

*Grace Lutheran Church
Welcomes You!*

CHRIST 
THE KING

*Join Us for
WORSHIP*

*By Grace you have been saved!
“We have decided to follow Jesus and
There’s no turning back!*

Grace Lutheran Church

Christ the King

November 23, 2025

Pastor Jim Helgren

PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING SONG - ELW #434 – “Jesus Shall Reign”

CONFESSON AND FORGIVENESS - ELW p. 94 *Please stand in body or spirit to receive forgiveness.*

P: In the name of the Father, and of the [†]Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

A: 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.

A: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

P: Most merciful God,

A: 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.

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.

A: Amen. Assembly sits.

GREETING - ELW p. 203

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

A: And also with you.

KYRIE - ELW p. 203

HYMN OF PRAISE - ELW p. 204a

PRAYER OF THE DAY - Please see insert.

FIRST READING – Jeremiah 23:1-6 Please see insert. Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46 - Please see insert and read responsively

SECOND READING – Colossians 1:11-20 Please see insert. Response after the reading:

R: Word of God, word of life.

A: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION – ELW p. 205a

S 205a

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord and Sav - ior: o - pen now your sav - ing word.

Let it burn like fire with-in us; speak un - til our hearts are stirred.

Al - le - lu - ia! Lord, we sing for the good news that you bring.

Please stand in body or spirit to welcome the gospel.

P: The holy gospel according to

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL – Luke 23:33-43 Please see insert.

P: The gospel of the Lord.

A: Praise to you, O Christ. The assembly sits.

CHILDREN'S SERMON

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY - ELW #432 – “The Head That Once Was Crowned”

APOSTLES CREED - ELW p. 105

**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.

OFFERING

OFFERING HYMN - ELW #884 - “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below;

Praise him above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION - p. 206 Response after each portion of the prayer:

P: Lord, in your mercy,

A: hear our prayer.

LORD'S PRAYER – ELW p. 208 *Please stand in body or spirit for the 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.

BLESSING - ELW p. 209 - Response after the blessing:

A: Amen.

DISMISSAL - ELW p. 209 - Response after the blessing:

A: Thanks be to God. *The assembly sits.*

SENDING SONG – ELW #855 – “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

POSTLUDE

We pray always for . . .

*Louis Bentzinger, Pastor Steve Billington, Gerry Brezenski, Linda Daniels, Ford Ekhoff,
Elaine Hauberg, Char Helgren, Diane Roesener, Richard Roesener,
Nick Weber & Will Yank*

We also remember in our prayers . . .

Winfrida, Juliana, Hassan, and Evance, orphans sponsored in Tanzania

*Please join us for fellowship in the basement
following worship ☺*

Announcements

TODAY 11/23/25 Christ the King

Worship - 8:30 a.m. Thankoffering Sunday

Sunday School Christmas Program Practice – 9:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

Church Decorating for Advent

MONDAY 11/24/25

Church Council – 7:00 p.m.

TUESDAY 11/25/25

Tower Echoes Deadline

WEDNESDAY 11/26/25

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service at

Grace Lutheran Church – 7:00 p.m.

THURSDAY 11/26/25

Blessings for a Happy Thanksgiving!



NEXT SUNDAY 11/30/25 First Sunday of Advent

Worship - 8:30 a.m.

Sunday School Christmas Program Practice – 9:30 a.m.

Coffee & Fellowship Following Worship

All Church members are invited to help decorate for the Advent Season following Sunday School Christmas Program Practice TODAY. All help will be appreciated.

Thanksgiving Eve Worship Service is Wednesday, November 26, at 7:00 p.m. at Grace Lutheran Church.

Grace Lutheran, Hope Lutheran and UCC Osage congregations will worship and give thanks together.

Opening Hymn
#434

*Please put items for the bulletins & newsletter in the secretary's box in the south office.
You may email the church office grace68329@gmail.com*

**You may contact Pastor Helgren by calling 402-864-4201 (church)
402-864-2113 (home) or 402-826-0613 (cell)**

The Grace Lutheran Church Women have baskets at the back of the church for collecting non-perishable food items and Personal Care items that will be given to those in need.

A basket for Monetary donations will be available also.

These items will be collected until Christmas time

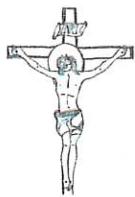
THE Tanzania Scholarship PROJECT

Grace Lutheran again this year is sponsoring—The **Tanzania Scholarship Project**. This project sponsors orphans so they can attend a Christian high school. Primary schools in Tanzania are free but secondary schools have fees. Our scholarship students attend one of eleven Lutheran High Schools in northern Tanzania, East Africa. The scholarship for one year of tuition, boarding, uniforms, and school supplies is \$475. In the past years of this project, we have witnessed God working through his people. *We have made a difference!*

There are many orphans in Tanzania who have no parents due to motor accidents, malaria, or other illness. This is leaving many orphans who go to live with extended families. These families do not have the money to pay the orphan's secondary school fees. Without a scholarship, some of these orphans will have to leave school at a young age and fend for themselves. These students are very thankful for the opportunity that the project provides.

In the past Grace has received donations to sponsor 4 orphans. Your contribution is tax deductible. 100% of your donation goes to your orphan's education! *Donations towards this project should be designated on your offering envelope and then one check will be sent to Sheridan Lutheran in Lincoln. These donations must be in NO LATER than December 28th.*

We will receive the name of our orphan, a picture, and a letter from our orphan. Sheridan Lutheran has members who travel to Tanzania and visit the schools. We are encouraged to write letters to the orphan(s) that we are sponsoring. They collect letters from sponsors in January and September and deliver those letters directly to the schools via Sheridan Lutheran missionaries.



Today's Readings

Christ the King
November 23, 2025

Prayer of the Day

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. **Amen.**

First Reading

Jeremiah 23:1-6

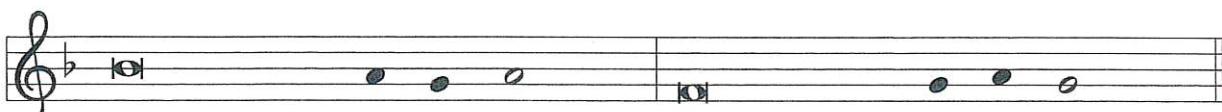
Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then 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. ⁴I will raise up

shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The 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. ⁶In 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."

Psalm

Psalm 46; tone 5



God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
²Therefore we will not fear,
though the earth be moved,
and though the mountains shake
in the depths of the sea;
³though its waters rage and foam,
and though the mountains tremble
with its tumult.
⁴There is a river whose streams
make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation
of the Most High.

⁵God is in the midst of the city;
it shall not be shaken;
God shall help it
at the break of day.
⁶The nations rage,
and the kingdoms shake;
God speaks,
and the earth melts away.
⁷The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.
⁸Come now,
regard the works of the LORD,

continued

what desolations

God has brought up-¹ on the earth;
⁹behold the one who makes war to
cease in ¹ all the world;
who breaks the bow,
and shatters the spear,
and burns the ¹ shields with fire.

¹⁰“Be still, then,
and know that ¹ I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations;
I will be exalted ¹ in the earth.”

¹¹The LORD of ¹ hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob ¹ is our stronghold.

Second Reading

Colossians 1:11-20

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for 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.

¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He 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. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and 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.

Gospel

Luke 23:33-43

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. ³⁴Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And 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!” ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸There was also an

inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴²Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”

TODAY'S READINGS November 23, 2025 (Christ the King)

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Next Sunday's Readings: Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:36-44.

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