



St. John's Lutheran Church, ELCA

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

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**Christ the King
November 21, 2021**

Bells

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

King's Weston setting by Robert Powell

Confession and Forgiveness

Please Stand

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

C: Amen.

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

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

C: 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.

P: In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn

Lead On, O King Eternal! (ELW 805)

DEDICATION OF NEW PARAMENT

L: Loving and gracious God! It is good to give honor, glory, and thanks to the Lord.

C: It is good for us to remember what God has done in our midst in the past, to be awed by God's presence among us in the present, and to faithfully discern God's will for the community of St. John's Lutheran Church in the future.

L: In Paul's letter to the Hebrews we hear: *Therefore, since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles. And let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us, fixing our eyes on Jesus, the pioneer and perfecter of faith.*

This altar parament has been lovingly and carefully placed on the altar and reminds us that we are standing on the shoulders of, and are surrounded by, the “great cloud of witnesses” who have kept the faith alive. We accept this parament as a sacred trust and will use it with reverence and respect.

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, we consecrate this parament to the glory of God. Let us pray:

C: Loving God, grant us your blessing as we consecrate this gift to your glory, that it may be an enduring witness before all of your people, and that our lives may be consecrated to your service. We pray this in the name of our risen Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. Amen

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.



In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,

and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mer - cy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise,

let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, have mer - cy.**

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gra - cious Lord. **A - men.**

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 1 Wor - thy is Christ, the Lamb

who was slain, whose blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 2 Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and

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

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 3 Sing with all the peo - ple of

God, and join in the hymn of all cre - a - tion: Bless - ing, hon - or,

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

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

al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia. 4 For the Lamb who was

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

Final refrain
This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our God.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

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.

C: Amen.

Please be seated

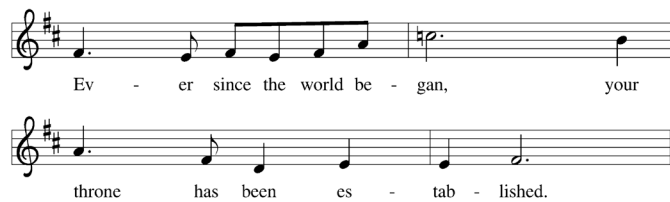
First Reading: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

L: 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.

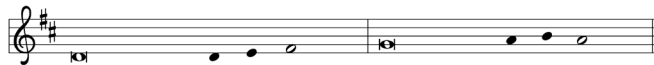
The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 93



Psalm 93:2
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Psalm tone reproduced from *Psalter for Worship Year B* © 2008 Augsburg Fortress.
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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 can- | not be moved.

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

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 for- | evermore. **R**

Second Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8

L: ^{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.

The word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please Stand

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.

GOSPEL: John 18:33-37

P: The Holy Gospel according to John.

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

P: 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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

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



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.

Please be seated

Sermon

Pastor Kay Johnson

Please Stand

Hymn of the Day

Come, Thou Almighty King (ELW 408)

Please be seated

Holy Baptism

The presiding minister addresses parents and sponsors:

L: Called by the Holy Spirit, trusting in the grace and love of God, do you desire to have your child baptized into Christ?

Response: I do.

L: As you bring your child to receive the gift of baptism, you are entrusted with responsibilities:
to live with him among God's faithful people,
bring him to the word of God and the holy supper,
teach him the Lord's Prayer, the Creed, and the Ten Commandments,
place in his hands the holy scriptures,
and nurture him in faith and prayer,
so that your child may learn to trust God,
proclaim Christ through word and deed,
care for others and the world God made,
and work for justice and peace.

Do you promise to help your child grow in the Christian faith and life?

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses sponsors:

L: Sponsors, do you promise to nurture this child in the Christian faith as you are empowered by God's Spirit, and to help him live in the covenant of baptism and in communion with the church?

Response: I do.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly:

L: People of God, do you promise to support this child and pray for him in his new life in Christ?

C: We do.

The assembly stands.

PROFESSION OF FAITH

The presiding minister addresses assembly.

L: I ask you to profess your faith in Christ Jesus, reject sin, and confess the faith of the church. Do you renounce the devil and all the forces that defy God, the powers of this world that rebel against God, and the ways of sin that draw you from God?

C: I renounce them.

The presiding minister addresses the assembly.

L: Do you believe in God the Father?

**C: I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

L: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

**C: I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.*
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

L: Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

**C: I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.**

At the font, the presiding minister begins the thanksgiving:

L: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

L: Blessed are you, holy God. You are the creator of the waters of the earth. You are the fire of rebirth. You poured out your Spirit on your people Israel. You breathe life into our dry bones. Your Son Jesus promised to send the Spirit to us that the world may know your peace and truth.

Pour out your Holy Spirit, and breathe new life into he who is here baptized. By your Spirit adopt us all as your children, through our Savior Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The assembly may be seated.

L: Henry Nixon, I baptize you in the name of the Father,* and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen. You belong to Christ, in whom you have been baptized. Alleluia.

The presiding minister continues:

Let us pray.

We give you thanks, O God, that through water and the Holy Spirit you give your daughters and sons new birth, cleanse them from sin, and raise them to eternal life. Sustain Henry with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord, the spirit of joy in your presence, both now and forever.

C: Amen.

L: Henry, child of God, you have been sealed by the Holy Spirit and marked with the cross of Christ forever.

C: Amen.

L: Let your light so shine before others that they may see your good works and glorify your Father in heaven.

Let us welcome the newly baptized.

C: We welcome you into the body of Christ and into the mission we share: join us in giving thanks and praise to God and bearing God's creative and redeeming word to all the world.

Please be seated

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.

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. 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. Join their prayers with ours and unite them with us in the body of Christ. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: Gracious God, the One in whom we live and move have our being, give us a vision of the new situations in which we live out our faith in Jesus. Send your Holy Spirit to guide the discernment of our Call Committee,

the synod staff, and pastoral candidates. As we work to call a new pastor to our congregation, show us our neediness - what we need and what needs doing for our life together. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: We lift our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your abiding grace, with special care in our hearts for Muriel Leafstedt, Ruth Haas, Chris Gates, Amy Cooley, Meesha Dumas, Britt Smith, Gloria Boenisch, Chris Maroudas, Bill Brewer, Ernie Clauss, Liam Fitch, Linda Okerstrom, Beverly R., Lauren, Shella Vela, Carl Luddeke, Cheri and Kenny Knippa, Alwin Schaefer, and Henry Nixon on his baptism today. God, in your mercy,

C: hear our prayer.

A: All these things and whatever else you see that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of him who died and rose again, and now lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God forever.

C: Amen.

Please Stand

Peace

A: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you. *(Please greet those nearest you with these or similar words: "Peace be with you.")*

Please be seated

Offering

Offertory

***Let All the World* by Norman Gilbert
St. John's Choir**

Please Stand

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise him, all crea-tures here be-low;
 praise him a-bove, ye heav'n-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost.

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711
 Music: OLD HUNDREDTH, Louis Bourgeois, 1510-1561

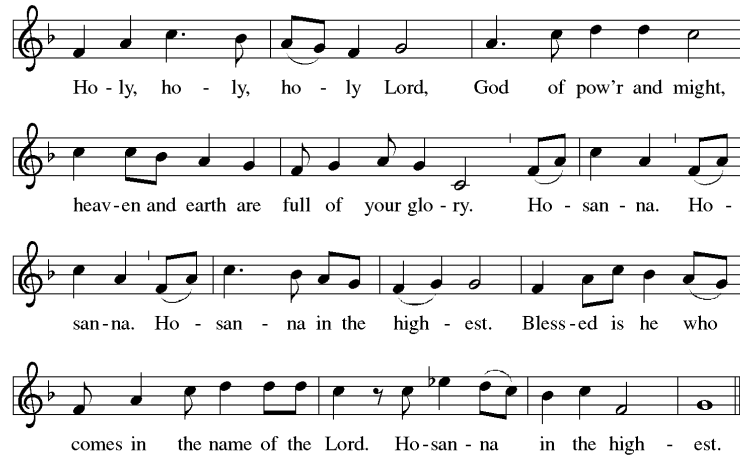
Offering Prayer

A: Let us pray. Merciful Father, we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us—our selves, our time, and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. And al- so 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.

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,
 That we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you,
 Almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ;
 Who on this day overcame death and the grave,
 And by his glorious resurrection
 Opened to us the way of everlasting life.
 And so, with all the choirs of angels,
 With the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,
 We praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
 heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -
 san-na. 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.

P: 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 the ages, the gift of your 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.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: 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.

C: Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

P: 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.

C: Amen. Come, Holy Spirit.

P: 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.

C: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

P: Lord remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray:

**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.**

P: When we eat this bread we share in the body of Christ. When we drink this cup we share in the blood of Christ. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Welcome to the table of the Lord.

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.

Please be Seated

Hymns During Holy Communion

Amazing Grace (ELW 779)

O Living Bread from Heaven (ELW 542)

I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me (ELW 860)

Holy Communion

Please Stand

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. Go in peace.

C: Amen.

Communion Prayer

A: Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, in this meal you give us a foretaste of that day when the hungry will be fed with good things. Send us forth to make known your deeds and to proclaim the greatness of your name, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

Sending Hymn

Soon and Very Soon (ELW 439)

Benediction

P: Wherever you go, may God go with you: May he go before you to show you the way ... behind you to encourage you ... beside you to befriend you ... above you to watch over ... and within you to give you peace. In the name of our Creator, Redeemer, and Friend. **Amen**

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Flourish by Alan Bullard

Announcement:

The Fall Congregation Meeting will be Sunday, December 5, 2021 following the worship service.

Today we dedicate to the Glory of God our new white altar parament. It was commissioned in honor of the 50th wedding anniversary of Belinda and Ron Schmidt by their children and grandchildren. The designer, Carolyn C. Wagner, lives in Olympia, Washington, and has been doing commission work for over two decades, designing textile art for congregations around the country. She enjoys creating sacred art which informs, inspires, and provides enduring beauty in places of worship.

This design features the San Antonio cityscape and images borrowed from the Riverwalk, illuminated by the strong Texas sun, made holy by a cross superimposed on our galaxy's star. The light of Christ penetrates the entire design, blessing the cityscape, St. John's and our iconic Riverwalk. The cityscape is rendered so that St. John's is at the edge; a part of the city but not of it. A bridge over the water is centered in this design as an invitation to seek God, the steps a literal bridge to faith. The San Antonio River flows along the bottom of the parament, the strong sun reflected in the surface, reminding us of the central importance of baptism to our faith, and the cleansing, renewing power of the waters of God's good creation. Again, a watery river element flows across the bottom of this parament. The colorful café umbrellas represent the gathering of all peoples and the varied communities of San Antonio that St. John's serves - diverse and lively, an intersection of the holy and the secular and reminding us that God's light penetrates throughout the world and the risen Christ is with us throughout the world. *The heart of Christ in the heart of the city.*



**Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America**

God's work. Our hands.

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