

Christ the King Sunday

November 23, 2025



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.



ZION
Ministries Under the Cross

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Welcome to Zion!

“The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest.”

(Luke 10:2)

Welcome – whether this is your home congregation or your first visit, we’re glad you’re here!

We welcome all people in the name of Christ to experience God’s goodness and grace in Word, water, and meal. Wherever you are on your spiritual journey, there is a place for you to belong at Zion.

Get Connected at Zion

The best ways to stay connected are to visit our website, follow us on social media (@zionchurchdfb on Facebook and Instagram), and subscribe to our weekly newsletter.

Children in Worship

Children are God’s gift to our church! They are not the future of our church; they are the right now. The way we welcome children here directly affects the way they respond to the Church, to God, and to one another.

We welcome children and their families to sit near the Playground at the side of Katie Luther Chapel. There are coloring activities, puzzles, and books to engage in our worship together.

Giving

We appreciate your stewardship of treasure, talent, and time at Zion. You may leave your offerings in the offering plates or give online via our website or this QR code.



Livestreaming

Zion livestreams all our services on Facebook and YouTube. Any person present gives consent to being filmed or photographed.



Zion is a Reconciling in Christ (RIC) community, and extends God's radical welcome to all people, because we're all created in God's image.

We Gather

PRE-SERVICE MUSIC

ELW Hymn #634

“All Hail the Pow’r of Jesus’ Name”

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING HYMN

ELW Hymn #855

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

APOSTOLIC 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.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

ELW pp. 187-188

On festival Sundays, we replace the Kyrie with a Hymn of Praise.

The assembly joins with the refrain and the Minister sings the verses.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together... **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.**

We Hear & Respond to God’s Word

FIRST READING

Jeremiah 23:1-6

...The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SECOND READING

Colossians 1:11-20

...The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Cantor sings the verse. The assembly joins with the refrain:



GOSPEL

Luke 23:33-43

Before the reading: The Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to you, O Lord.

After the reading: The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ!

GOD'S MESSAGE FOR ALL

HYMN OF THE DAY

ACS Hymn #954

"You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & SHARING OF PEACE

The peace of the Lord be with you always! **And also with you.**

OFFERTORY HYMN & PRAYER

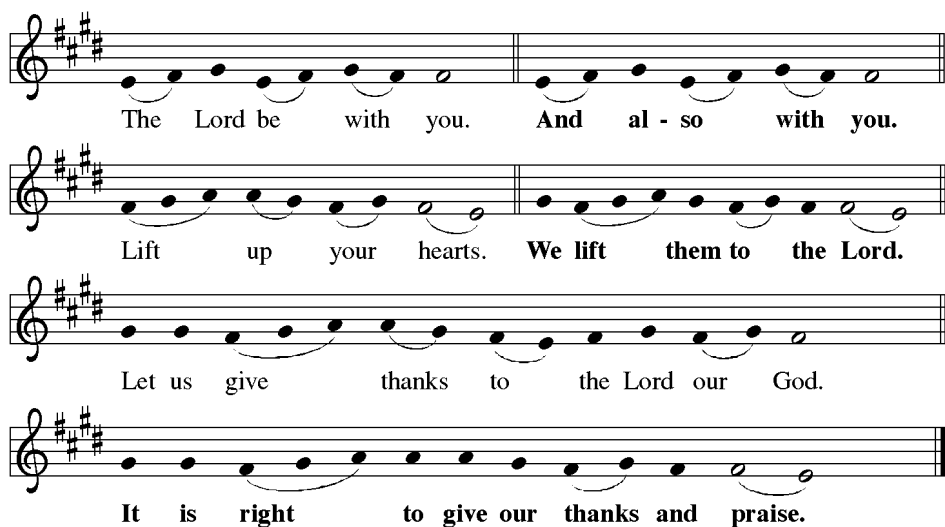
ELW Hymn #679

"For the Fruit of All Creation"

Let us pray together...**Lord of the harvest, we return to you a portion of what you have given to us. Turn us to set our hope not on the uncertainty of riches, but on you, who richly provides for us. Multiply what we have gathered to bless all who are suffering and in need, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

We Feast at the Lord's Table

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



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...

SANCTUS ("HOLY, HOLY")

ELW Hymn #525

"You Are Holy"

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray: **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

SHARING THE MEAL

“Here Is Bread”
“Revelation Song”

ELW Hymn #483

We Are Sent into the World

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ comfort, strengthen, and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together... **O God, through this meal you have strengthened us and appointed us to be your servants. Send us to do good and to share our possessions with all in need. We ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.**

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ☩ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

ELW Hymn #439

“Soon and Very Soon”

DISMISSAL

The worship has ended. Now the service begins.
Go in peace. You are strengthened to serve. **Thanks be to God.**

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Today's Readings

Christ the King

November 23, 2025

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.**

First Reading

Jeremiah 23:1-6

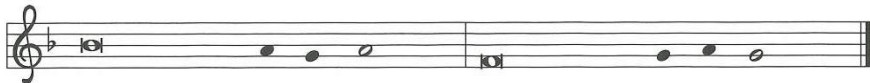
Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then 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. ⁴I 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.

⁵The 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. ⁶In 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; tone 5



God is our ref-¹uge and strength,
a very present¹ help in trouble.

²Therefore we will not fear,
though the¹ earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake
in the depths¹ of the sea;

³though its waters¹ rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble
with its tumult.

⁴There is a river whose streams
make glad the cit-¹y of God,
the holy habitation
of¹ the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city;
it shall¹ not be shaken;
God shall help it
at the¹ break of day.

⁶The nations rage,
and the¹ kingdoms shake;
God speaks,
and the earth¹ melts away.

⁷The LORD of¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob¹ is our stronghold.

⁸Come now,
regard the works¹ of the LORD,

continued

what desolations

God has brought up-¹ on the earth;

⁹behold the one who makes war to
cease in ¹ all the world;

who breaks the bow,
and shatters the spear,
and burns the ¹ shields with fire.

¹⁰“Be still, then,

and know that ¹ I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations;

I will be exalted ¹ in the earth.”

¹¹The LORD of ¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob ¹ is our stronghold.

Second Reading

Colossians 1:11-20

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 ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for 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.

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

Gospel

Luke 23:33-43

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

inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

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

TODAY'S READINGS November 23, 2025 (Christ the King)

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Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44.

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