

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church



Christ the King Sunday

November 24, 2024

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.

Holy Communion

Evangelical Lutheran Worship

(ELW) Setting 4, page 147

† *Congregation stands as able*

GATHERING

Prelude

Sandra Nearhoof



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.

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.

Gathering Hymn

"Crown him with many crowns"

ELW #855

Kyrie

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Hymn of Praise

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Prayer of the Day:

P: 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.

C: **Amen.**

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD

Children's Message

Rose Johnson

First Reading

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

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.

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 93

Tone 6

¹The LORD is king, robed in majesty;

the LORD is robed in majesty and ¹ armed with strength.

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

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

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

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

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

Second Reading

Revelation 1:4b-8

^{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.

L: The word of the Lord

C: **Thanks be to God.**



Gospel Acclamation

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Gospel

John 18:33-37

P: The Holy Gospel according to St. John the 18th Chapter.

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

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."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Sermon *The king who is coming*

Reverend Taylor Burton Edwards



Hymn of the Day *"Immortal, invisible, God only wise"*

ELW #834

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 truly 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 with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic 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.

You may sit, stand or kneel for the prayers.

Prayers of Intercession

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

A brief silence.

A: 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 ,

C: receive our prayer.

A: 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,

C: receive our prayer.

A: 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,

C: receive our prayer.

A: 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,

C: **receive our prayer.**

A: 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,

C: **receive our prayer.**

A: For all those who have asked us to pray for them...

C: **receive our prayer.**

A: In your eternal presence the saints, especially Margarete Walsh, sing of your majesty. Join our voices with theirs in praise to the one who loves us and frees us from sin. Merciful God,

C: **hear our prayer.**

P: We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: **Amen.**

MEAL

Anthem

"Be Thou My Vision"

Choir

The gifts may be brought forward.

Offering Prayer

A: Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name.

C: **Amen.**

✠ Great Thanksgiving Page 152

Holy, Holy, Holy Page 153

Lord's Prayer "Our Father, who..." Page 154

Lamb of God Page 154

Communion

The body of Christ, given for you.

The blood of Christ, shed for you.

and each person may respond Amen

Table Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

C: **Amen.**

✝ Prayer after Communion

A: Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

C: **Amen.**

SENDING

Blessing

Sending Hymn

"Lift high the cross"

ELW #660

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

The Memorial Book is open today to the Glory of God

In Memory of:

Julia K Lubring, 2014



Operation Christmas Child was a huge success. Thanks to everyone who donated items, attended the work session and packing. We are spreading God's love to his children. Also, thanks for helping to keep our neighbors at Safe House warm with the coat and blanket donations!

READINGS AND PSALM
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 1, 2024

Jeremiah 33:14-16
 Psalm 25:1-10
 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13
 Luke 21:25-36



“The Bible is alive, it speaks to me; it has feet, it runs after me; it has hands, it lays hold of me.” —Martin Luther

November 17, 2024
Twenty-sixth Sunday after Pentecost

ATTENDANCE — 54
 (IN-PERSON— 43, YOUTUBE - 11)

OFFERING

| | | |
|--------------|-----------|-----------------|
| Benevolence | \$ | 1,380.00 |
| Building | \$ | 30.00 |
| Memorial | \$ | 50.00 |
| Other | \$ | 450.00 |
| Total | \$ | 1,910.00 |

Save the Date

- November 26 - 10:15 - Bible Study - Church House
- November 29 - 10:00-12:00 - Craf-Tea - Luther Hall
- December 2, 9, 16th - 12:00 - Advent Lunches at St. Thomas
- December 4, 11, 18 - 5:30 - Advent Service
- December 7 - 10:00 - Chrismon Tree Decorating
- December 15 - 3:00 - German Christmas Service
- December 15 - 4:30 Lessons & Carols/Children’s Pageant - St. Thomas

Serving November 24, 2024

| | |
|---------------------|----------------------------|
| Opener/Closer | Lisa Pettit |
| Worship Assistant | Shannon Gardner |
| Communion Assistant | Donna Doughty |
| Lector | Bill Wallace |
| Ushers | Jim Sperry |
| | Katherine Kelly |
| Altar Guild | Catherine Sayers |
| | Lisa Pettit |
| Live Streaming | Matt Pettit/Jaxson Gardner |

Serving December 1, 2024

| | |
|---------------------|------------------|
| Opener/Closer | Nancy Gates |
| Worship Assistant | Donna Doughty |
| Communion Assistant | Liz McGouirk |
| Lector | Amy Hoag |
| Ushers | Sandy Craven |
| | Randy Craven |
| Altar Guild | Rose Johnson |
| | Catherine Sayers |
| Live Streaming | Cecil McGouirk |

Pray Without Ceasing



“Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.”

5:16-18

—1 Thessalonians

The Armed Forces,
their families,
and victims of war
Persecuted Christians
The ministries of
St. Matthew
Bishop Kevin
Strickland
Southeastern Synod
Staff
Pastor Taylor Burton
Edwards
Laura Alexander
Carol Bingemann
Dave Bonaker
Pat Bonaker
Rigney Cofield
Betty Davidson
Ken Hoag
Myrna Hoag
Bennie Jackson
Mairetha Jackson
Sean Jeffery
Marga Miller
Traudel Mosely
Terri Niederhammer
Debby Owen
Dorothy Redden
Connie Sieg
Carla Stuckles

Albert VanHousen II
Harold Vinson
Monika Wright
Eric & Tinisha Bryant
George Capps
Jim Chappel
Jean Clemmons
Xavier Danguilan
Penny Davis & Family
Brandy Garnett
Mike Gewin
Moses Glidden
Becky Goldsmith
Estrella Gonzales
Doris Grier
Petra Henderson
Van Henshaw
Norma Kilby
Ken Korn
Emma Kump
Melissa Lancheros
Boyd Lester
Laura Lester
Valerie Karol Louder
Robert Lowe
Michelle Matthias
Sandra McPeters
Brady Meeks
Tim Moore
Nearhoof Family

Michael Owen
Angela Paul
Vincent Pawlowski
Beth Price
Mark Purushotham
Bill Rahm
Tiffany Richardson
Dayna Ryan
Shirley Scott
Dou Shizhen
Ricky Skinner
Betty Townsend
Charlie VanHousen
Dawn VanHousen
Martha Zimmerman

Israel
Ukraine
Gaza
Lebanon
Florida
Winder, GA
Augusta, GA
Western North Carolina

Acceptance Auto
Phuong's Tailor Shop
Walgreen's
Angel's Nails
Y & J Health
Hidden Lake Grocery

Deadline for bulletins is **Tuesday 10:00 a.m.** prior to the Sunday.
Deadline for January newsletter is December 20.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to St. Matthew: Jesus Christ offers himself to all. May you be blessed as we celebrate God's love for us. All the baptized are invited to feast with us at the Lord's Table. The wearing of a mask is optional during worship and social distancing is recommended. The Sacrament of Holy Communion is celebrated every Sunday.

We invite you to join our congregation if you have not yet found a church home. We are people of God that share a living, daring, confidence in God's grace. Liberated by our faith, we embrace you as a whole person, questions, complexities and all. Join us, as we do God's work in Christ's name for the life of the world.

Nursery: St. Matthew provides nursery service for children ages 6 and younger. All children are welcome to attend worship with their families. If a child needs a break during the service, they may sit with a parent/guardian in the Narthex.

Mission Outreach Opportunities:

Mission Focus:

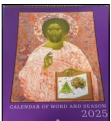
- | | |
|----------------------------|--|
| | Warming Tree |
| • Lion's Club: | Glasses, sunglasses and old cell phones |
| • Family House of West GA: | Pop tabs |
| • Flags to Retire: | Bring used American flags that you no longer want or need. |
| • St. Anne's: | Personal hygiene products (travel size), toilet paper, and non-perishable food items |
| • Safe House | Sealed plastic utensils (take-out meals) |
- Leave donations in the labeled containers in the Narthex between bathrooms.

Craf-Tea: This group will meet Fridays 10:00-12:00 PM in Luther Hall. If you enjoy crafts and tea, this group is for you! Please see Beth Hoag for more information.

Our Commitment Sunday is today, December 1st for your pledge to be placed in the Church shaped box in the Narthex. This commitment will be your financial support toward our 2025 spending plan. In January, you will be able to commit your time and talents to our ministries.



We will be decorating the Chrismon Trees on December 7th at 10:00 AM. Everyone is invited to join in the fun!



The 2025 Calendars are now available for \$10 each from Altar Guild members. Proceeds from the calendar sales will support purchases of worship supplies, including everything from communion wafers to palms for Palm Sunday.

November/December Mission Focus



Our Warming Tree stands in the Narthex awaiting us to decorate it with our gifts of new warm clothing such as socks, mittens, gloves, hats, and scarves for adults and children. The basket next to our tree is a new addition in response to the need of warm underwear for all ages (donated in original packaging). Our tree will be blessed and lit on December 1st as part of our Advent Celebration. We will take donations thru December 17th. We will deliver our gifts of love to Valley Rescue Women's and Children Center (Damascus Way). If you know of a specific need in our community that our donations can

fulfill, please contact Zocia or Rose. We don't know the strangers whose toes and fingers our donations warm, but we show the warm and caring heart of Christ as we send our love out into our community. Happy decorating!

Upcoming Services

ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SERVICES



Midweek Worship
Wednesday 5:30 PM
December 4, 11, 18



Weinachts Service
Sunday, December 15
3:00 PM

Christmas Eve
Holy Communion Service
Tuesday, December 24
7:00 PM



We invite the congregation to join us on Friday, December 6th at 11:00 AM at Fort Moore as we gather together to honor and lay to rest Margarete Walsh.

Lessons & Carols & Children's Pageant followed by a Wassail Party in All Saints Hall of St. Thomas Episcopal Church on Sunday, December 15th at 4:30 PM.

St. Matthew Evangelical Lutheran Church Mission Statement



Reach in to grow in Christ
Reach up to worship God
Reach out to welcome and witness

ST. MATTHEW EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

4026 Macon Road, Columbus, Georgia 31907

(706) 561-3406 - Office Hours - Tues & Thurs 2:00-5:00 PM, Friday 9:00-1:00 PM

Pastor Taylor Burton Edwards Email: twbe@liturgyfolks.com

Phone: (615) 742-5427

Office email : office@stmatthewcolumbusga.com

A member congregation of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America,

Southeastern Synod

www.stmatthewcolumbusga.com

YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/@st.matthewlutheranchurch4457/streams>

The Rev. Taylor Burton Edwards, Pastor

Sonja Metcalf, Parish Administrator

Lisa Pettit, Sexton

Sandra Nearhoof, Minister of Music

Penny Davis, Nursery Director