

Christ the King Sunday
November 23, 2025, 8:30 A.M.
St. John's Lutheran Church

Announcements

Prelude

Rejoice the Lord Is King

Michael Burkhardt

Ringling of the Church Bell

Confession and Forgiveness

pp. 116-117

L: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

L: 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.

L: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Most merciful God,

C: we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

L: 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.

C: Amen.

Gathering Hymn:

Jesus Shall Reign

ELW # 434 VS 1-3

Greeting and Kyrie

"In peace, let us pray..."

pp. 147-148

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.**

L: In peace, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

L: 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. **C: Lord, have mercy.**

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

C: Lord, have mercy.

L: Help, save, comfort and defend us gracious Lord. **C: Amen**

L: Glory to God in the highest and peace to God's people on earth.

C: Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High; Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Prayer of the Day: L: 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.

C: Amen.

First Reading: Jeremiah 23: 1-6

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."

Psalm: Psalm 46 (Read Responsively).

L: ¹ God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

C: ² Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

L: ³ though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

C: ⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

L: ⁵ God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

C: ⁶ The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

L: ⁷ The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

C: ⁸ Come now, regard the works of the Lord, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

L: ⁹ 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.

C: ¹⁰ "Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."

L: ¹¹ The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Second Reading: Colossians 1: 11-20

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.

Special Music/Anthem

Jesus My Lord and God
Senior Choir

John Ferguson

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation (please stand)

"Alleluia. Lord to whom shall we go?"

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C: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

The Gospel:

Luke 23: 33-43

C: Glory to You, O Lord/Praise to You, O Christ

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."

Message

Pastor Mark Jolivette

Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

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

The Offering Hymn

Count Your Blessings

See Insert

Today's Radio Broadcast sponsor chosen hymn.

The Offering Prayer: P: 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. **C: Amen.**

Prayers of the Church: L: Hear Us O God. **C: Your mercy is great!**

The Lord's Prayer

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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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

P: The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you, God the Son save you, and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead and grant you a faithful and courageous heart now and forever. May the Lord bless you and keep you, may the Lord's face shine upon you grace and mercy. May the Lord look upon you with favor ☩ and give you peace. **C: Amen**

Closing Hymn

Crown Him With Many Crowns

ELW # 855 VS 1-3

Dismissal: P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord. **C: Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

To The Lord Jesus, Thanks We Give

J.S. Bach

Activities this Week at St. John's**Nov 23, 2025, to Nov 30, 2025**

Sun, Nov 23	8:30am & 10:30am	Worship Services w/ Thankoffering
	9:30am	Sr Choir, Sun School
	7pm	Ecumenical Choir
	8pm	Men's Choir
Wed, Nov 26	There will be no Thanksgiving Eve service	
	There will be no Youth Bells, Sr Bells or Confirmation	
Sun, Nov 30	8:30am & 10:30am	Worship Services w/Comm
	9:30am	Sr Choir, Sunday School
	7pm	Ecumenical Choir
	8pm	Men's Choir

General Funds (undesignated)**Attendance**

Jan 1 – Nov 19, 2025		Last Sunday	122
Actual Income	\$177,781	2025 Average	99
Actual Expenses	\$151,796	2024 Average	99
Jan 1 – Nov 30, 2025			
Budget Expenses	\$187,466		

Greeters	8:30am	Geralyn Smith
	10:30am	
Readers	8:30am	Mary Jo Meyer
	10:30am	Linda Groe
Ushers	8:30am	Linda & Dennis DeBuhr, Fred Oelberg
	10:30am	
Secretary		Lana Dahlstrom
Custodians		John & Sharon Roe
Organist/Director of Music		James H. Bieber
Pastor		Mark Jolivette

We warmly welcome Pastor Mark Jolivette from La Crosse, Wisconsin, as he leads us in worship this morning. We're grateful for his presence and ministry with us today.

Radio Broadcast Ministry; Today's broadcast is in loving memory of John and Olive Sivesind, Frank Sivesind, and grandson Ben Kerndt. Our sincere appreciation goes to the Sivesind Family of Waukon for their heartfelt generosity in sponsoring today's program. Your continued support helps sustain this important outreach ministry! Join us each Sunday morning at 8:30 am on KNEI 103.5 FM to listen to the service. Note: When sponsoring a broadcast, you have the opportunity to select a hymn of your choice for that service.

We are still accepting pledges toward the Solar Project. Pledges may be made by filling out the forms on the table by the Narthex.

Grateful hearts are getting food baskets ready for Christmas. The grocery cart is located in the coat room with a list of items. Please donate generously to this cause and if you would rather donate money, please make a check out to the St. John's and write Food Baskets in the memo. Thank You!

Attention Members: Please contact the Church Office at 563-568-3623 or email

stjohnswaukon@gmail.com with your current email, address, phone so we can update our records for all 2026 Church correspondence. If you prefer to pick up printed correspondence instead of receiving emails, please let us know. Thank you for helping us stay connected!

Share Your Time and Talents! St. John's is blessed with a vibrant community, each with unique gifts. Please take a moment to mark the areas where you're interested in helping. A time-and-talent sheet was emailed, and hard copies are available in the pews. Your participation helps us grow together in faith and service—thank you!

Call Committee Update: **The Call Committee has prepared a questionnaire to help develop our ministry profile.** If you haven't completed one yet, copies are available in the Narthex. Please return your questionnaire to the wooden drop box at the back of the church or to the church office. Your input is important as we continue working with the synod. Thank you for your support!

The Women of the ELCA ThankOffering. We will have our traditional ThankOffering service on Sun, Nov 23. The concept of ThankOffering celebrations dates back more than 100 years. ThankOfferings show gratitude for God's blessings and give us a tangible way to express that gratitude. It is a tradition used in celebration of community and of meeting together to joyfully give thanks for what God has given us. We are placing the offering box in the back of the church today and before the first service on Nov 23. If you would like to donate to the ThankOffering, please place your donation in the box. We will have a short service during the first church service on Nov 23. These donations then will be sent to the Women of the ELCA in Chicago. Thank you.

Northern Lights Women's Chorus fall concert at 3 p.m. Sun, Nov 23 at Decorah Lutheran Church. During intermission, a freewill offering will be taken, with a portion of the proceeds being donated to the Decorah Community Food Pantry. Northern Lights will perform at Decorah's Holiday Lights Walk-through Night on Nov 26 at 5:30 p.m. at Pulpit Rock Campground, and at Vesterheim Christmas on Dec 6 at noon. For more information, visit the choir's [Facebook page](#). Or email northernlightsdecorah@gmail.com. Flyer on bulletin board

Zion UCC Annual Cookie Walk Saturday, December 6, 8:30-10:30 am. Come and choose from a variety of cookies, candies, and holiday treats available for purchase and/or enjoy fresh cinnamon rolls and coffee, milk, or juice.

You and your family are invited to the **Luren Singers Christmas Concert** on Sunday, December 14 - 3:00 p.m. at Decorah Lutheran Church, 309 Winnebago St l Decorah IA. The theme of the concert is "Angels We Have Heard" featuring Guest Artists The Rhapsody String Quartet. Pianists are Dr. Jessica Paul and Chris Hadley. Dr. David Judisch and Doug Poppen will be conducting. Free Will Offering will be accepted

Reminder: There will be no Thanksgiving Eve service.

Volunteers for Nov 30 service:

Ushers for November: 8:30 am Linda & Dennis DeBuhr, Fred Oelberg 10:30 am:

Greeters: 8:30 am Jeff & Diana Johnson 10:30 am

Readers: 8:30 am Diana Johnson 10:30 am Sadie Bucheit

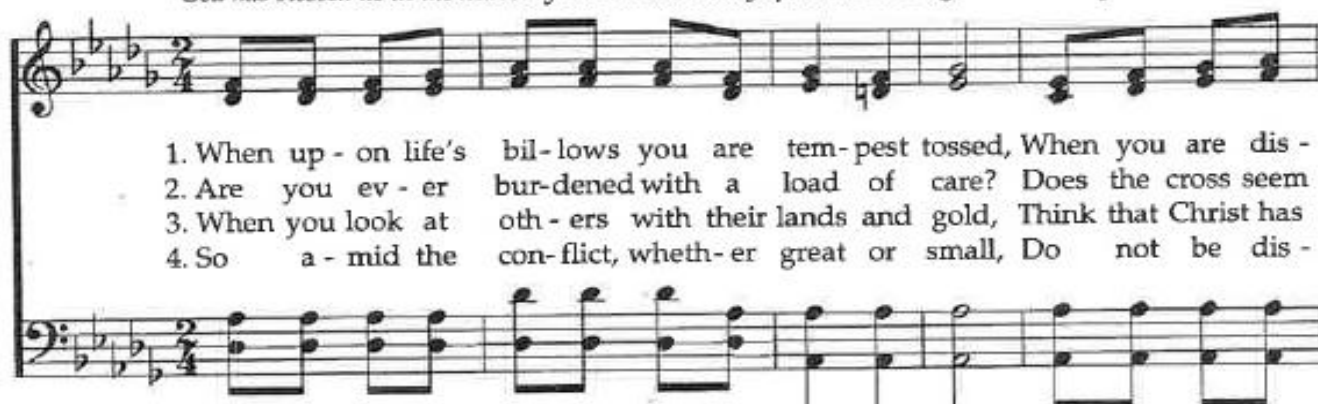
Comm Prep: 8:30 am Altar Guild 10:30 am Altar Guild

Comm Assistant: 8:30 am Dave & Wendy Sanderson, Ron Dahlstrom 10:30 am Sadie Bucheit

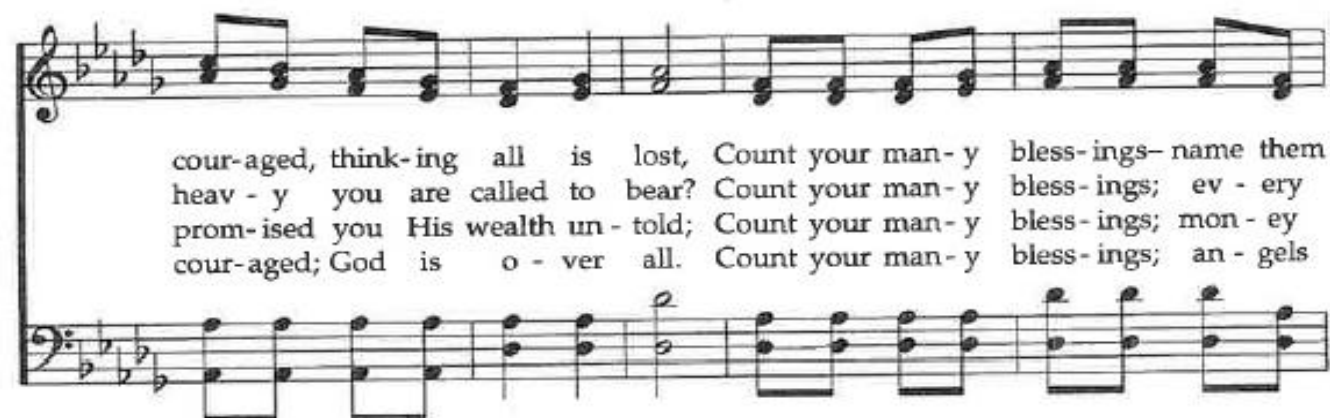
We are pleased to host Pastor Waldemar Gies, Rochester, MN.

786 Count Your Blessings

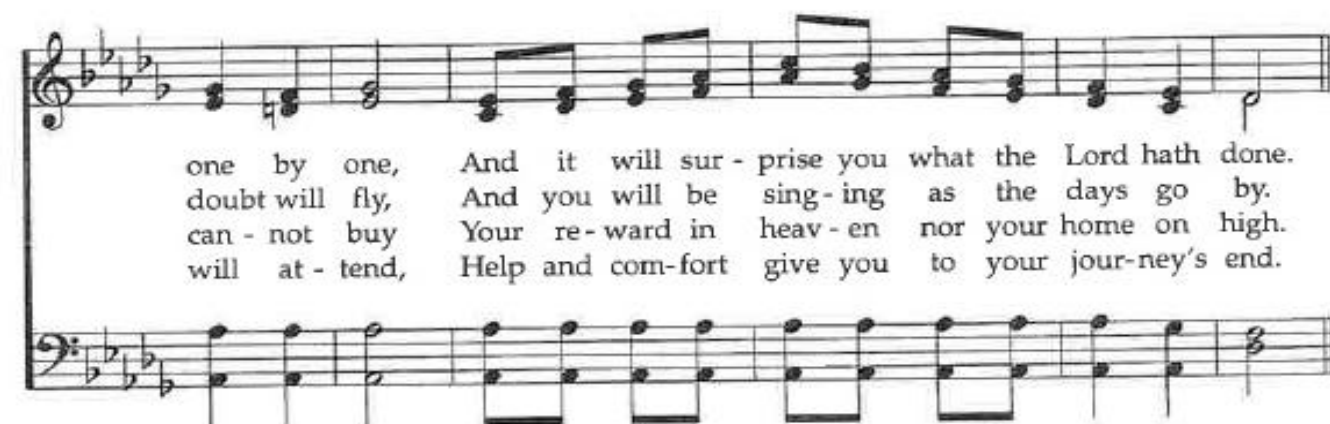
God has blessed us in the heavenly realms with every spiritual blessing in Christ. Ephesians 1:3



1. When up - on life's bil-lows you are tem-pest tossed, When you are dis -
 2. Are you ev - er bur-den-ed with a load of care? Does the cross seem
 3. When you look at oth - ers with their lands and gold, Think that Christ has
 4. So a - mid the con-flict, wheth - er great or small, Do not be dis -

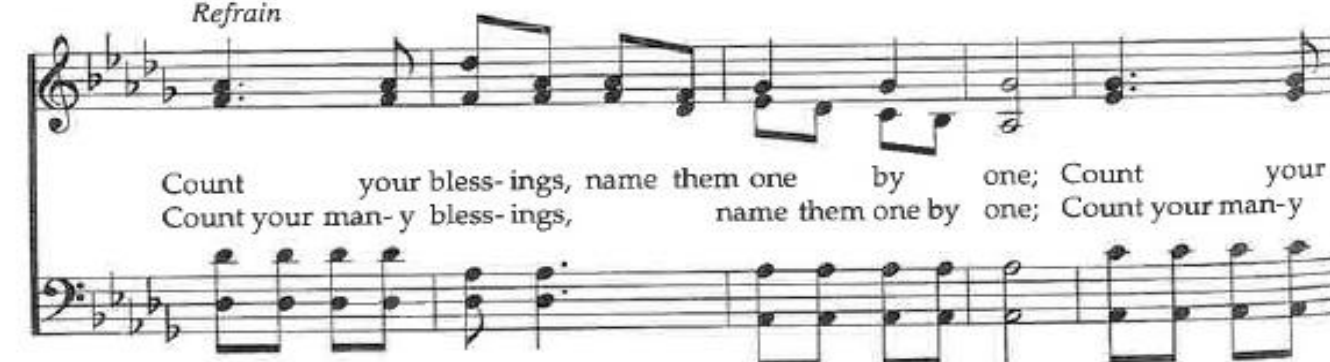


cour-aged, think-ing all is lost, Count your man-y bless-ings- name them
 heav - y you are called to bear? Count your man-y bless-ings; ev - ery
 prom-ised you His wealth un - told; Count your man-y bless-ings; mon - ey
 cour-aged; God is o - ver all. Count your man-y bless-ings; an - gels



one by one, And it will sur - prise you what the Lord hath done.
 doubt will fly, And you will be sing-ing as the days go by.
 can - not buy Your re - ward in heav - en nor your home on high.
 will at - tend, Help and com-fort give you to your jour-ney's end.

Refrain



Count your bless-ings, name them one by one; Count your
 Count your man-y bless-ings, name them one by one; Count your man-y

THANKSGIVING

musical score for Thanksgiving, featuring two systems of music with lyrics.

System 1:

bless-ings, see what God hath done. Count your bless-ings,
bless-ings, see what God hath done. Count your man-y bless-ings,

System 2:

name them one by one; Count your man-y bless-ings, see what God hath done.