

Service of Holy Communion
Christ the King
November 21, 2021
10:00 a.m.

THE GATHERING

PRELUDE

"Now Let Us Thank God, the Lord"	- Johann Pachelbel
"We Gather Together"	- Russel Schulz-Widmar
"Crown Him with Many Crowns"	- Robert Crane

WELCOME

ORDER FOR CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

While we were still sinners, Christ died for us. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, God promises to heal and forgive us. Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

The congregation may kneel or sit.

To you, O God,
**all hearts are open, to you all desires known. We come to you,
confessing our sins. Forgive us in your mercy, and remember us in
your love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in
justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our
Savior.
Amen.**

By water and the Holy Spirit God gives you a new birth, and through the death and resurrection of † Jesus Christ, God forgives you all your sins. The God of mercy and might strengthen you in all goodness and keep you in eternal life.
Amen.

The congregation may stand.

GATHERING HYMN

"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing" Red Book #389

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

The congregation may be seated.

THE WORD

CHILDREN'S SERMON

Following the message, the children are blessed to go downstairs to children's church or to return to their families. The children's church returns to the sanctuary during the sharing of the peace.

FIRST READING 2 Samuel 23:1-7

This song attributed to David speaks of a promise: God will establish David's house (dynasty) forever. Indeed, David's dynasty endured more than four hundred years until the exile in 587 BCE. When there was no longer a Davidic king on the throne, this promise was understood to refer to the Messiah.

¹Now these are the last words of David:

The oracle of David, son of Jesse,
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,
the anointed of the God of Jacob,
the favorite of the Strong One of Israel:

²The spirit of the LORD speaks through me,

his word is upon my tongue.
³The God of Israel has spoken,
the Rock of Israel has said to me:
One who rules over people justly,
ruling in the fear of God,
⁴is like the light of morning,
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,
gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.

⁵Is not my house like this with God?
For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,
ordered in all things and secure.
Will he not cause to prosper
all my help and my desire?
⁶But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away;
for they cannot be picked up with the hand;
⁷to touch them one uses an iron bar
or the shaft of a spear.
And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

PSALM 132:1-12 [13-18] *read responsively*

¹LORD, remember David,
and all the hardships he endured;
²**how he swore an oath to the LORD
and vowed a vow to the Mighty One of Jacob:**
³"I will not come under the roof of my house,
nor climb up into my bed;
⁴**I will not allow my eyes to sleep,
nor let my eyelids slumber;**
⁵until I find a place for the LORD,
a dwelling for the Mighty One of Jacob."
⁶**"The ark! We heard it was in Ephrathah;
we found it in the fields of Ja'ar.**
⁷Let us go to God's dwelling-place;
let us fall upon our knees before God's footstool."
⁸**Arise, O LORD, into your resting-place,**

you and the ark of your strength.

⁹Let your priests be clothed with righteousness;
let your faithful people sing with joy.

¹⁰**For your servant David's sake,
do not turn away the face of your anointed.**

¹¹The LORD has sworn an oath to David, and in truth, will not break it:
"A son, the fruit of your body, will I set upon your throne.

¹²**If your children keep my covenant and my testimonies that I shall
teach them,
their children will sit upon your throne forevermore."**

SECOND READING Revelation 1:4b-8

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

^{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.

Thanks be to God.

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL John 18:33-37

The holy gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John, the eighteenth chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.

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.

Praise to you, O Christ.

The congregation may be seated.

SERMON

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Before the Ancient One, Christ Stands



1 Be - fore the An - cient One, Christ stands, en - robed in cloud and
 2 Who was, who is, and is to come as ser - vant lived in
 3 Now in the lat - ter days you call, O Christ, and plead the

bright as snow, five wounds im - print his side, feet, hands, and
 hu - man sphere; com - pas - sion was his di - a - dem; his
 prem - ise clear, that pow - er grasped is none at all, and

thorns, the gar - land on his brow. Yet thrones and
 glo - ry was the gen - tle tear; hu - mil - i -
 serv - ing shows your Spir - it near. As na - tions

pow'rs fall to the knee and weave a song of maj - es - ty,
 ty, his pur - ple garb; the heal - ing hand, his roy - al orb.
 clash and wis - dom wanes, as glo - ries tempt and greed sus - tains,

for what the world ad - mires as gain is not the es - sence
 Such love drew ire and ire drew death, but God has proved the
 you bid us choose in ev - 'ry hour the pow'r of love, the

of Christ's reign, and strength is his, and name and
 tru - er strength, and through all space the host pro -
 great - est pow'r, that love may her - ald God's do -

might, be - cause he pit - ied hu - mans' plight,
 claims the name a - bove all oth - er names,
 main, and you, at last, may come to reign.

Text: Susan Palo Cherwin, b. 1953

Music: CHRIST CHURCH, MINNEAPOLIS, Robert Buckley Farlee, b. 1950

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HOLY BAPTISM OF ROWAN THEOÑE STYEN

page 227 in the front of the red book

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

With the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, let us pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

God, by sending your Son you have made us into a kingdom. We pray that your Son's gentle rule would come to all people through the gifts and promises of baptism, and that our new sister in Christ, Rowan, may receive the gift of her baptism in faith. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

That those who have power over nations may seek peace for all people and health for the entire planet. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

That those who are lonely or those who are experiencing a first Thanksgiving without a loved one may experience the comfort of your presence. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

That those who lament injustice against American Indian and Alaska native peoples may discover resiliency in their search for justice. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

That those who struggle with strained family relationships may find ways to relate to others through the grace of Jesus. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

That those who are in any special need may receive healing and wholeness, especially those whom we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

That we remember Pat, Diane, and all those who have died in Christ with thanksgiving and hope, and that your kingdom would come soon in fullness for us all. Lord, in your mercy: **hear our prayer.**

Confident that you hear us, O God, we boldly place our prayers into your hands; through Jesus Christ, our truth and life.

Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM “God of Might, We Praise Thy Name”
KATHOLISCHES GESANGBUCH, Vienna, c. 1774
-Lloyd Pfautsch, *arr.*

The congregation may stand.

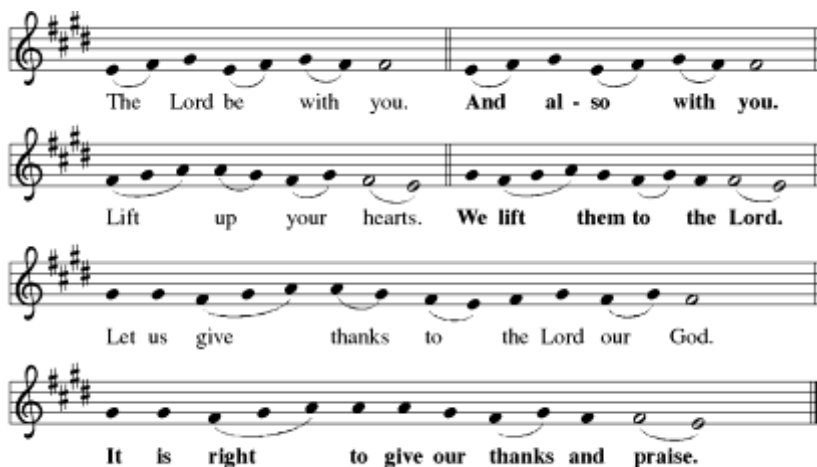
MEAL

OFFERING PRAYER

Gracious God, you bless us with gifts of guidance, new life, growth in grace, and fruitful labor. Accept the first fruits of time and toil, field and orchard we offer here. Bless and multiply these gifts to our nurture and the care of your creation; for the sake of your Son, our Savior Jesus Christ.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...*(the presiding minister continues giving thanks)*...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:



Blessed are you, O God, creator of heaven and earth. You rescued your covenant people, led them on all their journeys, and taught them by the prophets... *(the presiding minister continues giving thanks, concluding)* ...As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

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

Pour out your Holy Spirit in this meal and make us one in this community of faith and with your people throughout the world.

Glory and praise to you, O God, Author of life, Word made flesh,
Power of the Most High, now and forever.

Amen.

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 THE TABLE

The gifts of God for the people of God. Come to the table, for all is now ready.

LAMB OF GOD

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.

The congregation may be seated.

SHARING OF THE SACRAMENT

All are welcome to Holy Communion today. Lutherans believe that Christ is truly present in the bread and wine. The ushers will invite you forward to receive; please keep 6 feet of distance between you and the next group of communicants. Gluten free wafers are available; please let the pastor know if you wish to receive them. If you are able to receive either bread or wine (but not both), please know that you still receive the full communion.

The congregation may stand.

BLESSING AFTER COMMUNION

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

Amen.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of life, in the gift of your body and blood
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.

Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

THE SENDING

BLESSING

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. May the blessing of God, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN

"Soon and Very Soon"

Red Book #439

DISMISSAL

Go in peace, serve the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"Now Thank We All Our God"

- Russell Schulz-Widmar

SERVING IN WORSHIP TODAY

The Rev. Kimberly van Driel	Presiding Minister
Sandy Lefebvre	Assisting Minister
Holly Schubert	Reader
Dan Morrow	Crucifer
Marlene Stein	Children's Church
Kevin Mathias	Organist
Harry Cunningham	Senior Choir Director
Sue Morrow	AV Assisting Minister

Heather Helsel	PowerPoint Assisting Minister
Roxanne Glagola	Altar Guild
Bill and Judy Vilcheck	Ushers
Jack and Amy Beiler	Counters

*Flowers are given to the glory of God by the Hibbs family,
in memory of loved ones.*

THIS WEEK AT FIRST ENGLISH

Monday, 11/22	5:00 PM	Community Dinner
	8:00 PM	NA Meeting (Social Hall)
Wednesday, 11/24	7:30 PM	Thanksgiving Devotions on Zoom
	7:00 PM	AA Meeting (Social Hall)
Thursday, 11/25		Office Closed for Thanksgiving
	7:30 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
Friday, 11/26		Office Closed for Thanksgiving
Saturday, 11/27	12:00 PM	NA Meeting (Downstairs)
	1– 5 PM	Butler Radio Using Social Hall

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We rejoice that Rowan Theoné Styen receives the sacrament of Holy Baptism today! Rowan is the daughter of Marah Hyatt and James Styen.

Sponsors are Kara and Zackery Sexton. Welcome to God's family,
Rowan!

Sundays @ Lutherlyn continues today for all children age 3 – 5th grade. Confirmation class for grades 6th -9th has been canceled. We will gather at the Dogwood Shelter.

Our annual Christmas Tree Drive will begin on November 28th and end on Dec. 10th. Butler County Children and Youth Agency has reached out to our congregation to help enrich the lives of local children. We have participated in the program faithfully in the past. Last year over 300 deserving children were helped by this program. Please help again with your donation. You may use the "Specials" line of your offering envelope and make your check payable to First English Lutheran Church. Thank you for making this part of our Christmas tradition.

Christmas Flowers Sign-Up Sheet is posted on the bulletin board in the Social Hall. If you would like a flower to take home, please place your order by Sunday, December 5th. You may also order by contacting the church office (724) 283-2378 or officefelc@zoominternet.net.



As you are able, please continue to support First English's ministry financially during this time. Your gifts allow our ministry to continue. You can mail offerings into the church office (241 N. Main Street, Butler PA 16001) or give online at <http://firstenglishbutler.org/giving/>.

Butler Hospital is now allowing pastoral visitation. If you are hospitalized and would like Pr. Kimberly to visit, please let the church office know.

PRAYERS

Bob Ringler; the McClellan family; the family of Glenn Miller; Hazel Warheit; Emma Lee and David Hartle; the family of Joyce Hall; Eric; Lisa; Jan Nieto; Kathy Kline's niece Rose; Bill and Judy Vilcheck and family; the family of Kara Greeley; the family of Larry Kline; Jeff LaLonde; the Pelgrin and Buehler family; Jean Morrow; families of Joan

Chew, Henry Sinopoli, and Mark Grossman; family of Shirley Sellers; family of Barbara Petanovich and Curtis Wilbert; friend of the Swansons; Don, Betty and family; Mia Gill; Claude and all the soldiers who have been recently deployed to Kuwait as well as their families; Eleanor Roth; Joe Roudebush; Joe and Linda; Dave Konesni; Raymond Sawyer; Donna; the family of Rita Wagner; the family of Carol Duffus; Judy O. and family; Graham Cannon; Anne Ferguson; Claudia; Karen; Anita; Kitty Walker; Nancy Hoehn; Tad Sellers; Aryl Bashline; Jenna; Tom Olson; Pam Patterson

NEXT WEEK'S READINGS

Jeremiah 33:14-16

A righteous branch springing up from David

Psalms 25:1-10

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. (Ps. 25:1)

1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Strengthen hearts of holiness for the coming of the Lord

Luke 21:25-36

Be alert for the coming of the Son of Man