

FIRST LUTHERAN CHURCH OF TEMPLE CITY

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LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

They Shall Be Mine

November 23, 2025



AS WE GATHER

There is a phrase familiar to both preschoolers and powerbrokers. When they see that someone else has something they want, they declare, "That's mine!" seizing either toys or territory for themselves. This phrase is not unfamiliar to our God either. But where humans are motivated by selfishness, the Lord acts out of love. He claims you as His own because He loves you and He wants you to be with Him for eternity. You are His treasured possession! He will never leave you behind like a toddler may accidentally abandon her teddy bear, or neglect you like a king would treat those who supported his rival. When the Lord says, "You are Mine," you have His pledge of enduring faithfulness, today and unto eternity!

✖ PREPARATION ✖

HYMN	“Come, Thou Almighty King”	Hymnal page 905
1.	Come, Thou almighty King, Help us Thy Name to sing: Help us to praise; Father all-glorious, O'er all victorious, Come and reign over us, Ancient of Days.	3. Come, holy Comforter, Thy sacred witness bear In this glad hour! Thou, who almighty art, Now rule in ev'ry heart, And ne'er from us depart, Spirit of pow'r.
2.	Come, Thou incarnate Word, Gird on Thy mighty sword; Our prayer attend. Come and Thy people bless, And give Thy Word success, And let Thy righteousness On us descend.	*** <i>Please stand if you are able</i> *** △ 4. To Thee, great One in Three, Eternal praises be Hence evermore! Thy sov'reign majesty May we in glory see, And to eternity Love and adore.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the ✖ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
People: Amen.

OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 118:24; Psalm 22:27; Isaiah 43:1*

Pastor: This is the day that the LORD has made;
People: **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Pastor: All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the LORD,
People: **and all the families of the nations shall worship before You.**

Pastor: Now thus says the LORD, “Fear not, for I have redeemed you;
People: **I have called you by name, you are Mine.”**

CONFESsION AND ABSOLUTION

Colossians 1:13–14

Pastor: The Lord has delivered us from the domain of darkness
and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Pastor: Almighty God and King,
we confess that we have broken trust with You. We have doubted Your goodness, neglected Your ways, and sought to satisfy our sinful nature. We do not think, speak, or act like Your treasured possession. We bring before You our faults and failures, honestly and humbly recognizing that we deserve to be cast out of Your kingdom. Have mercy, O Lord, for the sake of Jesus Christ. Spare us from Your wrath, deliver us from death and darkness, and cleanse us from sin, that we serve You in righteousness, innocence, and blessedness now and always. Amen.

Pastor: On His cross, Jesus Christ, your Savior, was crowned with shame and given unto death for You. His blood pays the price Your sins deserve. Now crowned with glory, the risen and reigning Christ lives to declare sins forgiven. Therefore, as a called and ordained servant of Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✕ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

✖ WORD ✕

INTROIT *Psalm 134; antiphon: Psalm 33:8*

Pastor: Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him!

People: Come, bless the LORD, all you servants of the LORD, who stand by night in the house of the LORD!

Pastor: Lift up your hands to the holy place and bless the LORD!
May the LORD bless you from Zion,
He who made heaven and earth!

All: Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit; as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Pastor: Let all the earth fear the LORD; let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of Him!

KYRIE

Hymnal page 168

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.
People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.
People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.

People: **Lord, have mercy.**

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us gracious Lord.

People: **Amen.**

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Hymnal page 525, verses 1 to 4

1. Crown Him with many crowns,
The Lamb upon His throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns
All music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing
Of Him who died for thee,
And hail Him as thy matchless King
Through all eternity.

3. Crown Him the Lord of Love,
Behold His hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above,
In beauty glorified.
No angels in the sky
Can fully bear that sight,
But down-ward bends their wond'ring eyes
At mysteries so bright.

2. Crown Him the virgin's Son,
The God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won
Which now His brow adorn;
Fruit of the mystic rose,
Yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows,
The babe of Bethlehem.

4. Crown Him the Lord of Life,
Who triumphed o'er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife
For those He came to save.
His glories now we sing,
Who died and rose on high,
Who died eternal life to bring
And lives that death may die.

SALUTATION

Pastor: The Lord be with you.
People: And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.
Lord Jesus Christ, You reign among us by the preaching of Your cross. Forgive Your people their offenses that we, being governed by Your bountiful goodness, may enter at last into Your eternal paradise; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING *Malachi 3:13–18*

(The Lord makes His claim on His treasured possession, declaring “they shall be Mine.”)

¹³ “Your words have been hard against Me, says the LORD. But you say, ‘How have we spoken against You?’ ¹⁴ You have said, ‘It is vain to serve God. What is the profit of our keeping His charge or of walking as in mourning before the LORD of hosts? ¹⁵ And now we call the arrogant blessed. Evildoers not only prosper but they put God to the test and they escape.’” ¹⁶ Then those who feared the LORD spoke with one another. The LORD paid attention and heard them, and a book of remembrance was written before Him of those who feared the LORD and esteemed His name. ¹⁷ “They shall be Mine, says the LORD of hosts, in the day when I make up My treasured possession, and I will spare them as a man spares his son who serves him. ¹⁸ Then once more you shall see the distinction between the righteous and the wicked, between one who serves God and one who does not serve Him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.



PSALM *Psalm 46; antiphon: v. 7*

46 ¹ God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.

² Therefore we will not fear though the earth give way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,

³ though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling.

⁴ There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

⁵ God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.

⁶ The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
He utters His voice, the earth melts.

⁷ The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

⁸ Come, behold the works of the LORD,
how He has brought desolations on the earth.

⁹ He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
He burns the chariots with fire.

¹⁰ “Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!”

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

EPISTLE *Colossians 1:13–20*

(By His blood, the Christ who holds all things together also holds us in His kingdom.)

¹³ He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of His beloved Son, ¹⁴ in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. ¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by Him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through Him and for Him. ¹⁷ And He is before all things, and in Him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And He is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything He might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in Him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through Him to reconcile to Himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of His cross.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HOLY GOSPEL *Luke 23:27–43*

(Upon the cross, Jesus is enthroned as King and speaks of forgiveness and paradise.)

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the twenty-third chapter.

People: **Glory to You, O Lord.**

²⁷ And there followed [Jesus] a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for Him. ²⁸ But turning to them Jesus said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for Me, but weep for yourselves and for your children.

²⁹ For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ ³⁰ Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ ³¹ For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?’ ³² Two others, who were criminals, were led away to be put to death with Him. ³³ And when they came to the place that is called The Skull, there they crucified Him, and the criminals, one on His right and one on His left. ³⁴ And Jesus said, “Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do.” And they cast lots to divide His garments. ³⁵ And the people stood by, watching, but the rulers scoffed at Him, saying, “He saved others; let Him save Himself, if He is the Christ of God, His Chosen One!” ³⁶ The soldiers also mocked Him, coming up and offering Him sour wine ³⁷ and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save Yourself!” ³⁸ There was also an inscription over Him, “This is the King of the Jews.” ³⁹ One of the criminals who were hanged railed at Him, saying, “Are you not the Christ? Save Yourself and us!” ⁴⁰ But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹ And we indeed justly, for we are receiving the due reward of our deeds; but this Man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴² And he said, “Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom.” ⁴³ And He said to him, “Truly, I say to you, today you will be with Me in paradise.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to You, O Christ.**



HYMN OF THE DAY

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

Hymnal page 549, verses 1, 2, 5, and 6

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.

2. Crown Him, ye martyrs of our God
Who from His altar call;
Extol the Stem of Jesse's rod
And crown Him Lord of all.
Extol the Stem of Jesse's rod
And crown Him Lord of all.

5. 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.

6. Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe,
On this terrestrial ball
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.
To Him all majesty ascribe
And crown Him Lord of all.

CHILDREN / YOUTHFUL MINISTRY MOMENT

SERMON

CREED *Apostles' Creed*

People: I believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth

And in Jesus Christ, His 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 into hell.
The third day He rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty,
From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy Christian Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life ✕ everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Pastor: As those delivered to the kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ, let us confidently approach His throne of grace with our prayers and intercessions, in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: King of all creation, the whole earth is full of Your glory, and we are awed by Your creative majesty. Deepen our appreciation of Your care and keeping and dedicate us as faithful stewards of Your earthly gifts.

For the sake of Your kingdom,

People: **love us and lead us, O King.**

Pastor: King of love, You devote Yourself to Your people and never fail to keep Your commitments. Bless those who have committed themselves to one another in Christian marriage that their relationships might be reflections of Your heart. For the sake of Your kingdom,

People: **touch us and teach us, O King.**

Pastor: King of kindness and grace, who attends to our hurts of body and soul, show compassion to all who are facing sorrow, sickness, or adversity, embracing them in Your tender care. For the sake of Your kingdom,

People: **hear us and heal us, O King.**

Pastor: King of Your church, You uphold all those who serve in Your name. Grant holy satisfaction to those who volunteer their time and offer their gifts of service to our congregation. Raise up others to serve and prevent us from stealing Your glory for ourselves. For the sake of Your kingdom,

People: **prepare us and protect us, O King.**

Pastor: King of justice, You rule Your world with wisdom and faithfulness. Give those chosen as our earthly authorities patience, perspective, and a heart that pursues Your will, that we might be led into peaceable prosperity. For the sake of Your kingdom,

People: **defend us and direct us, O King.**

Pastor: King of all kings, You have authority over all things. Allow us to see Your authority as a blessing, that we might recognize Your preeminence in our lives and rest in Your merciful rule, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY "Before You, Lord, We Bow" Hymnal page 966, verses 1 and 4

1. Before You, Lord, we bow,
Our God who reigns above
And rules the world below,
Boundless in pow'r and love.
Our thanks we bring
In joy and praise,
Our hearts we raise
To You, our King!

4. Earth, hear your Maker's voice;
Your great Redeemer own;
Believe, obey, rejoice,
And worship Him alone.
Cast down your pride,
Your sin deplore,
And bow before
The Crucified.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Matthew 6:9–13)*

People: **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.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Pastor: To God—the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit—be all honor and glory in His holy church, forever and ever.
People: **Christ has died! Christ is risen! Christ shall come again!**
Pastor: Lift up your heads and open your eyes,
People: **for He is coming!**
Pastor: Who is coming?
People: **The King of glory!**
Pastor: Who is this King of glory?
People: **The Lord of hosts; He is the King of glory!**
Pastor: Blessings on Him who comes as King,
People: **who comes in the name of the Lord!**
Pastor: The almighty and merciful God—the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit—bless and preserve you, and lead you into everlasting life.
People: **Amen, amen, and amen!**

[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. Led on their way by this triumphant sign,
The hosts of God in conqu'ring ranks combine. [Refrain]

3. All newborn soldiers of the Crucified
Bear on their brows the seal of Him who died. [Refrain]

4. O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
As Thou hast promised, draw us all to Thee. [Refrain]

5. Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell
Of Him who saves our lives from death and hell. [Refrain]

6. So shall our song of triumph ever be;
Praise to the Crucified for victory! [Refrain]

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series C, Quarter 4.
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Pastoral Care:

Please contact –

Pastor Frank Matthews at: (213) 247-8838 or no1redder@gmail.com

BLESSED TO BE SERVING TODAY

Pastor: Pastor Frank Matthews

Greeter: Norma Boehne

Reader: Christine Geltz

Musician: Christine Geltz

Ushers: Donald Lammerts, Dave Lassanke, and Craig Boehne

PRAYERS OF CARE & CONCERN FOR OUR FLC FAMILY

Tschopp family: Please continue to pray for Oscar Tschopp's family as they continue to go through their time of grief.

Judy Gunther: Please continue to pray for her as she is recovering nicely.

Nancy Poser: Continuing prayers for Nancy and her family during their time of grief with the passing of her husband, Walter Poser.

Dennis: Prayer for Peter Dille's friend.

Rachel Whitcher: Please continue to extend healing prayers for her wrist.

Debbie Morrow: Prayers for the niece of Tom and Pat Grabowski as she continues to receive chemotherapy at the City of Hope.

Sandy Sussman: Continuing prayers of healing for this niece of former members Bruce and Lynn Bertram.

Perry Singleton, Jan, and Keith Edmunds: More prayers for Pastor Frank Matthews' friends and cousin as they continue deal with many health issues.

Patricia Caballero: Continuing prayers of healing after her recent surgery. We give praise to our Lord that she is healing nicely.

Betty Nelson: Pray for this shut-in member as she continues to deal with the challenges of aging. Pray that she would be comforted knowing God is with her and caring for her. Pray for her family and caregivers as they minister to her.

Gregg Ruiz: Prayer for Tom's younger brother who is fighting for his life against cancer. Pray also for Penny's strength as she supports Gregg in his serious illness.





Sunday Worship at Home

Although the Lutheran Hour no longer airs on KBRT 740 AM, you can find other airings at: lh.org/guide.

Also, listeners can hear the weekly sermons whenever and wherever they are, and daily devotions are available which come in a daily email to read or listen to. Just go to:

<https://familytalktoday.com/programguidedaily>.

Or you can listen to Lutheran Hour podcasts any time by going to:

<https://www.youtube.com/@LutheranHourMin>.

If you have a TV and can get DirectTV, Channel 377 you can view Worship Anew at: 8:30 a.m. on Sundays. This service is filmed at our Fort Wayne Seminary in Indiana.

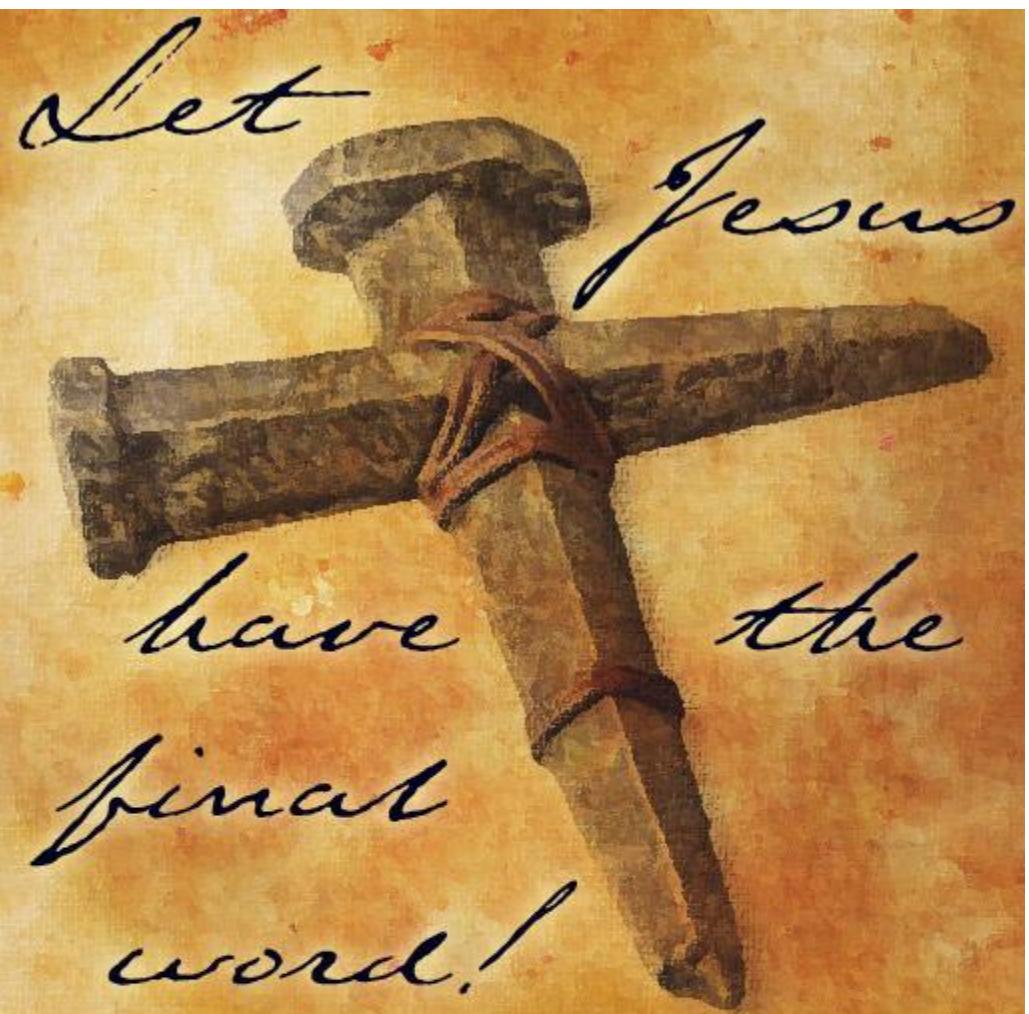
You may also access or review the sermons online by going to:

<https://firstlutheranc.org/Media>

THIS WEEK AT FIRST LUTHERAN

SUNDAY	TODAY – NOVEMBER 23
9:30 a.m.	Fellowship time
9:45 a.m.	Bible Study and Sunday School
THURSDAY	NOVEMBER 26
12:00 noon	Thanksgiving Eve Midday service (Location: Fellowship Room)





"Father forgive them for they
FORGIVEN!
don't know what they do!"

LUKE 23:34