

WELCOME TO ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Woodbury, Minnesota

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 2020 | 7:00 PM

ONLINE SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020 | LAST SUNDAY OF THE CHURCH YEAR

RINGING OF THE BELL | WELCOME

OPENING HYMN

“Come, Thou Almighty King” [LSB 905]



1 Come, Thou al - might - y King, Help us Thy
2 Come, Thou in - car - nate Word, Gird on Thy
3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, Thy sa - cred
4 To Thee, great One in Three, E - ter - nal



name to sing; Help us to praise; Fa - ther all -
might - y sword; Our prayer at - tend. Come and Thy
wit - ness bear In this glad hour! Thou, who al -
prais - es be Hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - 'reign



glo - ri - ous, O'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
peo - ple bless, And give Thy Word suc - cess,
might - y art, Now rule in ev - 'ry heart,
maj - es - ty May we in glo - ry see,



Come and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
And let Thy righ - teous - ness On us de - scend.
And ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of pow'r.
And to e - ter - ni - ty Love and a - dore.

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INVOCATION | EXHORTATION

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

People: **Amen.**

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: **who made heaven and earth.**

Pastor: If You, O Lord, kept a record of sins, O Lord, who could stand?

People: **But with You there is forgiveness; therefore You are feared.**

Pastor: Since we are gathered to hear God's Word, call upon Him in prayer and praise, and receive the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ in the fellowship of this altar, let us first consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition. Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

CONFESSION OF SINS | ABSOLUTION

People: Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life.
Amen.

Pastor: Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

¹¹For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for my sheep and look after them. ¹²As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. ¹⁴I will tend them in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will tend my sheep and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. ¹⁶I will search for the lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock with justice. ²⁰Therefore this is what the Sovereign LORD says to them: See, I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you shove with flank and shoulder, butting all the weak sheep with your horns until you have driven them away, ²²I will save my flock, and they will no longer be plundered. I will judge between one sheep and another. ²³I will place over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he will tend them; he will tend them and be their shepherd. ²⁴I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David will be prince among them. I the LORD have spoken.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

1 Corinthians 15:20–28

²⁰But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. ²²For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. ²³But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. ²⁴Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. ²⁶The last enemy to be destroyed is death. ²⁷For he “has put everything under his feet.” Now when it says that “everything” has been put under him, it is clear that this does not include God himself, who put everything under Christ. ²⁸When he has done this, then the Son himself will be made subject to him who put everything under him, so that God may be all in all.

Pastor: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSICAL TRIO

“Stephen Minister” [Sue Cederstrom, Jeanne Lohse & Nancy Maag]

Words by Mildred Lohse (Herb's mother) and music by Mark Krause

Vs. 1 Lord, look around and You will know, these volunteers have said “I’ll go,
To visit those sad and alone, I’ll cheer them up and then be gone.”
They speak a little, listen well, as folks to them their woes to tell,
And then the words of love and care, the peace of God with them we’ll share.

Vs. 2 Each week they visit in the home, of those that seem so glad they’ve come,
They bring them comfort by their stay, with them they share God’s love and pray.
A two-fold blessing it will be, as God’s love then is shared so free
The giving and receiving, too, such joy and peace that comes from You.

Vs. 3 Lord, be with each one in their task, give them the words that cheer, we ask,
And as they go upon their way, Oh, let them be a help we pray.
 A witness for You they will be, that others now their joy may see,
In little ways do God's command, to love and care for fellow man.

HOLY GOSPEL

Matthew 25:31-46

Pastor: The Gospel according to St. Matthew, the 25th chapter.

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

The separation of the sheep and the goats ... ³¹ "When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, he will sit on his glorious throne. ³² All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate the people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. ³³ He will put the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. ³⁴ Then the King will say to those on his right, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father; take your inheritance, the kingdom prepared for you since the creation of the world. ³⁵ For I was hungry and you gave me something to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you invited me in, ³⁶ I needed clothes and you clothed me, I was sick and you looked after me, I was in prison and you came to visit me." ³⁷ Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you something to drink? ³⁸ When did we see you a stranger and invite you in, or needing clothes and clothe you? ³⁹ When did we see you sick or in prison and go to visit you?" ⁴⁰ The King will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." ⁴¹ Then he will say to those on his left, "Depart from me, you who are cursed, into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. ⁴² For I was hungry and you gave me nothing to eat, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³ I was a stranger and you did not invite me in, I needed clothes and you did not clothe me, I was sick and in prison and you did not look after me." ⁴⁴ They also will answer, "Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or needing clothes or sick or in prison, and did not help you?" ⁴⁵ He will reply, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did not do for one of the least of these, you did not do for me." ⁴⁶ Then they will go away to eternal punishment, but the righteous to eternal life.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

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

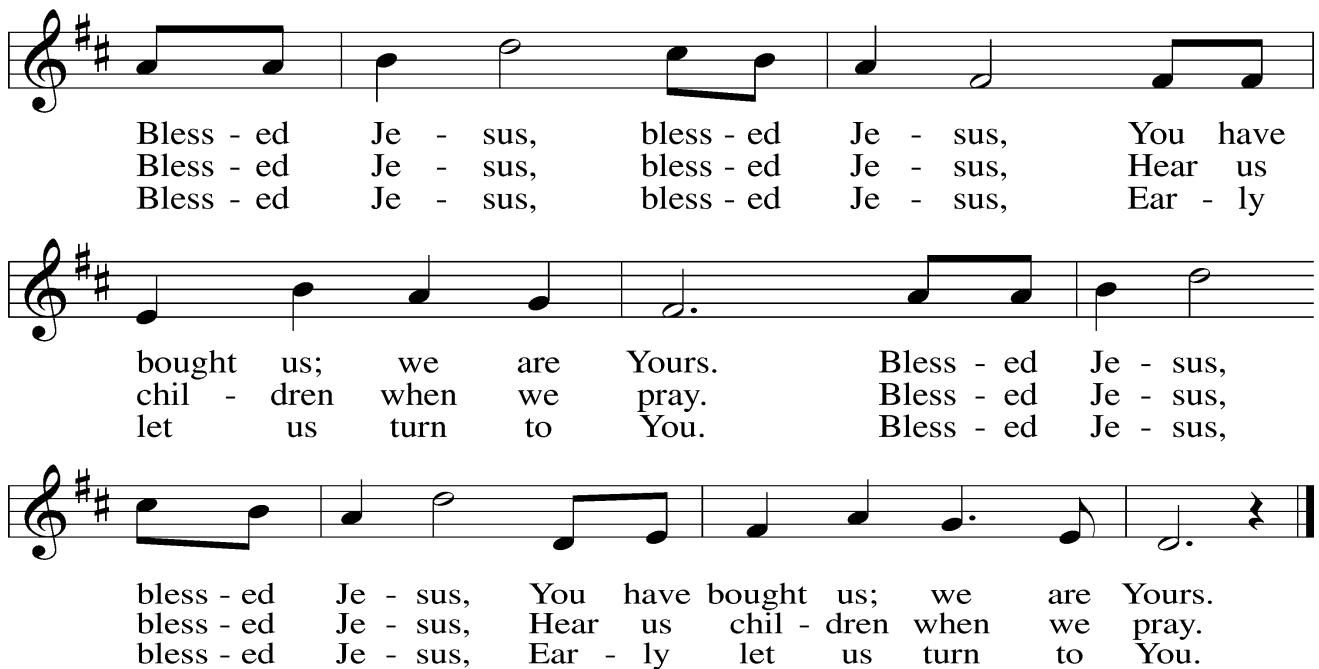
HYMN OF THE DAY

"Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us" [LSB 711], vs. 1-3

1 Sav - ior, like a shep - herd lead us; Much we
 2 We are Yours; in love be - friend us, Be the
 3 You have prom - ised to re - ceive us, Poor and

need Your ten - der care. In Your pleas - ant pas - tures
 guard - ian of our way; Keep Your flock, from sin de -
 sin - ful though we be; You have mer - cy to re -

feed us, For our use Your fold pre - pare.
 fend us, Seek us when we go a - stray.
 lieve us, Grace to cleanse, and pow'r to free.



Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, You have
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us
 Bless - ed Je - sus, bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly

bought us; we are Yours. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 chil - dren when we pray. Bless - ed Je - sus,
 let us turn to You. Bless - ed Je - sus,

bless - ed Je - sus, You have bought us; we are Yours.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Hear us chil - dren when we pray.
 bless - ed Je - sus, Ear - ly let us turn to You.

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SERMON

“A Searching God” Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

ALL: I believe in 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.**

GATHERING OF OFFERINGS

[online at <https://stjohnwoodbury.org/give> ~ or ~
 via U.S. mail to SJLC, 1975 St. Johns Drive, Woodbury, MN 55129]

THE PRAYERS

Pastor: Lord in Your mercy,

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

People: Amen.

THE LORD’S PRAYER

ALL: 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.**

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION | COMMUNION [in-person only]

COMMUNION DISMISSAL

Pastor: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart in peace.

People: Amen.

BLESSING

Pastor: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

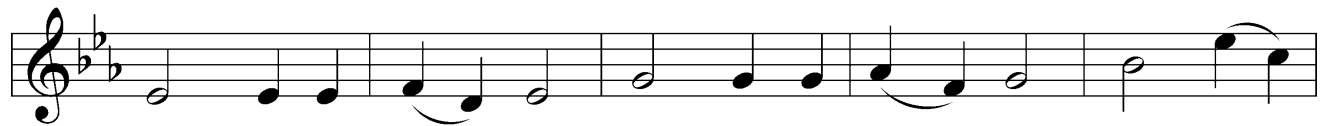
People: Amen.

SEND—OFF PRAYER

ALL: Knowing that the time is drawing near, may I by Your Spirit's prompting, support the mission and ministry of my church with my personal witness, my earnest prayers and my sacrificial gifts. Grant that through me, many may be saved from the kingdom of darkness for the kingdom of Your Light, through Jesus Christ, Your Son and our Lord. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

"Beautiful Savior" [LSB 537], vs. 1, 3 & 4



1 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of cre - a - tion, Son of
3 Fair is the sun - shine, Fair is the moon - light, Bright the
4 Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions, Son of



God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee, Tru - ly I'd
spar - kling stars on high; Je - sus shines bright - er, Je - sus shines
God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or, Praise, ad - o -



serve Thee, Light of my soul, my joy, my crown.
pur - er Than all the an - gels in the sky.
ra - tion Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

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ANNOUNCEMENTS | DISMISSAL

Pastor: Go in peace! Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God.

*Thanks to Sue Cederstrom, Jeanne Lohse
and Nancy Maag for providing special music
and leading the hymns today!*

Traditional Worship | 8:00 am
Contemporary Worship | 10:30 am
+ Education Time | 9:15 am +

