

**Order of Worship
for
Christ the King Sunday
November 26, 2023**

TODAY'S WORSHIP THEME

"If Only I Had Known!"

Matthew 25:31-46

Parable of the Sheep and the Goats/Final Judgment

Where does that put us? What are we? Sheep or goats? Are we "in" or "out?" If your life is anything like mine, the evidence is scary.

The good news is that we do not have to stake our lives on the degree to which we have cared for "the least of these." God will not let God's love be stunted . . . even by us and our "goatishness." God comes not to judge and condemn but to save and redeem. God comes literally as one of "the least of these" to love the damnable goats of this world. He comes to reverse the fate we goats deserve.

CALL TO WORSHIP

"10,000 Reasons"

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OUR CONFESSION AND GOD'S FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

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.

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Most merciful God,

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.

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.

Amen.

GREETING & PASSING OF THE PEACE

On this Sunday we gather for worship in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

Amen!

The peace of the Lord be with you always!

And also with you!

Please, feel free to pass the peace as you feel comfortable!

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Now the Feast of Celebration”

ELW 167

PRAYER

Let us pray:

*O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.*

SONG

“How Great is Our God”

READING

Ephesians 1:15-23

**The lesson is from Paul’s letter to the Ephesians,
chapter one, verse fifteen through twenty-three.**

Paul writes:

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, ¹⁷that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

SPECIAL MUSICAL OFFERING

“God and God Alone”

Dennis Wimer

GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31-46

The Gospel reading is from the Gospel of Matthew, chapter twenty-five, verses thirty-one through forty-six.

Matthew writes:

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³ and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴ Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶ I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸ And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹ And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’ ⁴¹ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, ⁴² for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ ⁴⁴ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?’ ⁴⁵ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ ⁴⁶ And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life.”

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

Rev. Steve Albertin

MESSAGE

"If I Had Only Known"

Rev. Steve Albertin

Jesus tells a parable about Judgement Day. On this day God will separate the sheep from the goats. The moral of the story seems to be: God is like an undercover boss. So, you better care for the poor and lowly... or else.

Both the sheep and the goats are surprised to find out that they met Jesus there. They both declare, "If I had only known!" The statements mean something very different for each. For the sheep it expresses their distrust of God and selfish concern for themselves.

So, what are we? Sheep or goats? This terrifying uncertainty is resolved when we meet God in Jesus who comes to forgive sinners and turn goats into sheep.

Trusting Him changes our lives. For example, Johnny discovers that his father's love for him has made it possible for him to freely care for his father without having to be told. In the same way we get to freely care for those in need... because in Christ we are sheep!

SONG

"O Worship the King"

OFFERING

Your offerings are more than just money to keep the lights turned on. Your gifts help to sustain and expand all of our ministries here at King of Glory, including those which provide direct assistance to those in our community who are in need. We are grateful for all of the gifts we receive, and we strive to be good stewards of the resources you provide to us.

**If you wish to give online, you can [use our app](#)
Or, go to our website at <https://kogcarmel.org/give>**

HYMN

"We Are an Offering"

ELW 692

**AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH
THE NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
Of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through Him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation,
He came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered death and was buried.
On the third day He rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and His kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come.**

Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

During this time, we pray for all those who need God's blessings, and praise Him for the blessings He has bestowed upon us.

During the prayers, there will be a time of silence, when we offer our personal prayers to God.

*Following each petition, the pastor will say, "Hear us, O God"
Please respond with, "**Your mercy is great**"*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

We prepare to receive the sacraments of Holy Communion, by remembering the words and actions of Jesus during the Last Supper.

All baptized Christians who seek the blessings of Christ's true body and blood in the bread and wine of Holy Communion are welcome at his table. There, they receive him and the new life he offers.

Those who eat and drink at his table commit themselves to the care and redemption of all that God has made.

If you are not baptized, contact Pastor Albertin to learn how you can receive the great gift God has for you in baptism.

Today you are welcome to join us at Christ's table.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

HOLY COMMUNION

***For those worshipping in-house,
we invite you to come forward if you wish.
If you prefer to take communion at your seat,
you may do so.***

***For those joining us online,
If you are able,
we invite you to take communion where you are,
using any kind of bread and either wine or grape juice
so that you may receive the body and blood of our Lord and Savior,
Jesus the Christ.***

POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

***Now, may the body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ, keep you in His grace and
peace, now and forever. Amen!***

SONG

“Worthy Is The Lamb”

BENEDICTION

*May the Lord bless you and keep you; May the Lord make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; May the Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you God's peace; in the name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.
Amen.*

SENDING SONG

"He Is Exalted

Go in peace. Serve the Lord!
Thanks be to God!

Minister: Rev. Dr. Steve Albertin
Pianist & Sounds of Glory Director: David Moscrip

*All Rights Reserved.
All music and videos used with permission.
Some content courtesy of Worship Audio Tracks and Igniter Media.
CCLI# 1371244 / CSPL# 21040222 / OneLicense 735538-A*