**November 26th, 2023 Christ the King – Email/At Home Missal**

**The ZOOM link for today’s service, which opens at 9.30 am on November 26th, 2023, can be found here:**

**Sunday Worship November 26th, 2023 09:30 am ZOOM room opens; service begins at 10:00 am.**

**Join Zoom Meeting click here:
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83858523329?pwd=UUpVdCtkTDB0MWhTVkhjSmxvWjFnUT09>**

**Meeting ID: 838 5852 3329 Passcode: 629887**

**You don’t have to have a computer or internet to connect to any of our church Zoom services; you can also just call in on one of these numbers (long distance charges may apply): (All Canadian numbers). You can also access the ZOOM from your telephone by using the “One tap mobile” option:**

**+12042727920,,83858523329#,,,,\*629887# Canada**

**+14388097799,,83858523329#,,,,\*629887# Canada**

**Dial by your location:**

**+1 778 907 2071 Canada**

**+1 780 666 0144 Canada**

**+1 204 272 7920 Canada
+1 438 809 7799 Canada**

**+1 587 328 1099 Canada**

**+1 647 374 4685 Canada
+1 647 558 0588 Canada**

**Meeting ID: 838 5852 3329 Passcode: 629887**

**Find your local number:** [**https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kz0pHIt5i**](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kz0pHIt5i)

**……………………………………….**

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 26TH-DECEMBER 3RD 2023:**

**Here is the YouTube link for the service from last Sunday, November 19th, 2023:** [**https://youtu.be/u3Sxt12q8x8**](https://youtu.be/u3Sxt12q8x8)

……………………………………….

1. **Coming Events** *(save these dates)* ***bold print - events being held here at St. Peter’s***
2. **Nov. 29** **Bible Study at 10:30 am**
3. **Nov. 29 Grandmother’s Tea at 12 pm** *(contact Sherri Wilker 519-572-3440 for details)*
4. Dec. 2 Addison Women’s Choir, Cambridge Male Chorus at 7:30 pm *(see bulletin board)*
5. Dec. 3 Addison Women’s Choir, Cambridge Male Chorus at 3:00 pm pm *(see bulletin board)*

# Dec. 8 Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol at 7:30 pm

1. Dec. 10 Menno Singers, Mennonite Mass Choir Handel’s Messiah *(Centre in the Square)*
2. **Dec. 14 Holden Evening Prayer Service for the (Almost) Longest Night 7:00 pm**
3. **Dec. 17 Pulled Pork Lunch & Silent Auction following Worship**
4. **The Life of St. Peter’s for the week of November 25 – December 3, 2023**
5. Monday 6:00 pm TOPS - R.F.F. *(Art Room)*
6. Tuesday 7:00 pm Scouts - R.F.F. *(Scout Room, Art Room, Fellowship Hall)*
7. Wednesday **10:30 am Bible Study** *(Art Room)*
8. **12:00 pm Grandmother’s Tea** *(Fellowship Hall)*
9. Thursday
10. Friday
11. Saturday **1:30 pm Choir Practice** *(Sanctuary)*
12. Sunday **10:00 pm Worship Service** – A passage **from Isaiah 40:1-11** *(Comfort, comfort my people, a voice cries out in the wilderness, make straight the way of the Lord.)*
13. **…………………………**
14. **Pastoral Visit:** Pastor Laura is available for visits by appointment by calling the church office, 519-653-4721. Whether you have a particular pastoral concern or would just like some one-to-one time to get to know Pastor Laura, she would love to meet with you.
15. **…………………………**
16. **Prayer List:** Bill, Don, Alice, Don, Lynn, Helen, Sharon, Donald, Shirley, Clara, Carol, Jeff, Aaron, Mackenzie, Rhett, Linda, Jan, Ken, Lee, Maria, Deborah, Fred, Anne.
17. **…………………………**

## We need you to help feed our neighbourhood! The freedom Centre has joined with Cambridge Community Table to offer a meal to our community twice a month on Tuesday night. We need volunteers: Food Preparation, set up, take down, meet and Greet. Every hour you can give once or twice a month. Call for information 519-591-6518 or email rosemary@freedomcentre.ca.

1. **…………………………**
2. **Gaza Humanitarian Emergency** – CLWR and the Humanitarian Coalition are responding to the humanitarian emergency unfolding in Gaza. Please join us in prayer and consider making a gift to provide critical life-saving aid to those affected. To find out more or to donate, please visit [clwr.org/gaza](file:///D%3A%5CDocuments%5CServices%2C%20Sermons%20%26%20Website%20Material%5Cclwr.org%5Cgaza) or call 1-800-661-2597 (Mon - Fri 8:30am -4:00pm CST).
3. **…………………………**
4. **November 28th is recognized as "Giving Tuesday**" - This is a day when many Canadians embrace and support a Charitable Organization with a catch-up donation or an extra donation. Please think, pray, and donate to St. Peter's Lutheran Church on "Giving Tuesday".
5. **…………………………**
6. **November 28 at 12 pm – Grandmother’s Tea -** *contact Sherri Wilker 519-572-3440 for details)*
7. **…………………………**
8. **Weekly Bible Study**: This will take place on Wednesdays at 10:30 am in the Art Room. Everyone is welcome!
9. **…………………………**
10. **Friday, December 8 at 7:30 pm - Charles Dickens’ A Christmas Carol.** $15.00 per Ticket. Please bring a donation for the Cambridge Food Bank. Readers include: Regional Chair, Hon. Karen Redman, WRPS Chief of Police, Mark Crowell, SPLC Member, Eugenia Schatz, ELCIC Eastern Synod Bishop, Michael Pryse, CSO Chair, Dr. Michael Lawrie. Music: Bradley Moggach and Greg Stroh.
11. **…………………………**
12. **Season of Giving:** This holiday season the Cambridge Food Bank expects more than 2,000 households will
13. contact them for holiday food and family support.  Their hope is that with community support, families in need can share One of their donation options is to purchase grocery store gifts cards in increments of $25.  We hope that our St. Peter's family will help by purchasing gift cards and placing them on the offering plate until December 17th. Let's help make sure no one goes hungry this holiday season! The Ministry of Vision and Mission.to
14. **…………………………**

# Thursday, December 14 at 7:00 pm - Holden Evening Prayer Service for the (Almost) Longest Night. It’s a time that brings to mind persons, events, and relationships that have been a part of our lives in the past but have now changed or gone. It’s a time that can feel extra lonely because our feelings of loss or grief don’t match up with the joy and festivities of the season. On this (almost) longest night we invite you to join us for a time of meditative worship that gives space for remembering, sharing our hurts and longings with God, and preparing our hearts to welcome Christ. There will be a time of fellowship to follow.

1. **…………………………**

# Sunday December 17, 2023 - Pulled Pork Lunch & Silent Auction following Worship – see attached information sheet!

1. **……………………………**

Give **Gifts from the Heart** this Christmas! Canadian Lutheran World Relief's new Gifts from the Heart catalogue

has something to inspire and delight anyone on your list this year. It’s full of meaningful, tangible gifts that will touch your loved ones and share God’s love with the world! Copies are available through the church, by emailing clwr@clwr.org or you can shop online at [clwr.org/GFTH](file:///D%3A%5CDocuments%5CServices%2C%20Sermons%20%26%20Website%20Material%5Cclwr.org%5CGFTH) .

1. **…………………………**

**Presiding Pastor: Rev. Laura Sauder**

**Organist & Director of Music: Bradley Moggach**

**Assisting Minister: Emily Reidl**

**Reader: Barbara Berg**

**Land Acknowledgement:**

A: With good and grateful hearts we acknowledge that the land upon which we live, work, play, and worship, is the same land upon which the Anishinaabe, Haudenosaunee, and the Attawandaron (or Neutral) peoples first lived, worked, played, and prayed to Creator. Calling the earth upon which they stood, Mother Earth, they cared for the earth as they would care for their mother. Let us take an example from our Indigenous forbears and neighbours, and show gratitude to our Mother Earth. May we be ever mindful of what she has provided for us, even to the next seven generations.

**Welcome remarks**

**Gathering Rite for Advent:**

P: Each week as we approach the Advent

of our Saviour Jesus Christ,

we acknowledge what God’s people

have always known:

***C: Even when God is active in this world,***

***hope is a work in progress.***

P: There are so many people and places and times

still awaiting God’s goodness.

And yet we trust, O God, that through your love,

***C: a familiar light can banish the fear of the other;***

P: Through your love,

***C: the warmth of good cheer***

***can extinguish cold-hearted injustice.***

P: Through your love,

***C: the song of faith***

***can rekindle hope for the hopeless.***

***Candle is lit***

**ELW # 723‘Canticle of the Turning’ *(Chorus)***

***Chorus***

 ***My heart shall sing of the day you bring.***

 ***Let the fires of your justice burn.***

 ***Wipe away all tears, for the dawn draws near,***

 ***and the world is about to turn.***

*(Title:* Canticle of the Turning; *Text: Rory Cooney, b. 1952, based on the Magnificat; Text © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. # 00762; Music: Irish Traditional; arr. © 1990 GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. # 00762*

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P: May this candle be a sign

that God’s goodness still burns brightly

even when it seems fragile, temporary,

easily extinguished.

When we yet wonder:

How long must this world wait

to see God’s glory?

Know this truth:

You are God’s people,

Called to serve this world

and to let your light shine.

Let the fire of justice burn in your heart,

for the dead still cry

for the flicker of new life we carry.

*(Source: Adapted from “My Heart Shall Sing” Advent Candle-lighting by Barn Geese Worship, licensed under CC BY-NC 4.0.)*

**Gathering Hymn: ELW # 259 ‘Fling Wide the Door’**

1 Fling wide the door, unbar the gate;

 the King of glory comes in state;

 the Lord of lords and King of kings,

 the Savior of the world who brings

 his great salvation to the earth.

 So raise a shout of holy mirth

 and praise our God and Lord,

 Creator, Spirit, Word.

2 He is the rock of our belief,

 the heart of mercy's gentle self.

 His kingly crown is holiness;

 his scepter is his loveliness;

 he brings our sorrows to an end.

 Now gladly praise our king and friend,

 and worship him with song

 for saving us from wrong.

3 Oh, happy towns and blessed lands

 that live by their true king's commands.

 And blessed be the hearts he rules,

 the humble places where he dwells.

 He is the rightful Son of bliss

 who fills our lives and makes us his,

 creator of the world,

 our only strength for good.

4 Come, Lord, our Savior, Jesus Christ;

 our hearts are open wide in trust.

 Oh, show us now your lovely grace,

 upon our sorrows shine your face,

 and let your Holy Spirit guide

 our journey in your grace so wide.

 We praise your holy name,

 from age to age the same!

*(Title: Fling Wide the Door; Text: Georg Weissel, 1590-1635; tr. Gracia Grindal, b. 1943; Text © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. # 85956; Music: J. A. Freylinghausen, Geistreiches Gesangbuch, 1704; arr. hymnal version, arr. ©2006 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. # 86211; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Greeting:**

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

***C: And also with you.***

**Theme Time**

**Prayer of the Day:**

Holy God, when we come to the end of what we know, help us to hold fast to your covenant. For even when our world is shaken, you are ever faithful and steadfast. Amen.

**Acclamation: ‘Listen’**

Listen, Listen

Be open, O my heart.

*(Title: Listen; Text & Music: Bret Hesla, Tune © 2004 Bret Helsa, admin. Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Used by permission. # 97231*

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**Reader**:

A passage from **2 Kings 22:1-20; 23:1-3.** May we be equipped by these words to walk in love for God, ourselves, our neighbours, all people, and all God’s creation. **(Brief pause)**

Josiah was 8 years old when he became king, and he ruled for thirty-one years in Jerusalem.  He did what was right in the Lord’s eyes, and walked in the ways of his ancestor David—not deviating from it even a bit to the right or left.

In the eighteenth year of King Josiah’s rule, he sent the secretary Shaphan, to the Lord’s temple with the following orders: “Go to the high priest Hilkiah. Have him carefully count the money that has been brought to the Lord’s temple and that has been collected from the people by the doorkeepers. It should be given to the supervisors in charge of the Lord’s temple, who in turn should pay it to those who are in the Lord’s temple, repairing the temple— the carpenters, the builders, and the masons. It should be used to pay for lumber and quarried stone to repair the temple. But there’s no need to check on them regarding the money they receive, because they are honest workers.”

The high priest Hilkiah told Shaphan the secretary: “I have found the Instruction scroll in the Lord’s temple.” Then Hilkiah turned the scroll over to Shaphan, who read it.

Shaphan the secretary then went to the king and reported this to him: “Your officials have released the money that was found in the temple and have handed it over to those who supervise the work in the Lord’s temple.” Then Shaphan the secretary told the king, “Hilkiah the priest has given me a scroll,” and he read it out loud before the king.

As soon as the king heard what the Instruction scroll said, he ripped his clothes. The king ordered his advisors as follows: “Go and ask the Lord on my behalf, and on behalf of the people, and on behalf of all Judah concerning the contents of this scroll that has been found. The Lord must be furious with us because our ancestors failed to obey the words of this scroll and do everything written in it about us.”

So they went to the prophetess Huldah. She lived in Jerusalem in the second district. When they spoke to her, she replied, “This is what the Lord, Israel’s God, says: Tell this to the man who sent you to me: This is what the Lord says: I am about to bring disaster on this place and its citizens—all the words in the scroll that Judah’s king has read! My anger burns against this place, never to be quenched, because they’ve deserted me and have burned incense to other gods, angering me by everything they have done. But also say this to the king of Judah, who sent you to question the Lord: This is what the Lord, Israel’s God, says about the message you’ve just heard: Because your heart was broken and you submitted before the Lord when you heard what I said about this place and its citizens—that they will become a horror and a curse—and because you ripped your clothes and cried before me, I have listened to you, declares the Lord. That’s why I will gather you to your ancestors, and you will go to your grave in peace. You won’t experience the disaster I am about to bring on this place.”

When they reported Huldah’s words to the king, the king sent a message, and all of Judah’s and Jerusalem’s elders gathered before him. Then the king went up to the Lord’s temple, together with all the people of Judah and all the citizens of Jerusalem, the priests and the prophets, and all the people, young and old alike. There the king read out loud all the words of the covenant scroll that had been found in the Lord’s temple. The king stood beside the pillar and made a covenant with the Lord that he would follow the Lord by keeping his commandments, his laws, and his regulations with all his heart and all his being in order to fulfill the words of this covenant that were written in this scroll. All of the people accepted the covenant. (CEB)

The Living God is with us. **C: And with all creation! Thanks be to God.**

**Engaging with the Story**

 **2 Kings 22:1-20; 23:1-3**

King Josiah is likely not a familiar character to most of us, but he’s someone worth knowing about. Descended from King David, he ruled the southern kingdom of Judah in the last half of the 7th century BCE (some 400 years after David was on the throne). Unlike most of the kings that came before him, Josiah was a righteous king who cared about his people and his faith. But in the 18th year of his reign (when he was 26), the discovery of a dusty old scroll turns his world upside down.

While doing repairs in the temple, the high priest finds a scroll. Biblical scholars think this long-lost scroll was likely an early version of the book of Deuteronomy. The book that lays out the 10 Commandments and the rest of God’s laws.

As soon as Josiah hears the words of this ancient scroll he tears his clothes, which was a sign of mourning. Josiah was leading his people based on the knowledge that had been handed down to him, and until this moment he had no clue just how far he and his people had strayed from God’s Word. He’s devastated to learn that what he thought he knew about his faith, was in fact wrong.

In many ways, Josiah’s story of disillusionment is a universal coming of age story. How many of us can remember experiencing something similar. A moment when we realized that “the adults” really don’t have it all figured out. A moment when we realized that the country we were raised to be proud of, has a history that’s way more complicated. A moment when what we thought we knew about our faith was challenged by difficult life experiences or simply learning more about the Bible and Christian history.

Disillusionment is a pretty universal experience, that for many also goes hand in hand with a kind of existential crisis. It makes us question everything we thought we knew. We wonder what even matters anymore, and what we can trust. It can be hard to forge a new way forward when our world has ended.

Disillusionment is painful, and yet it’s important that we are able to see things the way that they are. Because even though it’s painful, disillusionment can actually become a gift to new and authentic way of being in the world.

This is how Josiah chooses to forge ahead. Ever faithful, after some time to mourn, Josiah immediately goes about renewing the worship practices of the people based on this new knowledge. Even when the prophetess Huldah warns that these reforms won’t save the kingdom from eventual destruction, King Josiah leads the people in renewing their covenant relationship with God anyway.

I wonder, what would you have done if you were Josiah? If someone told you that it won’t make a difference whether you follow these new rules or not, would you still go to all the trouble of instituting reforms? If it won’t make a difference to the future, why not just live it up in the moment?

If the world were to end tomorrow, what would you do?

There’s a story that says when Martin Luther was asked this question, he answered “I would plant an apple tree.” I think Martin Luther and his fellow reformer King Josiah would have gotten along quite well.

There’s something to be said about doing the right and good and faithful thing in the present for its’ own sake. That regardless of what tomorrow brings – because none of us know the future – we live as we know God would want us to live right now.

Even though everything he thought he knew has been thrown into question. Even though he’s been warned that doing the right thing now won’t change the future for his people, Josiah leads them into renewing the covenant relationship with God.

We don’t know how much of the law had been lost to the pages of time, but this covenant language hearkens back to the 10 commandments. Earlier this fall, at Thanksgiving, we celebrated the ten commandments because they create the conditions for everyone in the community to have a good life.

When I follow the commandments it’s good for my neighbour, and when my neighbour follows the commandments, it’s good for me. We don’t follow the commandments because it guarantees us any particular kind of future, but because it creates the conditions for the good life right now, which we hope will also lead to a good future for those who come after us.

This week, on Thursday November 30th, COP 28 – the UN Climate Change Conference – begins their meeting in Dubai. Leaders from countries around the world will meet for two weeks to set strategies and plans for addressing the climate crisis.

A lot of us feel pretty disillusioned about our ability to address the climate crisis in the way that’s needed. So much climate conversation sounds like the warnings that the prophetess Huldah spoke to Josiah. All doom and gloom. It makes it you wonder some days whether it’s worth even trying to live differently. If it’s already too late. But even if it were – and it’s not clear that it is – fostering a new kind of relationship with creation, with the land, is the right thing to do.

We can’t change the past. We can’t know the future. But we can control how we live in this moment. Renewing our covenant with creation is something that will make our lives better right now. We were never intended to be so disconnected from the natural world and to relate to it only as resource. And we hope that a renewed relationship with creation will lead to a good future for those who come after us.

How would you live if the world were to end tomorrow?

Today is Reign of Christ Sunday, which is a time to remember that in a way our world has already ended. We already live under the new reign that Christ has ushered in. In his ministry, Jesus has already shown us how we are to live. Our faith teaches us that in Christ, peace and justice and right relationship are values to live by, even when they are not yet fully realized.

Even though some days our disillusionment with the world leads us to despair, in Christ we trust that hope always gets the last word.

As we seek to prepare the way of the Lord, if the world were to end tomorrow, we follow Josiah’s example. We seek to do the right and just thing, as best as we know it to be true in this moment. We seek to love God and love our neighbour, not because it secures our future, but because this is how Jesus – our authority – has taught us to live. Because a life of love and faithfulness is what a life in Christ looks like even in a broken world.

And we trust that God will use our feeble and often faltering faithfulness, even when we may not know just how it will all work out in the end. May it be so. AMEN

**Hymn of the Day: ELW # 741 ‘Your Will be Done’**

Your will be done on earth, O Lord.

Your will be done on earth, O Lord.

Your will be done on earth, O Lord.

Your will be done on earth, O Lord.

Your will be done on earth, O Lord.

*(Title:**Your Will Be Done (Mayenziwe); Text: South African, based on the Lord's Prayer (Public Domain) Music: Arr. © 1990 Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission # 01207; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Prayers of Intercession:**

A:Let us turn our hearts to God, our breath and life, as we pray for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Holy God, from Christ our sovereign, we receive our call to serve. Direct your church to respond to this call with faithfulness and generous love. When we stray, turn us again to you. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

In Christ, the rock of our salvation, we are brought into union with all of creation. With mountains, seas, dry lands, and animals of the field, we seek your guidance and protection. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

In Christ we know merciful judgment. Guide rulers of every nation in ways of humble leadership and wise decision-making. Allow aid to come to all who are underserved and care to any who are neglected. Especially we pray for the people of Palestine and Israel and those who lead them. Make their path one of peace. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

In Christ we feel the depth of your love and care toward us. Nourish all who hunger, connect any who are isolated, and surround all who experience rejection or abuse. We pray for those who suffer (especially we pray for Linda, Tammy, all the beloved children on our prayer list, and those we name before you now aloud or in the silence of our hearts). Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

In Christ we seek to live lives of service. We pray for our treasurer Alex and for his service to your ministry in this place. Bless him and guide him in his walk of faith. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

In Christ, all who follow you are united into one family. We pray for: the people of St John’s Anglican Church and their pastor Stephen Berryman; and the people of All Saints Anglican Lutheran Church, Guelph and their pastor Brian Wilker. Hear us, O God. **C:** **Your mercy is great.**

We offer our spoken prayers and those held in our hearts trusting in your mercy; through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

**Amen.\***

**Share the peace of Christ:**

Angels said it to startled shepherds,

Jesus said it to frightened followers,

And now these words which come from heaven

are shared to make us whole and make us one.

Peace be with you.

**C: And also with you.** \*\*\*\*

*(A Wee Worship Book – Liturgy for Holy Communion A #30810; Type: Words; First Line: Call to worship – Gather us in; Language: English (pages 80-92); Contributors: Iona community; Text: © 1999, WGRG, Iona community, GIA Publications, Inc; exclusive North American agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Offering**

**Offering Hymn: ELW # 870 ‘We Praise You, O God’**

1 We praise you, O God, our redeemer, creator;

 in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.

 We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;

 we bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

2 We worship you, God of our fathers and mothers;

 through trial and tempest our guide you have been.

 When perils o'ertake us, you will not forsake us,

 and with your help, O Lord, our struggles we win.

3 With voices united our praises we offer

 and gladly our songs of thanksgiving we raise.

 With you, Lord, beside us,

 your strong arm will guide us.

 To you, our great redeemer, forever be praise!

*(Title: We Praise You, O God; Text: Julia C. Cory, 1882-1963; Public Domain; Music: A. Valerius, Nederlandtsch Gedenckclanck, 1626; Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Offering Prayer:**

A: God of all goodness,

generations have turned to you,

gathered around your table,

and shared your abundant blessings.

Number us among them

that, as we gather these gifts from your abundance,

and give thanks for your rich blessings,

we may feast upon your very self

and care for all that you have made,

through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Servant.

**Amen.\***

You are invited to prepare your table with bread and wine, or crackers and juice, whatever is available to you, so that you may participate in the meal.

**Meal: Click here for the communion liturgy from worship on YouTube:**

[**https://youtu.be/ViXmTzRsfU4**](https://youtu.be/ViXmTzRsfU4)

**Great Thanksgiving: ACS Setting 12: ‘Dialogue…’ (page 36) (spoken)**

The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise**

**ELW Setting 8: ‘Preface…’ *(Advent)***

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

through our Savior Jesus Christ.

You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer,

through whom you will also make all things new

in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness.

And so, with all the choirs of angels,

with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**ELW Setting 8: ‘Holy, Holy, Holy…’ *(page 190 )***

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,**

**God of pow’r and might,**

**heaven and earth are full of your glory, full of your glory.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**\*

**Thanksgiving at the Table:**

On the night before he showed us the full extent of his love,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

 Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.

**Invitation to Communion:**

This is Christ’s table. All are welcome here to receive God’s abundant gifts of love, mercy, grace, and forgiveness.

I invite those at home, and those in the building communing by fellowship cup, to take your bread or cracker as we say together, “The body of Christ, given for us.”

And, as we take our cup we say, “The blood of Christ, shed for us.”

**Communion Music: ACS # 1056 ‘God Bless to Us Our Bread’ &**

 **ELW # 763 ‘My Life Flows On in Endless Song’**

**ACS # 1056 ‘God Bless to Us Our Bread’**

God bless to us our bread,

and give bread to all those who are hungry,

and hunger for justice to those who are fed.

God bless to us our bread.

*(Title: God Bless to Us Our Bread; Text: Argentine traditional, collected by Federico Pagura, 1923–2016; tr. John L. Bell, b. 1949; Spanish text © 2002 World Council of Churches. All rights reserved.; English text © WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. # 34826; Music: Argentine melody, collected by Frederico Paguara; arr. John L. Bell; arr. © WGRG, Iona Community, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved. # 34826; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Hymn: ELW 763 ‘My Life Flows On in Endless Song’**

1 My life flows on in endless song;

 above earth's lamentation,

 I catch the sweet, though far-off hymn

 that hails a new creation.

***Refrain***

 ***No storm can shake my inmost calm***

 ***while to that Rock I'm clinging.***

 ***Since Christ is Lord of heaven and earth,***

 ***how can I keep from singing?***

2 Through all the tumult and the strife,

 I hear that music ringing.

 It finds an echo in my soul.

 How can I keep from singing? ***Refrain***

3 What though my joys and comforts die?

 The Lord my Savior liveth.

 What though the darkness gather round?

 Songs in the night he giveth. ***Refrain***

4 The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,

 a fountain ever springing!

 All things are mine since I am his!

 How can I keep from singing? ***Refrain***

*(Title: My Life Flows ON IN Endless Song; Text: Robert Lowry, 1826-1899; Public Domain; Music: Robert Lowry, alt.; Public Domain*

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P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you, in his grace.

***C: Amen.***

**Prayer after Communion:**

A: Lord Jesus,

in this simple meal you have set a banquet.

Sustain us on the journey,

strengthen us to care for the least of your beloved children,

and give us glad and generous hearts

as we meet you on the way.

Amen.\*

**Blessing:**

As we watch and wait for God’s truth and justice to break into our world,

our hearts shall sing of God’s goodness,

and of the promise of hope and peace to come.

The God of peace bless you,

the love of Christ sustain you in hope,

and the anointing of the Spirit ☩ remain upon you,

in every ending and every new beginning.

Amen.

**Sending Hymn: ELW # 260 ‘The King Shall Come’**

1 The King shall come when morning dawns

 and light triumphant breaks,

 when beauty gilds the eastern hills

 and life to joy awakes.

2 Not as of old a little child,

 to bear and fight and die,

 but crowned with glory like the sun

 that lights the morning sky.

3 Oh, brighter than the rising morn

 when Christ, victorious, rose

 and left the lonesome place of death,

 despite the rage of foes.

4 Oh, brighter than that glorious morn

 shall dawn upon our race

 the day when Christ in splendor comes,

 and we shall see his face.

5 The King shall come when morning dawns

 and light and beauty brings.

 Hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray:

 come quickly, King of kings.

*(Title: The King Shall Come; Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925; Public Domain; Music: A. Davisson, Kentucky Harmony, 1916; arr. Theodore A. Beck, 1929-2003; Arr. © 1969 Concordia Publishing House. All rights reserved. Used by permission. #86211; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Dismissal:**

A: Beloved of God,

go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

***C: Thanks be to God.***\*

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