



*Stay Productive While Waiting for Christ*

Second Last Sunday of the Church Year

November 19, 2023

# KING OF GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH | *Golden Valley, Minnesota*

Welcome to God's divine service among his saints in his house this morning. If you experience any kind of barrier to worship, please speak with an usher. There is a hearing assistance system available, and there are activity bags and a cry room for small children just beside the front door.

## *Service of Preparation*

### PRESERVICE MUSIC

*Use this time in quiet preparation for the Lord's Supper, perhaps with the help of page 129 in the front portion of the hymnary.*

### HYMN

*Son of God, Eternal Savior*



1. Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and  
2. Bind us all as one to - geth - er in your Chur - ch's\_\_  
3. As you, Lord, have lived for oth - ers, so may we for  
4. Son of God, e - ter - nal Sav - ior, source of life and



truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us,  
sa - cred fold, weak and health - y, poor and wealth - y,  
oth - ers live. Free - ly have your gifts been grant - ed;  
truth and grace, Word made flesh, whose birth a - mong us



hal - lows all our hu - man race, you our head, who, throned in  
sad and joy - ful, young and old. Is there want or pain or  
free - ly may your ser - vants give. Yours the gold and yours the  
hal - lows all our hu - man race, by your pray - ing, by your



glo - ry, for your own will ev - er plead: fill us with your  
sor - row? Make us all the bur - den share. Are there spir - its  
sil - ver, yours the wealth of land and sea; we but stew - ards  
will - ing that your peo - ple should be one, grant, O grant our



love and pit - y, heal our wrongs and help our need.  
crushed and bro - ken? Teach us, Lord, to soothe their care.  
of your boun - ty held in sol - emn trust will be.  
hope's fru - i - tion: here on earth your will be done.

## INVOCATION

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

## CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God, our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**C: O almighty God, merciful Father: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess to you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them, and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you—of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ—to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P: I ask each of you, in the presence of God who searches the heart: Do you confess that you have sinned, and do you repent of your sins?

**C: I do.**

P: Do you believe that Jesus Christ has redeemed you from all your sins, and do you desire forgiveness in his name?

C: I do.

P: Upon this your confession, I announce the grace of God to all of you, and in the place and by the command of our Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. Peace be with you!  
Amen.

## ANTHEM

*Rest for the Weary*

*A rest remains for all the weary;  
Arise, sad heart, and grieve no more;  
Though long the way, and dark and dreary,  
It opens to the golden shore.  
Before his throne the Lamb will lead you,  
On heav'nly pastures he will feed you,  
Cast off your burden, come with haste;  
Soon toil and strife will be unraveled,  
The weary way that you have traveled,  
Sweet is the rest that you will taste.*

*There rest and peace in endless measure  
Will be ours through eternity;  
No grief, no care, will mar our pleasure,  
untold joy our lot will be.  
Oh, had we wings to hasten yonder —  
No more this sinful world to ponder —  
To join the glad, triumphant band!  
Arise, my soul, forget all sadness,  
For peace awaits you, joy and gladness.  
The perfect rest and promised land.*

*The Father's house has many a dwelling,  
And there for you a place will be.  
With perfect love his heart is welling  
Who loved you from eternity.  
His precious blood the Lamb has given  
That you may share the joys of heaven,  
And now he calls out far and near:  
"You weary souls, cast off your sorrow;  
My light shines bright upon the morrow.  
Come, sweetest rest awaits you here!"*

# Service of the Word

*The final three weeks of the church year focus on how the Christian waits for the end. The readings for the Second Last Sunday of the church year tell us not to sit around in lazy contentment while we wait, but to work faithfully while Jesus is gone.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: Let us pray to be faithful until Christ's return: Lord, you have given us many gifts. Make us loyal and productive, doing the work you have given us to do with clean hearts until your Son comes. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 1:10–18

*Israel was like the one-bag-of-gold man, giving only minimum, outward service instead of truly using their gifts to love their neighbors.*

<sup>10</sup> Hear the word of the LORD, you rulers of Sodom; listen to the instruction of our God, you people of Gomorrah!

<sup>11</sup> "The multitude of your sacrifices — what are they to me?" says the LORD. "I have more than enough of burnt offerings, of rams and the fat of fattened animals; I have no pleasure in the blood of bulls and lambs and goats. <sup>12</sup> When you come to appear before me, who has asked this of you, this trampling of my courts? <sup>13</sup> Stop bringing meaningless offerings! Your incense is detestable to me. New Moons, Sabbaths and convocations — I cannot bear your worthless assemblies. <sup>14</sup> Your New Moon feasts and your appointed festivals I hate with all my being. They have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. <sup>15</sup> When you spread out your hands in prayer, I hide my eyes from you; even when you offer many prayers, I am not listening. Your hands are full of blood!

<sup>16</sup> "Wash and make yourselves clean. Take your evil deeds out of my sight; stop doing wrong. <sup>17</sup> Learn to do right; seek justice. Defend the oppressed. Take up the cause of the fatherless; plead the case of the widow. <sup>18</sup> Come now, let us settle the matter," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool."

## NEW TESTAMENT READING

Romans 12:1–8

*In the Gospel parable, the master gave different bags of gold to different servants. St. Paul lists some of those gifts and encourages us to faithfully use whichever we have been given.*

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God’s mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God — this is your true and proper worship. <sup>2</sup> Do not conform to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind. Then you will be able to test and approve what God’s will is — his good, pleasing and perfect will.

<sup>3</sup> For by the grace given me I say to every one of you: Do not think of yourself more highly than you ought, but rather think of yourself with sober judgment, in accordance with the faith God has distributed to each of you. <sup>4</sup> For just as each of us has one body with many members, and these members do not all have the same function, <sup>5</sup> so in Christ we, though many, form one body, and each member belongs to all the others. <sup>6</sup> We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; <sup>7</sup> if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup> if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.

## CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

## HYMN

*Take My Life and Let It Be* | #444

*Two servants are rewarded for their faithfulness; but there is no justification for the complete inaction of the third. As we wait for Jesus' second coming, let us each faithfully increase the amount of gospel entrusted to us.*

<sup>14</sup> “Again, it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted his wealth to them. <sup>15</sup> To one he gave five bags of gold, to another two bags, and to another one bag, each according to his ability. Then he went on his journey. <sup>16</sup> The man who had received five bags of gold went at once and put his money to work and gained five bags more. <sup>17</sup> So also, the one with two bags of gold gained two more. <sup>18</sup> But the man who had received one bag went off, dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money.

<sup>19</sup> “After a long time the master of those servants returned and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup> The man who had received five bags of gold brought the other five. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with five bags of gold. See, I have gained five more.’

<sup>21</sup> “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!’

<sup>22</sup> “The man with two bags of gold also came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘you entrusted me with two bags of gold; see, I have gained two more.’

<sup>23</sup> “His master replied, ‘Well done, good and faithful servant! You have been faithful with a few things; I will put you in charge of many things. Come and share your master's happiness!’

<sup>24</sup> “Then the man who had received one bag of gold came. ‘Master,’ he said, ‘I knew that you are a hard man, harvesting where you have not sown and gathering where you have not scattered seed. <sup>25</sup> So I was afraid and went out and hid your gold in the ground. See, here is what belongs to you.’

<sup>26</sup> “His master replied, ‘You wicked, lazy servant! So you knew that I harvest where I have not sown and gather where I have not scattered seed? <sup>27</sup> Well then, you should have put my money on deposit with the bankers, so that when I returned I would have received it back with interest.’

<sup>28</sup> “ ‘So take the bag of gold from him and give it to the one who has ten bags. <sup>29</sup> For whoever has will be given more, and they will have an abundance. Whoever does not have, even what they have will be taken from them. <sup>30</sup> And throw that worthless servant outside, into the darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’

*What is there to praise and thank God for in this passage?*

*How does this passage correct our thinking about God, his nature or his plans?*

*What do we need to believe as a result of this passage?*

*Is there anything we should stop or start doing as a result of this passage?*

*Is there anything we need to say to someone as a result of this passage?*



HYMN

*Create in Me*

Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right  
spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your  
pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.  
Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,  
and up - hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of five staves of music, each with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The notes are: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The lyrics are: "Cre-ate in me a clean heart, O God, and re - new a right". The second staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The notes are: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The lyrics are: "spir - it with - in me. Cast me not a - way from your". The third staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The notes are: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The lyrics are: "pres-ence, and take not your Ho - ly Spir - it from me.". The fourth staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The notes are: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The lyrics are: "Re - store un - to me the joy of your sal - va - tion,". The fifth staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats. The notes are: C4, D4, E4, F4, G4, A4, B4, C5, B4, A4, G4, F4, E4, D4, C4. The lyrics are: "and up - hold me with your free Spir-it. A - men.".

## STATEMENT OF FAITH

P: Let us confess our holy faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

**C: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of Very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the Virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.**

**And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the Prophets. And I believe one holy Christian and apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

## OFFERING

*The teaching and evangelism work of King of Grace is supported entirely by donation. You can support this work by giving a gift in the offering plate or at [www.kingofgracelutheran.com/give](http://www.kingofgracelutheran.com/give).*



## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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.**

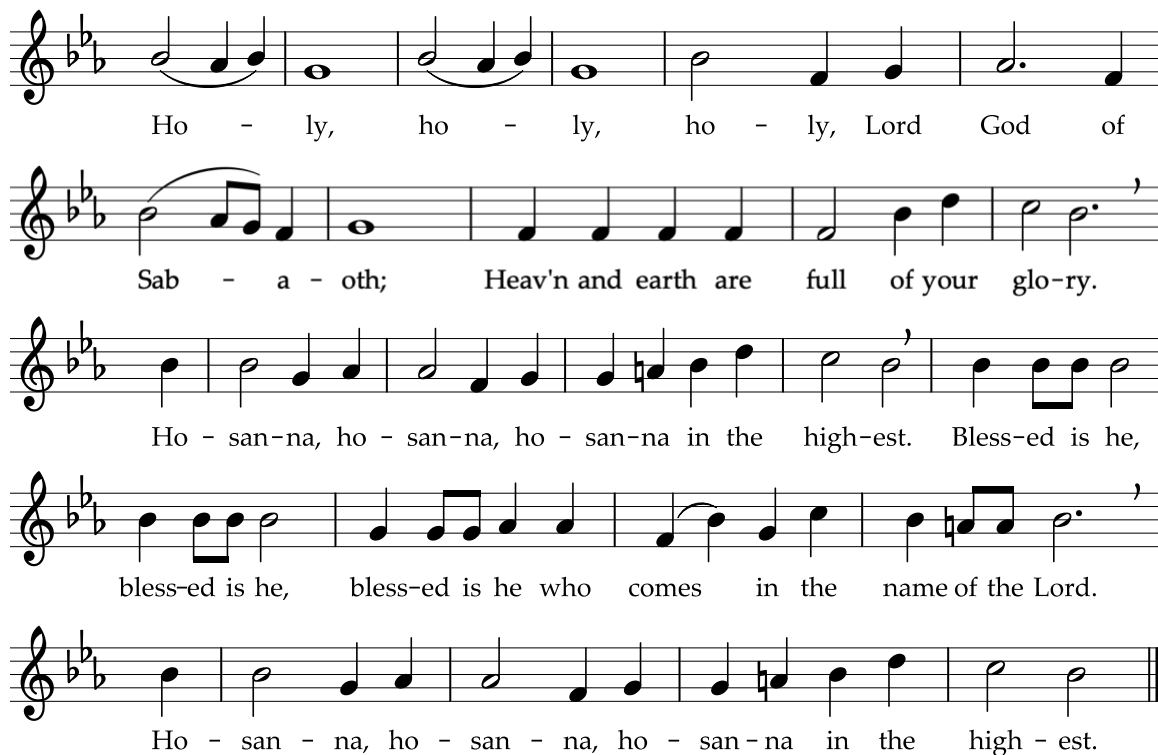
# Service of the Sacrament

*The members of King of Grace invite members of other ELS or WELS congregations to commune with us. We ask everyone else to please visit with our pastors before our next communion service.*

P: Let us pray: It is truly, good, right, and beneficial that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God. Above all, we praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. He is the Passover Lamb that was offered for us and has taken away the sins of the world. By his death he has destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has restored to us everlasting life. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we praise and worship your glorious name, forever praising you and saying:

## HYMN

## Sanctus



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of  
Sab - a - oth; Heav'n and earth are full of your glo-ry.  
Ho - san-na, ho - san-na, ho - san-na in the high-est. Bless-ed is he,  
bless-ed is he, bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Ho - san - na, ho - san - na, ho - san - na in the high - est.

## CONSECRATION, DISTRIBUTION, AND RECEPTION

P: Our Lord Jesus Christ, the same night in which he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples saying: "Take, eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup after supper, gave thanks, and gave it to them saying: "Drink of it all of you; this cup is the New Testament in my blood, which is shed for you and for many, for the forgiveness of sins. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

### DISTRIBUTION HYMN

*Agnus Dei*

O Christ, the Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world,  
have mer - cy up - on us. O Christ, the Lamb of God, you  
take a - way the sin of the world, have mer - cy up - on us.  
O Christ, the Lamb of God, you take a-way the sin of the world,  
grant us your peace. A - - - men.

### DISTRIBUTION HYMN

*I Lay My Sins on Jesus* | #239

# THANKSGIVING HYMN

*Nunc Dimittis*

Lord, now you let your servant de - part in peace

ac - cord - ing to your word. For my eyes have seen your salvation,

which you have pre - pared be - fore the face of all people,

a Light to light - en the Gen - tiles and the glo - ry

of your peo - ple Is - ra - el. Glo - ry be to the Father and

to the Son and to the Ho - ly Ghost; as it was in the beginning,

is now, and ev - er shall be, for - ev - er - more. A - men.

## PRAYER

P: Let us pray: We give thanks to you, almighty God, that you have refreshed us through these life-giving gifts. And we ask you that out of your mercy you would strengthen us through them in faith toward you and in eager love toward one another. We pray through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever. Amen.

## BENEDICTION

P: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

C: A - men, a - men, a - men.

The image shows a musical staff with a treble clef and a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody consists of the following notes: G4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), B4 (quarter), C5 (quarter), B4 (quarter), A4 (quarter), G4 (quarter), F#4 (quarter), E4 (quarter), D4 (half). The notes are grouped into three phrases: 'A - men,' (G4-A4-B4-C5), 'a - men,' (B4-A4-G4-F#4), and 'a - men.' (E4-D4).

*Meditate on how Psalm 128 relates to today's theme at home throughout this week.*

**Preacher**.....Pastor Aaron Ferkenstad | **Liturgist**.....Pastor Bernt Tweit  
**Organist** .....Karen Merseth | **Choir director**..... Allen Labitzky  
**Preservice instrumentalists** .....Isaiah Edwards, Hudson Schmitz



King of Grace Evangelical Lutheran Church and School  
6000 Duluth Street | 763-546-3131 | [www.kingofgracelutheran.com](http://www.kingofgracelutheran.com)  
Member of the Evangelical Lutheran Synod  
Pastors Aaron Ferkenstad & Bernt Tweit | Principal Allen Labitzky