



Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church – ELCA

“Encouraging faith and proclaiming God’s love by Gathering, Growing, Giving.”

Christ the King Sunday, November 24, 2024, 10 am

Your presence in the sanctuary signifies your agreement to be on our live broadcast.

NOTE: **Bold text** indicates worshippers’ response, and * means please stand as you are able.

Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king’s title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the “one like a human being” (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel’s vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

PRELUDE

Michelle Young

WELCOME & MINISTRY MESSAGES

Pastor Natalie Leske

GATHERING

*GREETING The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

*GATHERING HYMN

“Prepare the Royal Highway”

LBW 26

*CONFESSION Blessed be the holy Trinity, †one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end. **Amen.**

Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy, we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power. We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free. Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.

*FORGIVENESS These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are †forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation. **Amen.**

*PRAYER OF THE DAY Almighty and ever-living God, **you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; praise God above, ye heav'nly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Text: Thomas Ken, 1637-1711

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GROWING

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

To the community for whom this passage was written, it seemed as though the oppression they were experiencing would never end. Daniel's message is: It shall end. The Ancient One, who is judge, will call all nations to account and will give dominion to "one like a human being," the Messiah.

Our first reading is from the 7th chapter of Daniel.

⁹ As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire.

¹⁰ A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened.

¹³ As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. ¹⁴ To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

Psalm 93

Please join in reading Psalm 93 responsively.

Ever since the world began, your throne has been established. (Ps. 93:2)

¹ The Lord is king, robed in majesty; the Lord is robed in majesty and armed with strength. The Lord has made the world so sure that it cannot be moved.

² **Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; you are from everlasting.**

³ The waters have lifted up, O Lord, the waters have lifted up their voice; the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

⁴ **Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, mightier is the Lord who dwells on high.**

⁵ Your testimonies are very sure, and holiness befits your house, O Lord, forever and forevermore.

Revelation 1:4b-8

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

Our second reading is from the 1st chapter of Revelation.

^{4b} Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. ⁷ Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen. ⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The Word of the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God.

*Please stand as you are able.

John 18:33-37

In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.

The Holy Gospel according to John 18th chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³³ Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?"

³⁴ Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵ Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?"

³⁶ Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷ Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you O, Christ.

MESSAGE

Pastor Natalie

*HYMN OF THE DAY

"Jesus Shall Reign"

LBW 530

*THE APOSTLES' CREED (professed together)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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

*GREETING OF PEACE The peace of Christ be with you always.

C: And also with you.

Please share God's peace saying, "Peace be with you" or similar words.

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Revive our congregations, synods, and national church body to reflect the love, justice, and kinship of your kingdom. Raise up diverse leaders who teach and serve your people. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Nourish parched lands and bring relief to flooded places. Protect wildlife habitats and endangered species, that the chorus of creation's praise resounds with joy. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Grant wisdom to the leaders who govern, legislate, and deliberate on our behalf. Advance your nonviolent reign of justice-seeking love through their work. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Draw near to those who are detained, on trial, or incarcerated. Transform systems of retribution into systems of reconciliation and restoration. Empower activists who advocate for change. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Remind us of your enduring love in all seasons. Guide the planning efforts of worship leaders and volunteers who usher our congregation into a meaningful Advent. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

To those who are ill, grieving, lonely or afraid. Come to the aid of all in need. Today we lift before you these people (*Pastor Dean Brockmeier, Audrey Bracher, Dave Blicher, Teresa Wadell, Conrad Barth*) and those we name before you now.... Send your Spirit to comfort those we pray for and make us instruments of your healing power. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

In your eternal presence the saints (*Sandy Kenefick*) sing of your majesty. Join our voices with theirs in praise to the one who loves us and frees us from sin. Merciful God, **receive our prayer.**

Amen

The OFFERING PLATE is located at the entrance of the church sanctuary. Your generous giving supports God's mission and ministry at Shepherd of the Hill.

***OFFERING HYMN**

"Create in Me a Clean Heart"

LBW page 96

Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from your presence and take not your Holy Spirit from me. Restore to me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit.

Psalm: 51:10-12

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***OFFERING PRAYER** Blessed are you, O God, source of every gift of your creation. By these gifts and with our lives, help us to serve one another and all in need, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

***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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

***BLESSING** The Ancient One, enthroned, the Crucified One, now risen, the Indwelling One, poured out, ✠ bless you now and forever.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

***SENDING HYMN** "Crown Him with Many Crowns" LBW 170

***DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Encouraging one another in Christ. **C: Thanks be to God.**

***BELLS/POSTLUDE** Michelle Young

Reader: Gordy Sessions

Acolyte: Deklan Peterson

Video: Billy Heltne

Ushers: Bob Dempski, Tim Jenson

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THIS WEEK AT CHURCH AND BEYOND OUR DOORS

SUNDAY	11/24	8:45 am	- Sunday School & Adult Bible Study
		10 am	- 27 th Sunday after Pentecost Worship
MONDAY	11/25	6 pm	- Secretary in the Office
		7 pm	- AA Meeting
TUESDAY	11/26	4-6 pm	- Food Pantry
WEDNESDAY	11/27	3:20 pm	- Confirmation
THURSDAY	11/28		Happy Thanksgiving!
FRIDAY	11/29	10-Noon	- Food Pantry
SUNDAY	12/1	8:45 am	- NO Sunday School
			- Adult Bible Study
		10 am	- 1 st Sunday of Advent

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Phase 1 of Sanctuary Technology Project to be presented after church Sunday December 1st.

Church Wide Lefse & Bake Sale: Sunday December 15th. After the Christmas Program. Donations of baked goods appreciated!

Christmas Program: The ABC's of Christmas, Sunday December 15th at 10 am!

The Big Elk Creek and Barum WELCA ladies thank you for the materials that you gave to Big Elk Creek and Barum! *If there is anyone who would like to help quilt, the ladies at BEC quilt on Tuesday mornings starting at 9am-contact Christi Ness, phone number is 715-874-5278 to check, and see if they are quilting on that Tuesday – there are some Tuesdays that they aren't able to meet. At Barum they quilt twice a month, on the 1st Wednesday and the 3rd Tuesday of the month. Rhonda Johnson at 715-879-5007 may know who to get in touch with.*

Again the ladies want to thank you for your generosity! *Pam Solberg (Church Secretary)*

Worship Assistance Needed

Ushers, readers, communion assistants and livestream helpers are needed. Helping to lead worship is a very rewarding way to use your talents and gifts. Training and support are offered for all positions. To volunteer please reach out to Tim Jenson for ushering, Kris Jenson, the church secretary, or a member of the worship committee for reading and communion assisting, and to Billy Heltne or Tim Jenson for live streaming. Thank you for prayerfully considering these forms of discipleship.

Mailing Addresses for folks who you may want to send words of care, cheer, or sympathy.

Please, let the secretary know if you would like to be added to the list or know someone who might be.

- Olivia Kenefick: PO Box 102, Elk Mound, WI 54739
- Dave Blicher: N6956 938th St. Elk Mound, WI 54739
- Audrey Bracher: Colfax Health & Rehab, Room 310 110 Park Dr. Colfax, WI 54730

Giving Through our Website

Our website now provides us the opportunity to give donations on-line at any time without banking information. Most people are using credit cards today and not writing checks and now this includes the option of supporting the continuing work of Christ here at Shepherd of the Hill. Even if you only watch our streaming of worship services, you will now have the flexibility to make offerings from your home!

Current Fund-Raising Project

Audio/Visual Technology Upgrade for Sanctuary

~ Please also consider monetary donations for the Food Pantry and/or Moulder Meals~

BIRTHDAY PARTY!

Please help us celebrate~ **Faylene Howe's 90th Birthday!**
Saturday, November 30th, 1-4 pm~ Shepherd of the Hill, Elk Mound
Hosted by her family, all are invited!

Would you like to join Shepherd of the Hill?

We are grateful to have you join us in following God and serving our neighbors. Joining our congregation may be your next step. If this is something you are interested in doing contact Pastor Natalie or the church office to find out more about becoming a member of Shepherd of the Hill. We will be welcoming new members on January 12, 2025, with fellowship to follow. Please contact Pastor Natalie by January 5, 2025 if you wish to join at that time.

If you aren't sure you would like to join the congregation, Pastor Natalie welcomes conversations and any questions you may have. You are welcome to participate in worship, service and learning at any time.

As Christians we need to be part of a community of faith to support one another, continue to grow in faith and seek together to serve others. May God bless you as you discern how you will participate in our community of faith at this time.

Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church: 207 University St, Elk Mound, WI 54739

Pastor Natalie Leske: 715-829-8324, Email: pastorleske.soth@gmail.com Office Phone: 715-879-5115
Email: sothlc@sothem.org Website: www.sothem.org On Facebook
Secretary: Kris Jenson krisjens4@hotmail.com, 715-563-1402 Custodian: Terry Stamm: 715-379-3728
Sunday School Coordinators: Jaime Folczyk mjfolczyk@gmail.com and Holly Sweeney hollysweeney65@gmail.com
Giving questions contact: Barb Vadnais barbvadnais1@gmail.com