

## Today's Theme: Christ the King

The church year ends with this grand confession of faith. Never was there a king like him. He is beyond comparison and his rule extends through time and eternity. We are privileged to come into his presence every week to hear his Word and receive his body and blood, given and shed for us. We do this as we await his triumphant return when he will turn our worship in faith beneath the cross to sight and glory.

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## Order of Service

**PRESERVICE MUSIC:** *Please use this time in quiet preparation for worship.*

- ✘ *Personal preparation for Holy Communion can be found in the front of the hymnal on page 156.*
- ✘ *The bell rings announcing that Christians are gathering around the Word.*
- ✘ *The minister processes with the acolyte who carries a flame symbolizing that the light of Jesus is with us, and the candles are lit.*
- ✘ *As the acolyte and minister enter, **please stand** to sing the opening hymn.*

### OPENING HYMN

### Crown Him with Many Crowns #341 (v.1-2)

- 1 Crown him with many crowns, The Lamb upon his throne;  
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns All music but its own.  
Awake, my soul, and sing Of him who died for thee,  
And hail him as thy matchless King Through all eternity.
- 2 Crown him the Lord of love—Behold his hands and side,  
Rich wounds, yet visible above, In beauty glorified.  
No angel in the sky Can fully bear that sight,  
But downward bends his wond'ring eye At mysteries so bright.

## A LITANY OF PRAISE, CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

*(Based on Psalm 2, Isaiah 1, and Micah 7)*

Minister: The kings of the earth take their stand and the rulers gather together against the LORD and against his Anointed One.

**Congregation: The One enthroned in heaven laughs; then he rebukes them in his anger, saying,**

M: "I have installed my King on Zion, my holy hill. You are my Son; today I have become your Father.

**C: I will make the nations your inheritance, the ends of the earth your possession.**

M: You will rule them with an iron scepter; Therefore, you kings, be wise;

**C: be warned, you rulers of the earth.**

M: Our King's warning: "Because I have sinned against Him, I deserve to bear the LORD's wrath." As sinners, let us plead for mercy from our King.

**C: Ah Sovereign Lord, we are a sinful nation, a people loaded with guilt. We have forsaken You, turned our backs on You. We have no excuse, no solution. Instead, we beg for Your forgiving love, trusting in the life and death of Jesus, our Savior.**

M: "Come now, let us reason together," says the LORD. "Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool." Jesus exchanged the crown of glory for the crown of thorns, dying on the cross to pay for your sins, and for the sins of the world. Because of Jesus' death and resurrection, you are forgiven!

**C: Who is a God like you, who pardons sin and forgives transgressions!**

M: You do not stay angry forever but delight to show mercy. Again and again You have compassion on us;

**C: You have tread our sins underfoot and hurled all our iniquities into the depths of the sea.**

### PRAYER OF THE DAY

M: Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, by your victory you have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim you King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C: (spoken) Amen.**

*Be seated*

## The Word

### FIRST LESSON

Daniel 7:13,14

<sup>13</sup>“In my vision at night I looked, and there before me was one like a son of man, coming with the clouds of heaven. He approached the Ancient of Days and was led into his presence. <sup>14</sup>He was given authority, glory and sovereign power; all nations and peoples of every language worshiped him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that will not pass away, and his kingdom is one that will never be destroyed.”

### PSALM OF THE DAY

Psalm 45 (CW p. 83)

***Refrain:* Great are the works of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Great are the works of the Lord.**

My heart is stirred by a noble theme\*  
as I recite my verses for the King.

You are the most excellent of men,\*  
and your lips have been anointed with grace.

Gird your sword upon your side, O Mighty One;\*  
clothe yourself with splendor and majesty.

In your majesty ride forth victoriously;\*  
let your right hand display awesome deeds.

***Refrain:* Great are the works of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Great are the works of the Lord.**

Your throne, O God, will last for ever and ever;\*  
a scepter of justice will be the scepter of your kingdom.

You love righteousness and hate wickedness;\*  
therefore God has anointed you with the oil of joy.

I will perpetuate your memory through all generations;\*  
therefore the nations will praise you for ever and ever.

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son\*  
and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning,\*  
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

***Refrain:* Great are the works of the Lord. Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Great are the works of the Lord.**

## **SECOND LESSON**

## **Revelation 1:4b-8**

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits before his throne, <sup>5</sup>and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup>and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

<sup>7</sup>“Look, he is coming with the clouds,”  
and “every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him”;  
and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.”  
So shall it be! Amen.

<sup>8</sup>“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

## **VERSE OF THE DAY**

## **Revelation 22:13**

**M:** Alleluia. I am the Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Alleluia.

**C:** (*sung*) **Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

*Please stand for the highlight of the service: the Gospel.*

## GOSPEL

John 18:33-37

*After the announcement of the Gospel, the congregation sings:*

**C: (sung) Glory be to you, O Lord!**

<sup>33</sup>Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

<sup>34</sup>"Is that your own idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about me?"

<sup>35</sup>"Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?"

<sup>36</sup>Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place."

<sup>37</sup>"You are a king, then!" said Pilate.

Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me."

M: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C: (sung) Praise be to you, O Christ!**

## CONFESSION OF FAITH: THE NICENE CREED

**We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one being with the Father.**

**Through him all things were made.**

**For us and for our salvation, he came down from heaven,  
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary,  
and became fully human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate.**

**He suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures.**

**He ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
who in unity with the Father and the Son  
is worshiped and glorified,  
who has spoken through the prophets.  
We believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

*Be seated*

#### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**There is a Higher Throne #727**  
*Printed on page 11*

#### **SERMON**

Text: John 18:33-37

Theme: "The King's Control"

*Please stand*

#### **CREATE IN ME**

**C: (sung) 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 unto me the joy of your salvation, and uphold me with your free Spirit. Amen.**

*Be seated*

#### **OFFERING**

*The members of St. Mark have joined together to spread God's message both in this community and around the world. If you are a visitor, please do not feel obligated to participate in the offering. You are our guests, and we thank you for giving us the opportunity to share God's Word with you! See our website or scan this QR code for online giving options.*



*Please stand*

## PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

### LORD'S PRAYER

**C: 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

## The Sacrament

*At St. Mark we practice the custom of Close Communion, inviting to our altar only confirmed members of our church body, the WELS, and of those in fellowship with us. We do this because Communion is also a sign of Christian unity, based upon agreement on the doctrines of the Bible. This is not an insult to our Christian brethren in other denominations, but a recognition of differing church teachings. We, with all Christians, look forward to the day when we will all sit together in peace at the marriage feast of the Lamb. (See 1 Corinthians 10:17 and 1 Corinthians 11:27-29)*

M: The Lord be with you.

*(Page 21 in the front of the hymnal)*

**C: (sung) And also with you.**

M: Lift up your hearts.

**C: (sung) We lift them up unto the Lord.**

M: Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

**C: (sung) It is good and right so to do.**

M: It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who preserves his Church to the end of time when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY** (*Sanctus*)

**C:** (*sung*) **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts; heav'n and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

**WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**M:** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

**M:** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C:** (*sung*) **Amen.**

**O CHRIST, LAMB OF GOD** (*Agnus Dei*)

**C:** (*sung*) **O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us your peace. Amen.**

*Be seated*

**DISTRIBUTION HYMNS**

**Jerusalem the Golden #728**

*Printed on page 12*

**The Head that Once Was Crowned #217**

- 1 The head that once was crowned with thorns Is crowned with glory now;  
A royal diadem adorns The mighty victor's brow.
- 2 The highest place that heav'n affords Is his, is his by right,  
The King of kings and Lord of lords And heav'n's eternal light,

- 3 The joy of all who dwell above, The joy of all below  
To whom he manifests his love And grants his name to know.
- 4 To them the cross, with all its shame, With all its grace, is giv'n;  
Their name, an everlasting name; Their joy, the joy of heav'n.
- 5 They suffer with their Lord below; They reign with him above,  
Their profit and their joy, to know The myst'ry of his love.
- 6 The cross he bore is life and health, Though shame and death to him;  
His people's hope, his people's wealth, Their everlasting theme.

*Please stand*

#### **SONG OF SIMEON** (*Nunc Dimittis*)

**C:** (*sung*) **Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace according to your word.  
For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared before the face  
of all people, a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of your people Israel.**

**M:** O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good.

**C:** (*sung*) **And his mercy endures forever.**

**M:** We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us with this holy supper.  
We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love  
for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and  
reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C:** (*sung*) **Amen.**

#### **BLESSING**

**M:** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you  
and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor  
and (+) give you peace.

**C:** (*sung*) **Amen. Amen. Amen.**

## CLOSING HYMN

## Crown Him with Many Crowns #341 (v.3-4)

- 3 Crown him the Lord of life, Who triumphed o'er the grave  
And rose victorious in the strife For those he came to save.  
His glories now we sing Who died and rose on high,  
Who died eternal life to bring And lives that death may die.
- 4 Crown him the Lord of heav'n, Enthroned in worlds above;  
Crown him the King to whom is giv'n The wondrous name of Love.  
Crown him with many crowns As thrones before him fall;  
Crown him, ye kings, with many crowns For he is King of all.



*At the end of the service, the acolyte extinguishes the candles and carries the flame out of church to symbolize that the light of Jesus goes with us into the world.*



## Let us know you worshipped with us!

If you take a picture of this QR code with most smartphones it will take you to our Friendship Register and Online Connection Card. You may also visit: [stmarksbemidji.org/online-connection-card/](http://stmarksbemidji.org/online-connection-card/)

727

## There Is a Higher Throne

1 There is a high - er throne than all this  
2 And there we'll find our home, our life be -

world has known, Where faith - ful ones from ev - 'ry tongue  
fore the throne. We'll hon - or him in per - fect song

will one day come. Be - fore the Son we'll stand,  
where we be - long. He'll wipe each tear - stained eye

made fault - less through the Lamb; Be - liev - ing  
as thirst and hun - ger die. The Lamb be -

hearts find prom - ised grace; sal - va - tion comes.  
comes our Shep - herd - King; we'll reign with him.

*Refrain*

Hear heav - en's voic - es sing; their thund - 'rous

an - them rings. Through em - 'rald courts and sap - phire skies

their prais - es rise. All glo - ry, wis - dom, pow'r,

strength, thanks, and hon - or are to God our King who

reigns on high for - ev - er - more.

## Jerusalem the Golden



1 Je - ru - sa - lem the gold - en, With  
 2 Oh, sweet and bless - ed coun - try, The  
 3 The Christ is ev - er with them; The



milk and hon - ey blest— The sight of it re -  
 home of God's e - lect! Oh, sweet and bless - ed  
 day - light is se - rene. The pas - tures of the



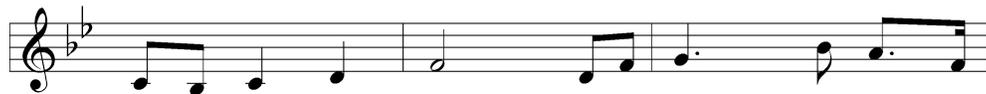
fresh - es The wea - ry and op - pressed: I  
 coun - try That ea - ger hearts ex - pect, Where  
 bless - ed Are ev - er rich and green. There



know not, oh, I know not What joys a - wait us  
 they who with their lead - er Have con - quered in the  
 is the throne of Da - vid; And there from care re -



there, What ra - dian-cy of glo - ry, What  
 fight For - ev - er and for - ev - er Are  
 leased, The shout of them that tri - umph, The



bliss be - yond com - pare: To sing the hymn un -  
 clad in robes of white. Je - sus in mer - cy  
 song of them that feast. To God en - throned in



end - ing With all the mar - tyr throng, A -  
 bring us To that dear land of rest Where  
 glo - ry The Church's voic - es blend, The



midst the halls of Zi - on Re - sound - ing full with song.  
 sings the host of heav - en Your glo - rious name to bless.  
 Lamb for - ev - er bless - ed, The Light that knows no end.

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