

SOLOMON'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
4856 WAYNE ROAD
CHAMBERSBURG, PA 17202
(717) 267-2266

EMAIL: info@solomonslutheran.org
WEB SITE: www.solomonslutheran.org
FACEBOOK SEARCH: Solomon's Lutheran Facebook

R E V E L A T I O N I : 8



WHO IS AND
WHO WAS AND
WHO IS TO COME

C H R I S T T H E K I N G

"Solomon's Evangelical Lutheran Church, following the example of Jesus Christ, seeks to live in the confidence and fullness of God's grace; to preach the Good News boldly and truthfully; to support and serve others in faith; to work in harmony with all creation."

CHRIST THE KING
NOVEMBER 21, 2021

November 21, 2021

Christ the King

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.

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✝ one God,
whose teaching is life,
whose presence is sure,
and whose love is endless.

Amen.

Let us confess our sins to the one who welcomes us with an open heart.

God our comforter:

like lost sheep, we have gone astray.

We gaze upon abundance and see scarcity.

We turn our faces away from injustice and oppression.

We exploit the earth with our apathy and greed.

Free us from our sin, gracious God.

Listen when we call out to you for help.

Lead us by your love to love our neighbors as ourselves.

Amen.

All have sinned and fall short of the glory of God.

By the gift of grace in ✝ Christ Jesus, God makes you righteous.

Receive with glad hearts the forgiveness of all your sins.

Amen.

GATHERING SONG (verses 1&3)

Lead On, O King Eternal!



1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,



hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents will be our home.
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears.



Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong;
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir-ring drums,
Your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light;



and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
but deeds of love and mer - cy the heav'n - ly king - dom comes.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

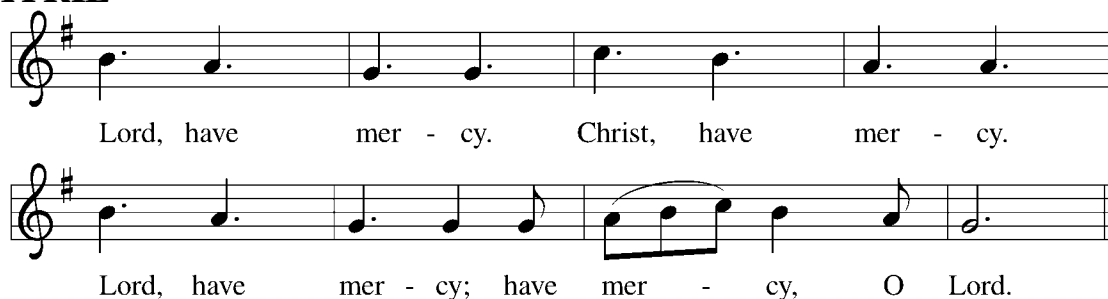
Text: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1862–1917

Music: LANCASHIRE, Henry T. Smart, 1813–1879

GREETING

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

KYRIE



Lord, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

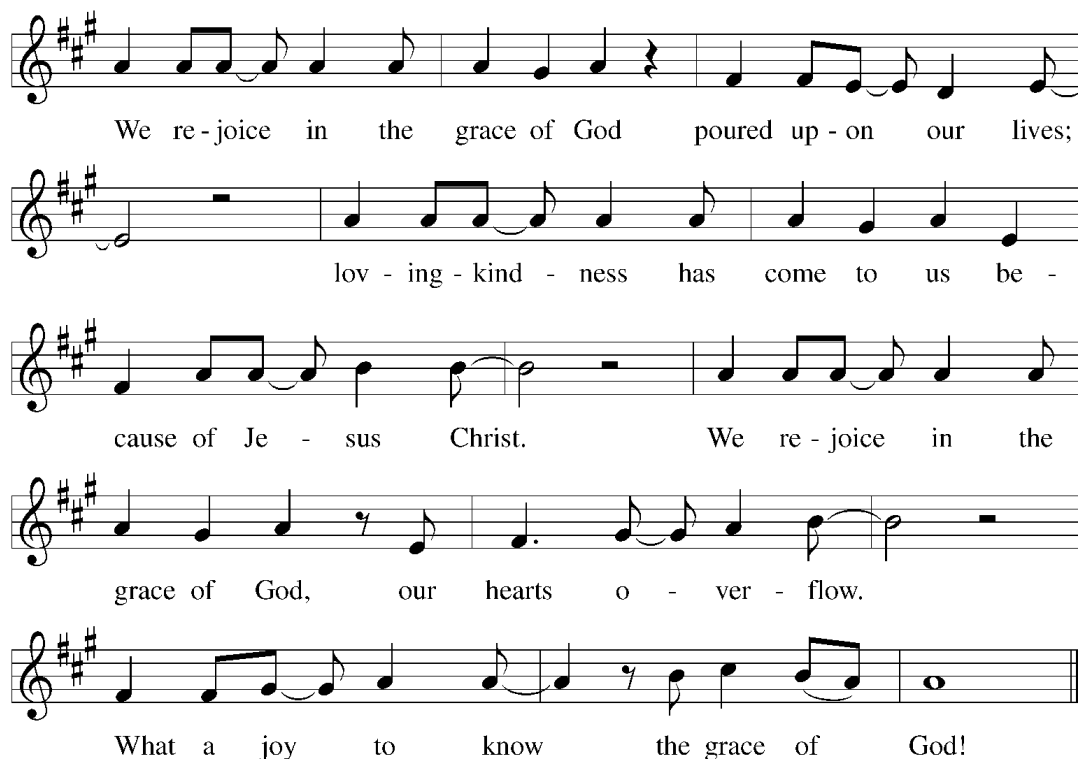
Lord, have mer - cy; have mer - cy, O Lord.

Music: *Mass No. 1*, Avon Gillespie
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CANTICLE OF PRAISE

We Rejoice in the Grace of God



We re - joyce in the grace of God poured up - on our lives;

lov - ing - kind - ness has come to us be -

cause of Je - sus Christ. We re - joyce in the

grace of God, our hearts o - ver - flow.

What a joy to know the grace of God!

Text: Steve Cook and Vicki Cook
Music: WE REJOICE IN THE GRACE, Steve Cook and Vicki Cook

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PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

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.

SOLO

WAYNE DALE

FIRST READING: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

A reading from Daniel.

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.

⁹As 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.

¹⁰A 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.

¹³As 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.

¹⁴To 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.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 93

(Read responsively between lector and congregation, beginning with the lector)

¹The LORD is king, robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and ¹armed with strength.

The LORD has made the world so sure that it can- ¹not be moved.

²**Ever since the world began, your throne has ¹been established; you are from ¹everlasting.**

³The waters have lifted up, O LORD, the waters have lifted ¹up their voice; the waters have lifted up their ¹pounding waves.

⁴**Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers ¹of the sea, mightier is the LORD who ¹dwells on high.**

⁵Your testimonies are ¹very sure, and holiness befits your house, O LORD, forever and for- ¹evermore.

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4b-8

A reading from Revelation.

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.

^{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, ⁵and 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, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! 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.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (ELW p. 151)



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go?



You have the words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia.

GOSPEL: John 18:33-37

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

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

³³Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate 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?" ³⁶Jesus 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." ³⁷Pilate 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.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

PASTOR BILL

HYMN OF THE DAY (verses 1&4)

Rejoice, for Christ Is King!



1 Re - joice, for Christ is king! Your Lord and king a - dore;
2 Our Sav - ior Je - sus reigns, the God of truth and love;
3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
4 He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub - mit



re - joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove:
the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n:
and bow to his com - mand and fall be - neath his feet:

Refrain



Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; re -



joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.
Music: LAUS REGIS, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

Please stand if you are able.

Please join me as we confirm our faith together in the words of the Apostles' Creed.

CREED

**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.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH *(Please respond.)*

P: God, in your mercy, C: Hear our prayer.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

OFFERATORY *We Are an Offering* (ELW 692)

The musical score is written on six staves of music. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The music features a mix of eighth and sixteenth notes, with some triplets indicated by a '3' above the notes. The lyrics are: "We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you. We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing."

We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you: we are an
of-fer-ing. Lord, use our voic-es, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our
lives, they are yours: we are an of-fer-ing. All that we have, all that we are,
all that we hope to be, we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voic-es, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
we are an of-fer-ing, we are an of-fer-ing.

Text: Dwight Liles, b. 1957
Music: Dwight Liles
Text and music © 1984 Word Music, LLC

OFFERING
PM

OFFERING PRAYER

God of abundance,
you cause streams to break forth in the desert
and manna to rain from the heavens.
Accept the gifts you have first given us.
Unite them with the offering of our lives
to nourish the world you love so dearly;
through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

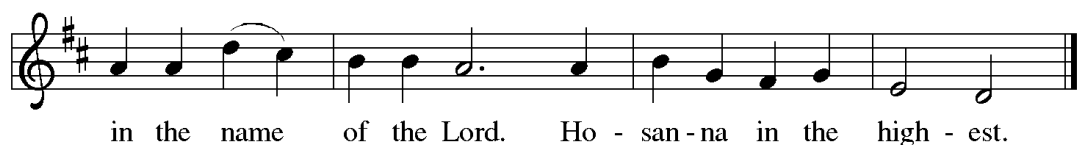
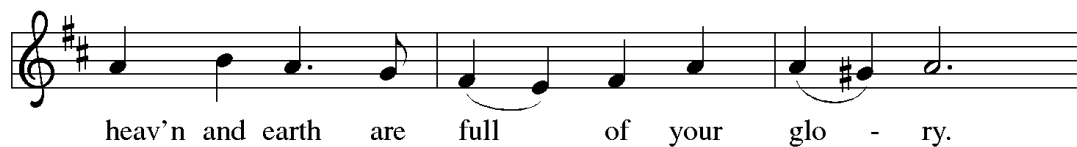
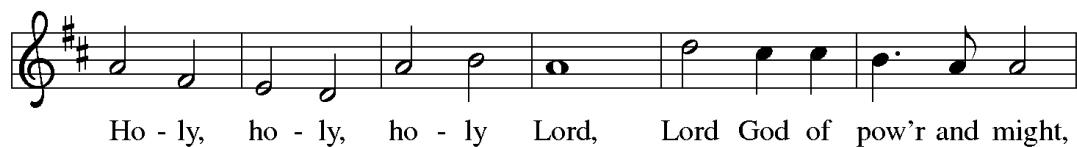
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

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

PREFACE

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;
who on this day overcame death and the grave,
and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life.
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:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY (ELW p. 153)



THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

In the night in which he was betrayed,
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.

LORD'S PRAYER

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

**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.**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All who hunger and thirst, come.
The table is ready.

COMMUNION

Continuous - Please continue down center aisle at the direction of the usher, maintaining your distance. Please place your empty communion cup in the basket. Return to your seat.

COMMUNION BLESSING

The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ Strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

POST COMMUNION CANTICLE

Thankful Hearts and Voices Raise



Thank-ful hearts and voic - es raise; tell ev-'ry-one what God has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - joice and bear Christ's ho - ly name.



Send us with your prom - is - es and lead your peo - ple forth in joy with



shouts of thanks - giv - ing. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980
Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923
Text and music © 1978, 1995 Augsburg Fortress.

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PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Lord of life,
in the gift of your body and blood
you turn the crumbs of our faith into a feast of salvation.
Send us forth into the world with shouts of joy,
bearing witness to the abundance of your love
in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.
Amen.

BLESSING

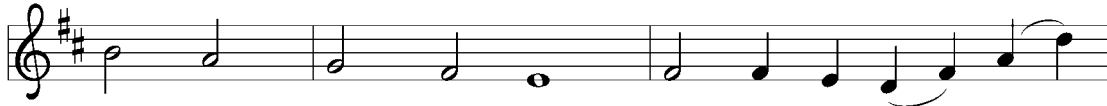
The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✝ give you peace.
Amen.

SENDING SONG (verses 1&5)

Jesus Shall Reign



1 Je - sus shall reign wher - e'er the sun does its suc -
2 To him shall end - less prayer be made, and prais - es
3 Peo - ple and realms of ev - 'ry tongue dwell on his
4 Bless - ings a - bound wher - e'er he reigns: the pris - 'ners
5 Let ev - 'ry crea - ture rise and bring pe - cu - liar



ces - sive jour - neys run; his king - dom stretch from
throng to crown his head; his name like sweet per -
love with sweet - est song; and in - fant voic - es
leap to lose their chains, the wea - ry find e -
hon - ors to our king; an - gels de - scend with



shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.
fume shall rise with ev - 'ry morn - ing sac - ri - fice.
shall pro - claim their ear - ly bless - ings on his name.
ter - nal rest, and all who suf - fer want are blest.
songs a - gain, and earth re - peat the loud a - men.

Text: Isaac Watts, 1674–1748, alt.

Music: DUKE STREET, attr. John Hatton, d. 1793

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you.

Thanks be to God.

SILENT PRAYER

POSTLUDE

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SERVING TODAY

Pastor..... Rev. Bill Nienstedt
Home Phone Number..... 717-264-3757
Email Address Pastor@solomonslutheran.org
Church Office Email Address..... office@solomonslutheran.org
Organist Doug Mummert
Head Usher Bonney Coldsmith
Acolyte Aaron Shreiner
Lector Sam Mull
Securing Offering Janice McEntire & Phil Johnson
Communion Set-Up..... Ilona & Jerry Laney
Communion Clean-Up..... Ilona & Jerry Laney
Bread Cubes Margie Dale
Communion Assist Wayne Dale
Attendance last Sunday 65

Stewardship Thought - Nov. 21, 2021 (Reign of Christ Sunday) **Revelation 1:4b**— Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come. As did other New Testament writers, the author of Revelation blesses his readers with “grace” and “peace” of Christ. Truly, if we have Christ’s grace and peace in our hearts, we will find true contentment.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning are placed to the Glory of God in honor and thanks of Pastor Bill, Kristy, Katy, and Sam given by Jere & Phyllis Brehm.

Welcome Visitors! We welcome you to our worship service. We hope your visit with us will be a time of blessing. If you have any concerns, please talk to the Head Usher. We invite you to worship with us again!

Prayer requests for the following: *Carolyn and Harold Mummert, Lori Baker, Connie Bikle, Mark and Georgia Moats, Nancy Bumbaugh Cook, Charles and Mary Jo Bedsworth, Rich Plummer, Minnie Tom, Bonnie Creager Youcum, Sandy Chilcote, Sandy Bream, Linda Keller, Alan Johnson, Linda Wepking, Raelynn Tarman, Susie Alleman, David Riggelman, Thelma Briggs, Darrell Veilleux, Bud Armstrong, Gertie Reichard, Manny Negron, Denise Bowen, Anne English, Millie Kulkusky.* If anyone has a prayer request, please call Janice McEntire. **Note:** At the beginning of each month, the Prayer Request List will start anew. If you would like to remain listed on the next month’s list, or if you would like to have your name removed from the list before the end of the month, please call the office.

Secret Pal Update--Due to the ongoing pandemic, we must unfortunately cancel this year's Secret Pal Christmas Luncheon. Secret Pal "Givers" are asked to "reveal" themselves to their pals by Christmas 2021. Thank you to everyone who participated this year!!

Power Pack Meals for New Franklin School: We received this message from Cindy Holmquist, the Power Pack coordinator: "We have been packing for seven children weekly since September. We can always use individual size vegetables, preferably in cups but cans will do & meal items such as Ramen noodles, Cup of noodles, or Chef Boyardee. Juice pouches, 8oz water bottles & Yoo-hoo or Nestle's drinks are always needed. Snack items would be next on the list and fruit & applesauce are still in abundance on our shelves." You may drop off donations to Power Packs at the collection box in the Sunday School Room.

On **Saturday, December 4, 2021**, Antietam National Battlefield will host the **32nd/33rd Annual Antietam National Battlefield Memorial Illumination** in honor of those soldiers who fell during the Battle of Antietam. Solomon's will join over 1,400 volunteers to place luminaries and light candles dedicated to those brave soldiers. Please join us this year as Solomon's celebrates 26 years of volunteering at Antietam. **Solomon's is in charge of setting out 720 luminaries beginning at 10 AM.** We will also light the candles around 2:30 PM. Sign-up sheets will be on the Sunday School room bulletin board. If you have any questions, please talk to Bonney Coldsmith.

If you do not wish to have contribution envelopes for 2022, please let Janice McEntire know (717 264-3702).

Youth Christmas Party: Saturday December 11, 2021, 6:00 – 8:00 in the Fellowship Center. Dinner: Chicken Fingers, Tater-Tots, Carrots, Celery, Dip, Christmas Cookies, Ice-Cream Sundaes & Drink. Join us for Crafts, Food & Fun. Sign-up sheet will be in the Sunday School Room.

Adult Sunday School Teacher/Leader: Anyone who would be interested in helping teach/lead the Adult Sunday School Class starting January 2022 please contact Janice McEntire.

Christian Education Committee will have a meeting every 2nd Tuesday of each month beginning at 7 p.m. in the Conference Room.

Ministry Safety and Security briefing - The Ministry Safety and Security Team will be presenting a special Church Security Briefing presented by Chambersburg Police Department Sgt Anthony Rosenberry immediately after worship today in the Sanctuary. Everyone is urged to stay for this important information. Any Questions can be directed to Wayne Dale.

During the month of November, Social Ministry will be collecting paper products for Maranatha Food Pantry. You may place items in the gray totes in the Sunday School room or under the coat rack at the back door.

Salvation Army Bell Ringing - Bring joy to the less fortunate by ringing the bell for the Salvation Army in front of the Butcher Shoppe on Saturday, November 27. We are asking for one hour of your time between 8:00 AM and 1:00 PM. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board in the Sunday school room. Any question, see Edna Harris.

Lutheran Disaster Response Hurricane Ida: The hurricane caused devastation on the Gulf Coast and then caused extreme flooding in the Northeast, where over fifty people died, and thousands suffered severe property damage. LDR is on the ground, helping to rebuild communities. You may help in the effort by donating to “LDR-Hurricane Ida.” Place your donation in the offering plate or send it to the office. 100% of your donation goes to the disaster response. Thank you.

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service Aids Afghan Refugees: The evacuation of Afghanistan has meant over 20,000 refugees have arrived in the United States. You are encouraged to go to the LIRS.org website to learn how you can help by acting, donating, advocating, and praying for Afghan allies and their families. You may donate directly or place your offering in the collection plate or send it to the office. Mark your donation “LIRS: Afghan Allies.” Thank you.

Bible Study - Join Pastor Bill in the conference room on Wednesdays from 10:00-11:30 a.m. for an informal Bible Study. We will be studying the Gospel of Luke. Luke will be featured in the lectionary readings for Year B, beginning in Advent. No experience is necessary, and all are welcome.

Adult Sunday School - Pastor Bill will lead a discussion of the Sunday lectionary texts at 9:00 a.m., in the Sunday School Room. All are welcome. You can prepare by reading the Old Testament lesson, Psalm, Epistle and Gospel texts appointed for the day.

Youth Sunday School Classes starting at 9:00 a.m. have resumed.

Bulletin Announcement Forms are located in both pamphlet racks. Please submit all bulletin announcements to the office by the Wednesday prior to the Sunday for inclusion in the bulletin.

Council Minutes, Monthly Financial Statement and Committee Minutes are available in the library for anyone to read.

2021 Poinsettia Order Form

Anyone desiring to remember a loved one or honor someone with Christmas Poinsettias is asked to fill out the following form and mail it to the church office or put it in the collection plate along with a check made payable to Solomon's Lutheran Church, marked "Poinsettia Order." Deadline for **red or marble (pink & white)** poinsettias is November 28. Cost is \$7.50 each. This is a 6 ½ inch pot.

*The Christmas Poinsettias in Memory and Honor of Family and Friends
have been donated by:*

(name)

Red _____ Marble _____

Total amount enclosed _____ Total Poinsettias ordered _____

In memory of _____

In memory of _____

In honor of _____

In honor of _____

Poinsettias will be in the church on December 24. If you will not be attending church on December 24, you can make arrangements to pick up your flowers by calling the church office.

NOVEMBER 21, 2021
CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

Christ rules with a power unlike any other.



DAILY BIBLE READINGS

These passages are related to the Lectionary texts for this Sunday.

Sunday	John 18:33-37	Jesus, the king of truth
Monday	Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14	The time of judgment
Tuesday	Revelation 1:4b-8	Jesus reigns
Wednesday	Ephesians 1:15-23	Paul's prayer
Thursday	1 Corinthians 4:14-21	Paul's concern for Corinthians
Friday	Hebrews 1:1-3	Jesus brings God's message
Saturday	Psalms 93	The majesty of God's rule
Sunday	Luke 21:25-36	Coming of the Son of Man

SCRIPTURE VERSE FOR THIS WEEK

*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." **John 18:36 (NRSV)***

PRAYERS AND BLESSING

A Prayer for the Week:

Dear God, you who are the author and creator of all that is, help us to see in you the way of eternal life through Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord. Amen.

Mealtime Prayer:

Dear God, may this meal remind us of the feast that you promise for all those you have freed to live as children of grace and truth. Amen.

A Blessing to Give:

May the one who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty, bless you with peace. (Revelation 1:8)

CARING CONVERSATIONS

Discuss in your home, small group, or use for personal reflections:

- How can power be used for good? How can it be used for bad?
- If you had unlimited power, how would you use it to change the world?
- How do you think Christ's power and rule look different than the power seen in earthly governments?

HYMN OF THE WEEK

The King of Glory Comes

DEVOTIONS

Read: John 18:33-38a.



The good news of Jesus Christ is not about escapism as some kind of running away from the world that God created. We are reminded of this from the opening chapter of John: *“And the Word became flesh and lived among us”* (John 1:14a). The living Word reveals the power and glory of God that is filled with *“grace and truth”* (John 1:14b). In chapter 18 Jesus distinguishes between God’s grace and truth that lead with love and mercy and the rule of bullies who demean and control others with violence. That is the Roman “peace” that occupied territories like Judea through governors like Pilate who served under Emperor Tiberius. No, Jesus’ reign *“is not from this world”* (v. 36). As followers of Jesus, we engage with creation and our neighbor with a power of a different kind. It is a power that blesses, heals, and makes new through the cross of Christ. It is a power that through a death perpetrated at the hands of the powers from “this world” put Jesus to death and shows itself to be powerless through the humility and weakness of the Son of God. This is the one who came to serve and give us the everlasting power of divine love. Where do you see the good news of Christ’s reign happening in the world today?

Pray: Almighty and everlasting God, we thank you for your reign that is filled with divine power as it is filled with grace and truth through Jesus Christ, the one who came to set us free. Amen.

SERVICE

Service to others is filled with humility and love; it is people helping one another. The new church year begins next Sunday. As this church year ends, think of the ministries that have taken place over the past year and who has been responsible for them: worship, music, Sunday school, youth group, Bible studies and more. How can you show appreciation and thanks for those who have served over the past church year?

RITUALS AND TRADITIONS

The season of Advent begins next Sunday. Begin to plan for your home observance of Advent. Think or talk about the traditions you have established in your home over the years. One common Advent tradition is having an Advent calendar. Another is the Advent wreath. If you have not had a tradition in the past, consider beginning one this year as part of your faith journey in your home.