

LUTHERAN CHURCH OF THE CROSS

Christ the King Sunday November 22, 2020

Zoom Meeting Instructions on Page 3

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WELCOME TO WORSHIP Pastor Dee Emmert

PRELUDE Betty Karamatova

THE CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

P In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C 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.

Amen.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination.)

P Merciful God,

C 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, the Son, and the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

LESSONS

(mute)

R The First Reading is from: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

R The Second Reading is from: Ephesians 1:15-23

R The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew 25:31-46

MESSAGE OF THE DAY

Pastor Holly Feather

SPECIAL MUSIC "United at the Table" Choir = #498 ELW

APOSTLE'S CREED

(unmute)

P Let us confess our faith as expressed in the words of the Apostle's Creed.

C 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.

PRAYERS

P Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for God's power upon the church, the world, and all in need.

Sovereign of all, train our ears to hear your cry in the needs of those around us. Bless all social ministries of the church through which we seek to serve others as we ourselves have been served. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

You cause rain to fall on the just and unjust alike. Direct our use of creation to provide for the needs of all people in ways that are sustainable for the earth. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Bring peace to every place where conflict rages, especially here in our own country. Grant opportunities for ending divisions among us and usher in your reign of unity and reconciliation. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Heal the sinful divisions we erect between us and release us from systems of prejudice and oppression. Restore our capacity to see your image in those whose dignity we have stripped away. Show your compassion to those who are ill and comfort those who mourn. Uphold those who work in the care of others and in essential businesses. We ask that you bless those on our prayer list and those we name before you now aloud or in our hearts....

Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Pour out the gifts of your Spirit on children and youth throughout the church and our communities. Sustain those who now must teach at home. Give them patience and wisdom in this challenging time, as they nurture the gifts of young people. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Thank you for the saints now departed who fed the hungry, clothed the naked and tended the sick. Inspire us by their example that we may see your presence in those in need around us. Hear us, O God.

C Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ, our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

C Amen.

P Let us pray together the prayer our Lord has taught us.

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, the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

HYMN "O God Beyond All Praising" ELW #880

BLESSING

P Dearest God, the Father, and the Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and lead you in the way of truth and life.

C Amen.

OPPORTUNITIES FOR MINISTRY

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P Go forth to love and serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

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WE LEAVE TO BE THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD!

READER: Janey Ranlett

SEE SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM BISHOP MARK ON THE LAST PAGE

We welcome the members of Atonement Lutheran Church who have chosen to join us today and in the coming weeks as is needed.

PLEASE HELP US KEEP THE PRAYER REQUESTS UP TO DATE
LET KEVIN KNOW OF ANY CHANGES, ESPECIALLY PRAYERS ANSWERED

PRAYER REQUESTS AND ANSWERED PRAYERS

The Call Committee who are looking for a new Pastor

Judy Kaylor

Sally Tait

Jack and Dee Stone

Dick Ransom and Deanna Ransom

Trudy Fox

Chuck Hines, who had surgery for liver cancer on November 17th and will hopefully be home Friday the 20th. Surgery was long but went well.

And for Ruth Ann Hines who continues to receive fluids 3 times a week.

Jackie Walters who her final colon surgery and is home but in pain.

Also, Hans, Jackie's husband who has Parkinson's. And their friend

Dwayne Donahue who had a stroke.

Pat Becker, sister-in-law of Julie Andrews who fell and broke her femur, 3 ribs, and punctured a lung. And Conrad Becker, Julie's brother who has been diagnosed with a lung condition affecting his bronchial airways, and who also had a mild stroke.

Lucy Taylor, Atonement, who had hip surgery on Sept. 9 and is recuperating.

Julie Nemes' friend Jeanne Knowles whose broken foot is healing, she's now in foot boot; her husband, Jeff is home rehabbing with outside assistance to regain strength and learn how to walk again; fur baby Izzie is stable and doing well. Also, Julie's friend Akira who is in the "battle of her life" with an addiction and is currently receiving treatment and counseling.

Those affected by COVID-19, Carmen, friend of Whitney Paul. Thanks to God, for Thomas, Lisa Mulz's brother, who has recovered.

Jacob Vance, nephew of Pastor Jayne Thompson, in Davis Burn Unit following a motorcycle accident.

Carri Vickers, friend of Janey, on the murder of her son.

Health care workers, including Laura, Jessica, James, Angela, Jenny, Kennedy, Chantel, Alisa, Seychelle and others.

Grocery workers, including Whitney, Chris, Brittany, Robin, and others. Audrey Deter, with several health issues.

Julie Nemes, who is recovering very well from knee surgery, and Lexy her fur baby who is in remission from a gastro disease.

Debbie Murphy, Janey's cousin who has 2 progressive retinal diseases.

Our various ministries locally, including St. John's, WIND, Sac Food Bank. And Navajo Mission at Rock Point, AZ, especially impacted by COVID-19. **PLEASE CONTINUE TO SEND MONETARY SUPPORT TO CROSS, ESPECIALLY FOR ROCK POINT NAVAJO MISSION.** We have had to cancel Fundraisers this year.

CHURCH OF THE CROSS

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Craig Paul, Council President 916-419-3540

Kevin Brown, Church Secretary 916-361-2436

Facebook: Lutheran Church of the Cross-Sacramento

Website: www.cotcsac.org

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87598987747?pwd=d3VIM3VzYkptSGxNT2tqRWprc1BBQT09>

Meeting ID: 875 9898 7747

Password: worship

Phone number: 1-669-900-9128 Meeting id: 87598987747#

SEE SPECIAL MESSAGE FROM BISHOP MARK ON THE NEXT PAGE

Four words: It's not time yet.

It's not time yet:

- + to return to indoor worship
- + to stop wearing masks
- + to forget physical distancing
- + to ignore science
- + to gather in large groups for Thanksgiving
- + to deny the exponential growth of cases of COVID-19 being diagnosed every day in this country and around the world

Four more words: I know you're tired.

I know you're tired:

- + of not being able to be with family and friends
- + of not being able to worship together in the sanctuary and sing
- + of not being able to travel
- + of not being able to leave your home
- + of not being able to hold your grandchildren/children/loved ones
- + of hearing admonitions like this from health professionals and bishops

Four last words: God is in control (Psalm 23).

God is in control:

- + even (and especially) in this time of pandemic (Psalm 91)
- + despite what some see as evidence to the contrary (Psalm 46)
- + through the work of health care workers, clinicians, and epidemiologists (Sirach 38)
- + in the presence of courageous essential Workers (Ecclesiastes 3:1-15)
- + as we help God's reign come near in seeking the well-being of the most vulnerable among us (Matthew 25:31-46)
- + because nothing can separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus (Rom. 8:31-39)