

Holy Nativity Lutheran Church

3 Lenape Trail
Wenonah, NJ 08090

OUR MISSION

Graced by a loving God to be a caring community of faith the fellowship of Holy Nativity is called to support one another, warmly welcoming others into our community, sharing in the mission of the Gospel of Jesus Christ in word and deed, and reaching out in witness and service to the communities to which we belong as one in the Body of Christ.

Worship Service for Sunday, November 23, 2025

Christ the King LBW Holy Communion Setting Two

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

In response to God's overwhelming love, we stand in awe of the wideness of God's mercy and by God's Spirit we welcome all who are seeking God's love and grace. In faithfulness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ, mindful of our Lutheran emphasis on grace, and rejoicing in the celebration of our shared baptismal journey, we welcome all as members of our church family including any who have ever felt excluded by the Church for any of the reasons that too often divide us.

We are so glad you have joined us today!

First-time guests: *Please fill out a Communion Card and place it in the offering plate.* Newcomer orientations are held on various days several times a year for those who are interested in learning more about HNLC.

Restrooms are located in the hallway between the lobby and our fellowship hall.

Today's Altar Flowers are given in memory of Corinne Klotz's parents for the Thanksgiving holiday.

The Sanctuary Candle is given by the DelMonte family in memory of their fathers' passing.

PRELUDE

Glory to Our God and King

arr. J. Leavitt



Introduction to the day

Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS (The congregation responds with text in bold print.)

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

Blessed be the holy Trinity, (+) one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever. **Amen.**

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

Faithful God, **you have shown us the ways of your heart, yet we stray from your paths. We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression and do not embrace the freedom of your faithful promises. We ignore our neighbors. We exploit the earth. We reject your abundance, trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love. Repair our relationships, restore what we have broken, renew our hearts, and bring us to new life. Amen.**

Hear the good news: God the Faithful One loves you, (+) in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven, and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free. **Amen.**

ENTRANCE HYMN *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!* (LBW 328 v. 1, 2 and 4)



- 1 All hail the pow'r of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
- 2 Crown him, you mar - tyrs of our God, who from his al - tar call;
- 3 O seed of Is - rael's cho - sen race now ran - somed from the fall,
- 4 Hail him, you heirs of Da - vid's line, whom Da - vid Lord did call—



bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod and crown him Lord of all.
hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
the God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.



Bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem and crown him Lord of all.
Ex - tol the stem of Jes - se's rod and crown him Lord of all.
Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
The God in - car - nate, man di - vine—and crown him Lord of all.

- 5 Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget
the wormwood and the gall,
go spread your trophies at his feet
and crown him Lord of all.

- 6 Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe
on this terrestrial ball
to him all majesty ascribe
and crown him Lord of all.

- 7 Oh, that with yonder sacred throng
we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song
and crown him Lord of all.

GREETING (LBW p. 78)

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.

KYRIE (LBW p. 78)

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

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

Lord, have mercy.

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 mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

Amen

HYMN OF PRAISE (LBW p. 79)

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

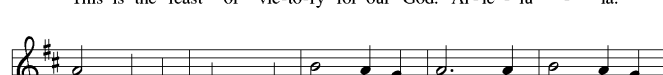


strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.

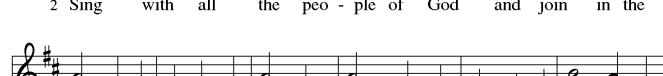
Refrain



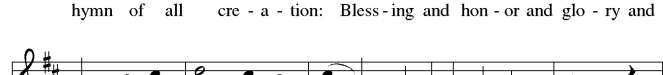
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu-ia.



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

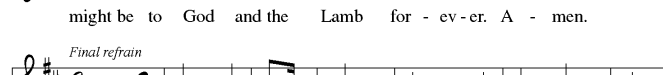


hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and

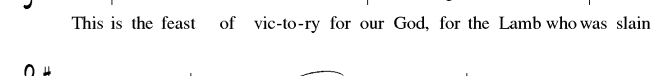


might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.

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 (LBW p. 82)

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

Let us pray. . . Almighty and everlasting God, **whose will it is to restore all things to your beloved Son, whom you anointed priest forever and king of all creation: Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united under the glorious and gentle rule of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen**

FIRST LESSON: Jeremiah 23:1-6 The First Lesson is from the 23rd chapter of Jeremiah.

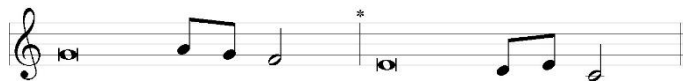
Today's reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah's unjust rulers have caused their people, their "flock," to be scattered. Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

¹ Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ² 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. ³ 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. ⁴ I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵ 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. ⁶ 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.”

Here ends the reading. **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM: Psalm 46 (The Psalm is sung responsively by verse.)



Refrain: I will | be exalted * a- |mong the nations. (*Ps. 46:11*)

Refrain: I will | be exalted * a- |mong the nations.

¹ God is our ref- | uge and strength, * a very present | help in trouble.

² **Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved, * and though the mountains be toppled into the depths | of the sea;**

³ though its waters | rage and foam, * and though the mountains tremble | at its tumult.

⁴ **The LORD of | hosts is with us; * the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.**

Refrain: I will | be exalted * a- |mong the nations.

⁵ There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God, * the holy habitation of | the Most High.

⁶ **God is in the midst of her; she shall not be | overthrown; * God shall help her at the | break of day.**

⁷ The nations make much ado, and the king- | doms are shaken; * God has spoken, and the earth shall | melt away.

⁸ **The LORD of | hosts is with us; * the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.**

Refrain: I will | be exalted * a- |mong the nations.

⁹ Come now and look upon the works | of the LORD, * what awesome things he has | done on earth.

¹⁰ **It is he who makes war to cease in | all the world; * he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the | shields with fire.**

¹¹ “Be still, then, and know that | I am God; * I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth.”

¹² **The LORD of | hosts is with us; * the God of Jacob | is our stronghold.**

Refrain: I will | be exalted * a- |mong the nations.

SECOND LESSON: Colossians 1:11-20 The Second Lesson is from the 1st chapter of Colossians.

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.

¹¹ May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully ¹² giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance

of the saints in the light. ¹³ He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, ¹⁶ 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. ¹⁷ He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ 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. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ 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.

Here ends the reading. **Thanks be to God.**

WE RISE TO GREET THE GOSPEL

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)



GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43 The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the 23rd chapter. **Glory to you, O Lord.** *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.*

³³ 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. ³⁴ [[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵ 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!" ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" ³⁸ There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." ⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." ⁴³ He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

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

SPECIAL MUSIC *Give Thanks* arr. T. Fettke
Duet by Laurie Brown and Joe Powell

HOMILY (LBW p. 83) *Silence for reflection may follow.*

HYMN OF THE DAY *Beautiful Savior* (LBW 518)



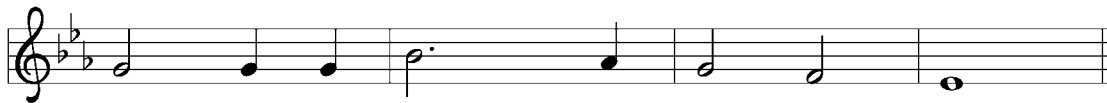
1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion,
 2 Fair are the mead - ows, fair are the wood - lands,
 3 Fair is the sun - shine, fair is the moon - light,
 4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,



Son of God and Son of Man!
 robed in flow'rs of bloom - ing spring;
 bright the spar - kling stars on high;
 Son of God and Son of Man!



Tru - ly I'd love thee, tru - ly I'd serve thee,
 Je - sus is fair - er, Je - sus is pur - er,
 Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines pur - er
 Glo - ry and hon - or, praise, ad - o - ra - tion,



light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
 he makes our sor - rowing spir - it sing.
 than all the an - gels in the sky.
 now and for - ev - er - more be thine!

NICENE CREED (LBW p. 84)

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; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man. 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. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He 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

UPCOMING COMMEMORATIONS

Clement, Bishop of Rome, died around 100 Sunday, November 23, 2025

Clement was the third bishop of Rome. He is best remembered for a letter he wrote to the congregation in Corinth, still struggling with the same problems that led to Paul's letters to them. As did Paul, he focused on the need for love among Christians.

Miguel Agustín Pro, martyr, died 1927 Sunday, November 23, 2025

Pro grew up in a time when the Mexican revolutionaries accused the church of siding with the wealthy. He became a Jesuit priest, and worked on behalf of the poor and homeless. Falsely accused of throwing a bomb at a government official, he was executed, but not before crying out "Long live Christ the King!"

Justus Falckner, died 1723; Jehu Jones, died 1852; William Passavant, died 1894; pastors in North America Monday, November 24, 2025

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 Tuesday, November 25, 2025

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.

PRAYER LIST

For the survivors and those who have to rebuild after Hurricane Melissa ransacked Jamaica, Holly & Duane, Dawn Allen, Hal Battindorf, Nicholas Baud, Madelene Budd, Carol Carty, Sal Castelli, Jenn Causey and family, Tracey Causey, Lisa Clark, Josh Clarke, Sean Cleavenger, Baby Landyn and Kristen Compagoni, Sherwood Cotton, Bob Counbs, Craig (diagnosed with cancer), Rocco Cristinzio, Leslie Criston, Milton Cuevas, Sr., Milton Cuevas, Jr., The family of John Cusack as they grieve his passing, Nicholas Damiani, The family of Tony DelMonte as they mourn his passing, Alicia DiRienzo, Kathy Drew, Barbara Esposito, Barbara Facchine, Scott Fey, Bill Flynn, Francis, Bobby G., Alma Garcia, Gavin Gigliotti, Lauren Stott Gilbert, Marie Giliberti, Mark Gismondi, Terry Gismondi, Wilma Gismondi, Jay Goheen and family, Randi Gordon, the Hatcher family, the Hogan family, The friends and family of Tom Jones as they mourn his passing, Marilyn Kaiser, The family of Robert Keen as they mourn his passing, Corinne Klotz, Clara Kuter, The family and friends of Doris Lail as they mourn her passing, Grace Laphan, Pat Larkin, Joseph Lonia, The friends and family of Jessie MacGregor as they mourn her passing, The family of Doris Manogue as they mourn her passing, Joseph Mansfield, Rob and Nona McDonough & family, Caroline Miles, Jim Montisano, The friends and family of Mary Alice Morrison as they mourn her passing, George Muth, Bob and Sue Nevins, Janet Ostrowski, Lucas Otey, Otis, Donna Paone, Danielle Peters, The family of Lewis Richards as they mourn his passing, Dan Richardson, The family of Charles Rust as they mourn his passing, The family of Scott Rust as they mourn his passing, Noreen Ruyuh, Dylan Sauer, Meleta Seher, Billy Shea, Sue Sheeley, Helen Simkunas & Family, Joyce and Arvin Skramsdad, Julia Stanz, Sarah Stanz, Donna Testa, Frank Temean, Ed Tutka, Sharon Walker, Wayne Weaver, The family of Michelle Whiting as they mourn her passing, the Wilke family including Tim & Catherine, Jill Wilt, Sue Wise, Shirley Yancer.

THE PRAYERS

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need. *A brief silence.*

We pray for the church in the world, its leaders, and its mission to share the good news of healing and restoration. Inspire us to embody the beloved community in ways that faithfully witness to the Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the trembling mountains and glad streams of creation. Preserve and renew your coastlines, deep seas, forests, and grasslands. Guide all who tend flocks or care for creatures of all kinds. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for leaders and advocates in government, civic life, and public safety. Support equity across the globe, and heal division with accountability and truth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for any who are hungry, living in poverty or desperation, weary in body or spirit, or sick (*especially*). Comfort all in need of your tender care. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for this part of the body of Christ gathered around word and sacrament. Bring us into authentic community where all ages are valued and experience God's faithfulness together. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We give thanks for all who have died in faith (*especially*). May we remember them faithfully until we are gathered with you in the paradise you promise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

And also with you.

The ministers and congregation may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Peace be with you. **Peace be with you.**

CHORAL OFFERTORY

In Christ Alone

arr. L. Larson

OFFERTORY VERSE



Let the vine-yards be fruit-ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of
bless-ing. Gath-er a har-vest from the seeds that were sown, that
we may be fed with the bread of life. Gath-er the hopes and dreams of
all; u-nite them with the prayers we of-fer. Grace our ta-ble
with your pres-ence, and give us a fore-taste of the feast to come.

OFFERING PRAYER

God of healing and hope, you bless those who are hungry, promising to fill them with good things. Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts. Nourish us with the abundance of your feast and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our Savior, now and forever. **Amen.**

DIALOGUE, PREFACE AND SANCTUS (LBW p. 87)

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 him thanks and praise.

It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and in all places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; 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 the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



THANKSGIVING (LBW p. 89)

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.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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 HOLY COMMUNION

There is a place for you at the table of God. Come, receive the food that does not perish, a taste of life eternal.

COMMUNION HYMN (LBW p. 92)



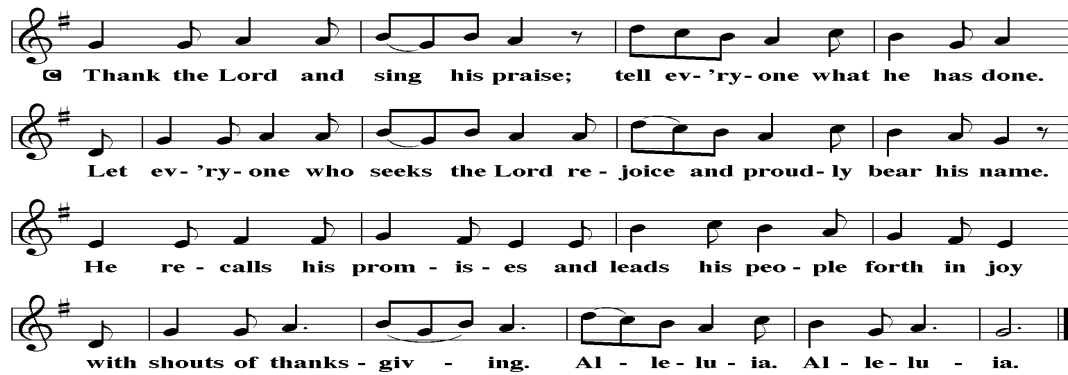
COMMUNION (LBW p. 91)

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

The blood of Christ, shed for you. **Amen.**

POST-COMMUNION CANTICLE (LBW p. 92)

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**



☞ Thank the Lord and sing his praise; tell ev-'ry-one what he has done.
Let ev-'ry-one who seeks the Lord re-joice and proud-ly bear his name.
He re-calls his prom-is-es and leads his peo-ple forth in joy
with shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

God of field and flower, wheat and grape, **you have nourished us with the bread of heaven that gives life to the world. Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son, send us out to gather your good gifts for all who hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love and serve in Christ's name. Amen.**

SENDING OF COMMUNION

Gracious God, loving all your family with a mother's tender care: As you sent the angel to feed Elijah with heavenly bread, assist those who set forth to share your word and sacrament with those who are *sick, homebound, and imprisoned*. In your love and care, nourish and strengthen those who will receive this sacrament, and give us all the comfort of your abiding presence through the body and blood of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead. The holy Trinity bless you (+) and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN *Soon and Very Soon* (WOV 744)

1 Soon and ver - y soon
 2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
 3 No more dy - in' there,
 4 Soon and ver - y soon

soon and ver - y soon
 no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
 no more dy - in' there,
 soon and ver - y soon

soon and ver - y soon
 no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
 no more dy - in' there,
 soon and ver - y soon

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Coda after stanza 4

Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -

jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Offering received November 15th and 16th - \$1330.00. (This amount does not include money donated for the “Paint the Tower” fund.) Weekly amount needed to meet the spending plan--\$2498.00. Total received to date—\$104735.45. Amount needed to date--\$114908.00. (We are currently about \$10172.00 behind our spending plan goal. Please don’t forget the church if you will be away.)
- We are currently running a campaign to re-paint the church tower (“Paint the Tower” fund). The total cost of the project is \$4000 and we need to have half of this amount to schedule the work (\$2000). As of this past weekend, we received \$2970 so we will be able to schedule the work. We still need an additional \$1030 to pay the final bill. Please mark your donations “Tower” so we can accurately track our progress. Thank you for your generosity in helping us to maintain our church property!
- A “Thank You” from Doris Manogue’s family:
 - * Our mother always loved taking care of her home inside and outside to make it feel beautiful, warm and welcoming. She would be pleased that these two lovely shrubs are adorning her “church home” giving it the same beautiful and welcoming feel. She would also be very touched that dear, longtime family friends, Larry and Nick Baud, chose the shrubs and then planted them at the church. We appreciate all of their efforts and time in digging out the old shrubs and selecting and planting the new ones. (Funds from Doris’ memorial were used to purchase the shrubs.)
- Donations through Venmo and PayPal--Please note that, per council policy, if you make an electronic donation through Venmo or PayPal, it will not be recorded on your annual giving statement. It is the member’s responsibility to track these donations for tax purposes.
- Due to a data corruption, we have lost the list of birthdays and anniversaries. As a result, we need to rebuild the database. We typically include birthdays and anniversaries in the monthly newsletters. If you would like to be included in this listing, please fill out a slip and drop it in the offering plate. The slips can be found on the table at the rear of the church. If you will not be at church, you can also email the information to the church account (hnlc.secretary@hotmail.com). (We are only looking to collect month and day, not year.)
- Feed The Northeast 2025—Thank you for your generous donations to this project. We have exceeded our goal for October. We will continue to collect items in November for Thanksgiving.
- We will again be assembling hygiene kits this year. If you have a THRIVENT account, please consider setting up an Action Team Grant to help with this project. This will enable us to have the funds to purchase items to fill the kits. If you have questions, please reach out to Pastor Andy.
- The GWCM food ministry is requesting Thanksgiving donations to be distributed 11/18, 11/20 and 11/25. Please drop your turkey donation on those dates between 8:30am and 11am. There is not alot of room to store so they will be given out as they are collected. Each family will receive a holiday bag with 7 items, donations are needed for those. Items are: cake mix, icing, stuffing, gravy, cranberries, canned vegetables and pumpkin.
- Shop Rite shopping cards are available for purchase after the services.
- ST. PETER’S COMMUNITY PANTRY is here to help serve those facing food insecurity in Gloucester County. If you are having a difficult time buying food for yourself, or your family, please let us try to make a small difference for you. The Pantry is located behind St. Peter’s Episcopal Church at 304 Kings Highway in Clarksboro. We are open every 3rd Saturday of the Month from 9 AM to 1 PM. Next distribution date: Saturday, November 15, 2025.
- Coffee hour between services is scheduled for the first Sunday of each month, hosted by the 8:30 service. Come and join us for coffee and fellowship Sunday, December 7th.
- Save the following dates:
 - * Sunday, November 30—Advent wreath making between services
 - * Sunday, December 7—Christmas Party (12:00 noon)

- * Saturday, December 13—Holiday Sing-along at Memorial Presbyterian @ 1:00 pm. It is a family event for the whole community. There will be a combined choir and rehearsal for the choir will be held at Memorial Presbyterian on Thursday, December 10 @ 6:30 pm.
- * Saturday, December 13 and Sunday December 14—Bake sale after the services
- * Sunday, December 21—Gift Wrapping ONLY between services (Please RSVP by 12/7)
- * Wednesday, December 24—Services at 5:00 pm and 7:00 pm
- * Thursday, December 25—Service at 10:30 am
- * Tuesday, March 3, 2026—Red Cross Blood Drive

- GROWING IN FAITH: THE DIAKONIA PROGRAM Growing in Faith is a ministry within the ELCA committed to fostering learning environments for followers of Jesus to grow in faith. Lay members of congregations are integral to healthy discipleship in the church and community. If you would be interested in this program, check out the website www.njdiakonia.com for more information.
- There are two Planet Aid clothing bins in the parking lot. Clean items may be placed in the yellow bins: including clothing, shoes, bedding, towels, curtains, sleeping bags, socks, underwear, bras. They do not accept items that are tattered beyond repair, dirty, wet or moldy.
- If you have someone that you would like on the prayer list, please fill out a form in the narthex and place it in the offering plate or contact the church office email: hnlc.secretary@hotmail.com.
- Choir rehearsals resumed on September 7 @ 9:40. All are welcome to join us.
- Live Sunday School sessions are held every Sunday at 9:30. We welcome students of all ages. Church school resources continue to be available on our website on a weekly basis.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest. **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

Rejoice, the Lord is King

arr. L. Smith

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GOSPEL MESSAGE (The Servant King)

Many congregations will sing a hymn this Sunday that declares, “Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o’er the grave and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save” (ELW 855). This is an image of a conquering hero who fought Satan and won. Hail to the king! But that is not the king we are presented with in today’s gospel reading. Jesus is a broken, rejected man hanging naked in public shame, dying for a capital offense, sandwiched between two criminals.

Many people struggle to think of Jesus as king because of the negative actions of historical kings. Kings have too often been men wielding power for their own gain, sitting on thrones upheld by patriarchy and wealth. Furthering this negative image are colonialism and the kings who issued decrees to ravage and control people in their native land. Neither is this the image of Christ the king in today’s reading.

At Gonzaga University (Spokane, Washington), a focus on servant leadership is offered as a concentration in the master’s program in organizational leadership. Its focuses are forgiveness and restorative justice, listening and discerning, community-building, foresight and strategy, and transformational thinking. Doesn’t that sound a lot more like the leadership of Jesus?

Perhaps we are reminded of the hard parts of Jesus’ journey to draw our attention to his purpose and the focus of his teachings. He wasn’t a conqueror, and he didn’t wield power for his own gain. He hung naked on the cross to be the ultimate servant leader. We claim Jesus as our king because of his servant leadership—his focus on forgiveness and restoration, building community, and thinking in transformational ways. Hail the servant king!

HOLY NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH

3 Lenape Trail
Wenonah, NJ 08090
856-468-5760

hnlc.secretary@hotmail.com

Pastor: Andy Gordon Music Director: Chris Robinson
5:00—Harriet Vico; 8:30—Lori Kershaw; 10:30—Diane Yandach

CONGREGATION COUNCIL

April Montana—Council Person/President & Christian Education
Vince Montana—Council Person/Vice President/Property/Worship & Music
Joyce Bradbury—Council Person/Secretary
Donna DeFrank—Council Person/Stewardship & Finance
Lori Kershaw—Council Person/Social Ministry--Fellowship
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