# Welcome To Worship At Whitnall Park Lutheran Church



# Sunday, November 23rd, 2025

Pastor Michael Fazio is presiding.

We have come together today as members and guests to worship God and celebrate new life in Jesus Christ. We hope our worship will be uplifting and provide a source of hope and strength for the week ahead. Please sign our Guest Register and introduce yourself as you leave worship today.

If you believe that the Lord is truly present for us in the Sacrament in body and blood for the forgiveness of sin, you are welcome to join us as we celebrate the Lord's Supper.

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### **PRELUDE**

As the prelude is a time of preparation, please consider quietly meditating on these words of the Psalm during this time of reflection

I will be exalted among the nations. (Ps. 46:10)

# CALL TO WORSHIP 434 Jesus Shall Reign Vs 5

5 Let ev'ry creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our king; angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism, as Pastor begins.

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

#### C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### C: Amen.

P: If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

- P: Most merciful God,
- C: We confess that we are in bondage 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.

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.

# ENTRANCE HYMN 634 All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! Vs 1-4

- 1 All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall; bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all. Bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all.
- O seed of Israel's chosen race now ransomed from the fall, hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all. Hail him who saves you by his grace and crown him Lord of all.
- 3 Hail him, you heirs of David's line, whom David Lord did call the God incarnate, man divine and crown him Lord of all. The God Incarnate, man divine and crown him Lord of all.
- 4 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. Go spread your trophies at his feet and crown him Lord of all.

#### **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.



# HYMN OF PRAISE Glory to God in the Highest ELW Setting 3 Pg 139

Cantor: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God's people on earth

All: 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

P: Let us pray . . . 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 a reading from Jeremiah 23:1-6

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.

<sup>1</sup> Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. <sup>2</sup> 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. <sup>3</sup> 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. <sup>4</sup>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. <sup>5</sup> 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. <sup>6</sup> 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." This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

# SENIOR CHOIR ~ With Every Breath ~ Medema

#### **PSALM** *46*

I will be exalted among the nations. (Ps. 46:10)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths of the sea;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Come now, regard the works of the LORD, what desolations God has brought upon the earth;

# **SECOND READING** *a reading from Colossians 1:11-20*

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. <sup>11</sup> 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 <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup> He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. <sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, <sup>16</sup> 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. <sup>17</sup> He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> 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. <sup>19</sup> For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, <sup>20</sup> 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. This is the Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

# **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** *ELW 142 Setting 3*

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

#### **GOSPEL**

P: The Holy Gospel according to Luke 23:33-43

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> 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.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> "Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations: I will be exalted in the earth."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

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. <sup>34</sup> [[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing."]] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. <sup>35</sup> 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!" <sup>36</sup> The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine <sup>37</sup> and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup> There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." <sup>39</sup> One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup> But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup> And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup> Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." <sup>43</sup> He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise." This is the Holy Gospel of Our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

#### **SERMON**

# HYMN OF THE DAY 431 O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us

- O Christ, what can it mean for us to claim you as our king? What royal face have you revealed whose praise the church would sing? Aspiring not to glory's height, to power, wealth, and fame, you walked a diff'rent, lowly way, another's will your aim.
- You came, the image of our God, to heal and to forgive, to shed your blood for sinners' sake that we might rise and live. To break the law of death you came, the law of love to bring: a diff'rent rule of righteousness, a diff'rent kind of king.
- Though some would make their greatness felt and lord it over all, you said the first must be the last and service be our call.O Christ in workplace, church, and home, let none to power cling; for still, through us, you come to serve, a diff'rent kind of king.

4 You chose a humble human form and shunned the world's renown; you died for us upon a cross with thorns your only crown.

But still, beyond the span of years, our glad hosannas ring, for now at God's right hand you reign, a diff'rent kind of king!

#### APOSTLE'S CREED

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.

## PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

a brief silence.

A: 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.

# C: Your mercy is great.

A: 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.

# C: Your mercy is great.

A: 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.

# C: Your mercy is great.

A: 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.

# C: Your mercy is great.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

P: We pray for any who are hungry, living in poverty or desperation, weary in body or spirit, or sick . . . Comfort all in need of your tender care. Hear us, O God.

# **C**: Your mercy is great.

P: We give thanks for all who have died in faith. May we remember them faithfully until we are gathered with you in the paradise you promise. Hear us, O God.

# C: Your mercy is great.

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

C: Amen.

#### **PEACE**

P: The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

# OFFERING/OFFERTORY HYMN 182 Let the Vinyards Be Fruitful

Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing.

Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life.

Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now.

Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.

## **OFFERING PRAYER**

P: 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**

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.
- P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

# HOLY, HOLY, HOLY ELW Setting 4 Pg 153

Holy, holy, holy Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might, Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

#### THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

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.

Through Abraham you promised to bless all nations. You rescued Israel, your chosen people. Through the prophets you renewed your promise; and at the end of all the ages, you sent your Son, who in words and deeds proclaimed your kingdom 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 in 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 in remembrance of me.

Join our prayers with those of your servants of every time and 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. Amen

#### LORD'S PRAYER

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.

# **COMMUNION**

THE BODY OF CHRIST, GIVEN FOR YOU. THE BLOOD OF CHRIST, SHED FOR YOU.

As we accept the Lord's gift of His body and blood, we will receive Him in our prefilled cups containing the wafer and juice or by intinction in the fullness of faith that God's love and grace have been poured into these holy elements. One Body, One Mind, One Lord Jesus Christ. This is God's precious gift for you.

# **COMMUNION SONG** Lamb of God Setting 3 Pg 146

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Grant us peace, grant us peace.

# COMMUNION HYMNS 838 Beautiful Savior 494 For The Bread Which You Have Broken

## **COMMUNION BLESSING**

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

C: Amen.

CANTICLE OF PRAISE 208 Praise To You, O God of Mercy
Praise to you, O God of Mercy, Thanks be to You forever!
Raising high the weak and lowly, Thanks be to You forever!
Thanks be to You forever!

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

A: Let us pray . . . We give you thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through the healing power of this gift of life. In your mercy, strengthen us through this gift, in faith toward you and in fervent love toward one another; for the sake of Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen.

#### **BLESSING**

P: Almighty God, Father, Son and + Holy Spirit bless you, now and forever.

C: Amen.

# SENDING HYMN 660 Lift High the Cross

#### Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.

- 1 Come, Christians, follow where our captain trod, our king victorious, Christ, the Son of God. *Refrain*
- 2 All newborn servants of the Crucified bear on their brows the seal of him who died. *Refrain*
- 3 O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree, as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee. *Refrain*
- 4 So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory! *Refrain*

#### **DISMISSAL**

A: Go in peace, Share the Good News!

C: Thanks be to God.

