels praise you without ending. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Hymn: "All Are Welcome" ELW # 641 (Verse 4)*

**Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone  
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.  
Here the outcast and the stranger bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger.  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

*Re-Dedication of the Place of the Assembly (nave)*

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, King of the Universe. The heavens and earth cannot contain you, yet you are willing to make your home in human hearts. We are the temple of your presence, and this building is the house of your Holy Church. Continue to gather us in this place to share with others the covenant you give in Baptism, to gladly hear your Word and obey it, and to be nourished by the saving body and blood of your Son. From the abundance of your grace we receive here, empower us to become instruments of grace. Send us from these walls to be the body of Christ in the world, to proclaim your love in both word and works, to serve and invite others into the promise we share, and to glorify your name in our daily living. To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

*Hymn: "All Are Welcome" ELW # 641 (Verse 5)*

**Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard  
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,  
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter.  
All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome in this place.**

## Prayers of Intercession

Each petition concludes: "Hear us, O God." The congregation responds: **"Your mercy is great."**

We hold in prayer: Bob Cauble, Frances Bara, Chris Gates, Danny Myers, Rev. Louise Shaw, Jet Smith, Ralph Detwiler.

For prayer request updates, please contact the church office by phone or email at (210) 223-2611 or [info@StJohnsSA.org](mailto:info@StJohnsSA.org)

## Peace

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**And also with you.**

*(Please share with those nearest you these or similar words: "Peace be with you.")*





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## MEAL

*We bring our "first fruit" offerings to the Table of the Lord  
where we are strengthened and nourished with the Body and Blood of Christ*

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### Offering of Our Weekly Gifts and Giving Pledges

**"Praise His Holy Name"  
Keith Hampton**

### Offertory Hymn

**"Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise"**

**ELW #207**



Thank-ful hearts and voic-es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done. Let  
ev - 'ry-one who seeks the Lord re - joice and bear the name of Christ.  
Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with  
shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980  
Music: Ronald A. Nelson, b. 1927  
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### Offertory Prayer

God of Abundance...

**All that we have is a sign of your love. All that we are is a gift from your hand. Receive these weekly offerings, the gifts of our livelihoods, along with our pledges of giving for the coming year; for through them, we name you as our Lord and King. Use our giving, along with our daily walk as your disciples, to touch and fill, and heal and bless, the lives of many, through the power of your name. Amen.**

### Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.  
**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

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

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,  
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
 Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes  
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy, Mighty, and Merciful Lord, heaven and earth are full of your glory. In great love for us and for all your creation, you sent to us Jesus, your Son, who took upon himself our own flesh and blood, who showed us your face, and who, on the cross, opened his arms to all.

For on 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, as often as you drink of it, for the remembrance of me.

We proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ has risen. Christ will come again.**

Send your Spirit, O God, upon these gifts of bread and wine, that they become your people the Body and Blood of Christ. Send your Spirit also into our hearts, that we may receive our Lord with a living faith as he comes to us in this holy meal.

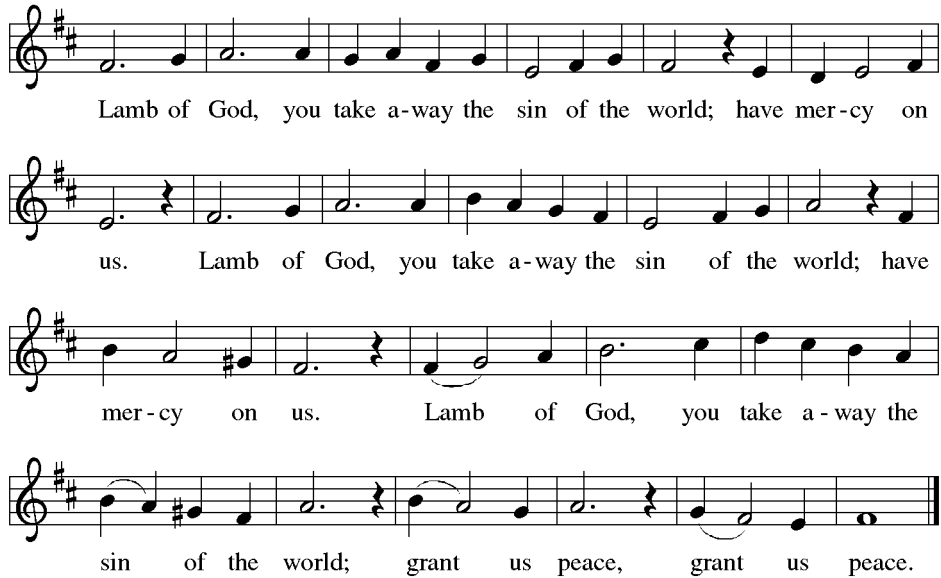
*(Intoned)* Through him, with him, in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever. **Amen.**

Remember us, Lord, in your kingdom, and help us to pray:

**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.**

All are welcome to this table. Come receive the gifts of God for the people of God.

## Agnus Dei



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, grant us peace.

## Holy Communion

*We believe that Christ is truly present in the consecrated bread and wine and we welcome all who wish to receive the Holy Sacrament to the Lord's Table, available both at the altar railing and by intinction on the sanctuary floor. Please follow the direction of the ushers. A gluten free host is available upon request.*

## Communion Hymns

ELW #474 Bread of Life from Heaven  
ELW #838 Beautiful Savior  
ELW #616 Jesus, Remember Me

## Communion Blessing

## Communion Prayer

Almighty God,  
Through this Holy Sacrament you have fed us  
with the very body and blood of Christ.  
Now send us out, to do the work you have given us to do,  
to live-out your love to a hurting world,  
and to be the hands and feet of Christ  
to all we encounter; in Jesus' Name. **Amen.**

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## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us out in mission to the world*

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### Benediction

The Lord bless you and keep you,  
The Lord's face shine upon you with grace and mercy.  
The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.  
In the Name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

### Sending Hymn

**"Jesus Shall Reign"**

**ELW #434**

### Dismissal

Go in peace. Christ goes with you.  
**Thanks be to God!**

### Postlude

### Worship Leaders

Presiding Minister † Pastor James Dew  
Assisting Minister † Karen Knudson  
Lector † Karen Knudson

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*Worship is central to who we are as a people of God. Every time we gather to hear and respond to the Word, to offer up our prayers for the needs of many, and to receive Christ's living presence in the consecrated bread and wine, we seek to "become what we receive", namely, the Body of Christ for the sake of the life of the world. As we are gathered, fed, and then sent back out in mission, God empowers us to be bearers of blessing and vessels of grace, commissioning us to intentionally live out the reign of God throughout the course of our weekly living.*

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### This week at St. John's

Sun 24 • Stewardship Sunday Meal  
10:45 AM

Mon 25 • Property Team Meeting  
6:00 PM

Tue 26 • Staff Meeting 11:00 AM

Wed 27 • Mid-week Word and Prayer  
12:15 PM

Wed 27 • Campus Ministry Dinner  
6:00 PM

Wed 27 • Choir Practice 7:00 PM

Thu – Fri 28-29 Church Office Closed  
for Thanksgiving

Sun 1 • Hanging of the Greens  
10:45 AM

*Please see our online calendar at [stjohnssa.org](http://stjohnssa.org) (under the Home tab)  
for weekly recurring events and the current month's Tidings.*

**Financial Reports and Council Minutes are available in the Member Section  
of the church website, and in the church office by request.**

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***The altar flowers today are given to the Glory of God and in honor of the  
Congregation and their generous spirit, by the Stewardship Team.  
To God Alone the Glory!***

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**ELCA World Hunger Advent Calendars are available on the large  
First Floor table. ELCA Good Gifts Catalogs are also available.**

### **Stewardship Sunday - Brunch following worship**

Today is Stewardship Sunday and during worship today you will have the opportunity to return your pledge cards for 2020. This will be a special day for recognizing the blessings we have and giving thanks to God for all that has been given us. The Stewardship Team invites you to join us for brunch in Memorial Hall following the service.

Today we also welcome Deacon John Dellis, who will give a greeting and temple talk during the worship service. He is the senior gift planner for congregations in the Southwestern Texas Synod through Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest. As a gift planner, he assists individuals and couples in making legacy/estate plans for family and loved ones and also the ministries of our church and other non-profit organizations. He will be available for conversation and questions during the brunch today. Deacon Dellis will return to St. John's on Sunday, January 26, when he will present a legacy generosity seminar following the service. Learn more about the ministry of Lutheran Foundation of the Southwest at [www.lfsw.org](http://www.lfsw.org).



### **Let the Children Come**

Sarcasm and mockery are not easily understood by children. This isn't a time to teach children about a christology that sees Christ as victorious over death by being mocked and killed on the cross. The gift for children in today's readings may be in the Colossians text: "the image of the invisible God" (Col. 1:15). Children know "invisible." They are the ones stealthily moving through an adult-centric world, and they are the ones enjoying the delights of imagination in story, where a character like Harry Potter can don an invisibility cloak. For children, how is this invisible God made known?

### **Theological Reflection**

Among the three lectionary readings there are a host of images that interpret and clarify the image of Jesus as king: shepherd, cosmic Christ, firstborn of the dead, crucified one, head of the body, image of the invisible God, and many more. Using a variety of these images in the music and words for worship will draw the assembly's vision of Christ beyond a narrow and literal view of human kings. These images together illuminate Jesus' great power over life and creation itself yet also his humility and care for the least

## The Artwork of the Week

The baptistery is located in the west transept to the right as you face the altar. This is where baptisms were traditionally held following completion of the church in 1932. The centerpiece of the baptistery is an ornamental wood carving (reredos) by Alois Lang, the artisan who completed other works in the church, including the Last Supper above the altar. The baptistery reredos, donated by Mrs. Dora Stumberg, depicts Christ blessing the children. As originally planned, the baptismal font sat in front of the carving on a low raised platform. In later years, the font was moved to the center of the sanctuary in front of the altar. The font, which was sculpted from Carrara marble by artist and monument maker, Frank Teich for the 1886 church, is still used for baptisms today.



*Interior of St. John's c. 1900 showing Pastor Conrad Gohdes standing near the baptismal font.*

## Liturgical Calendar Commemorations

**Justus Falckner, died 1723; Jehu Jones, died 1852; William Passavant, died 1894; pastors in North America**

**Sunday, November 24, 2019**

Not only was Falckner the first Lutheran ordained in North America, but he published a catechism which was the first Lutheran book published on the continent. Jones was the Lutheran church's first African American pastor and carried out missionary work in Philadelphia which led to the formation there of the first African American Lutheran congregation (St. Paul's). William Passavant helped to establish hospitals and orphanages in a number of cities and was the first to introduce deaconesses to the work of hospitals in the United States.

**Isaac Watts, hymnwriter, died 1748**

**Monday, November 25, 2019**

Thought by many to be the greatest hymnwriter in the English language, Watts as a youth was critical of the quality of the metrical psalter of the time. He wrote about 600 hymns—many based on the psalms, but others that are not.

**Andrew, Apostle**

**Saturday, November 30, 2019**

The first of the disciples to be called by Jesus, Andrew quickly began to bring others to the Savior, including Simon Peter. The Bible also shows him leading some Greeks to meet Jesus, and he brought forward the boy with five loaves and two fish, with which Jesus fed thousands.

