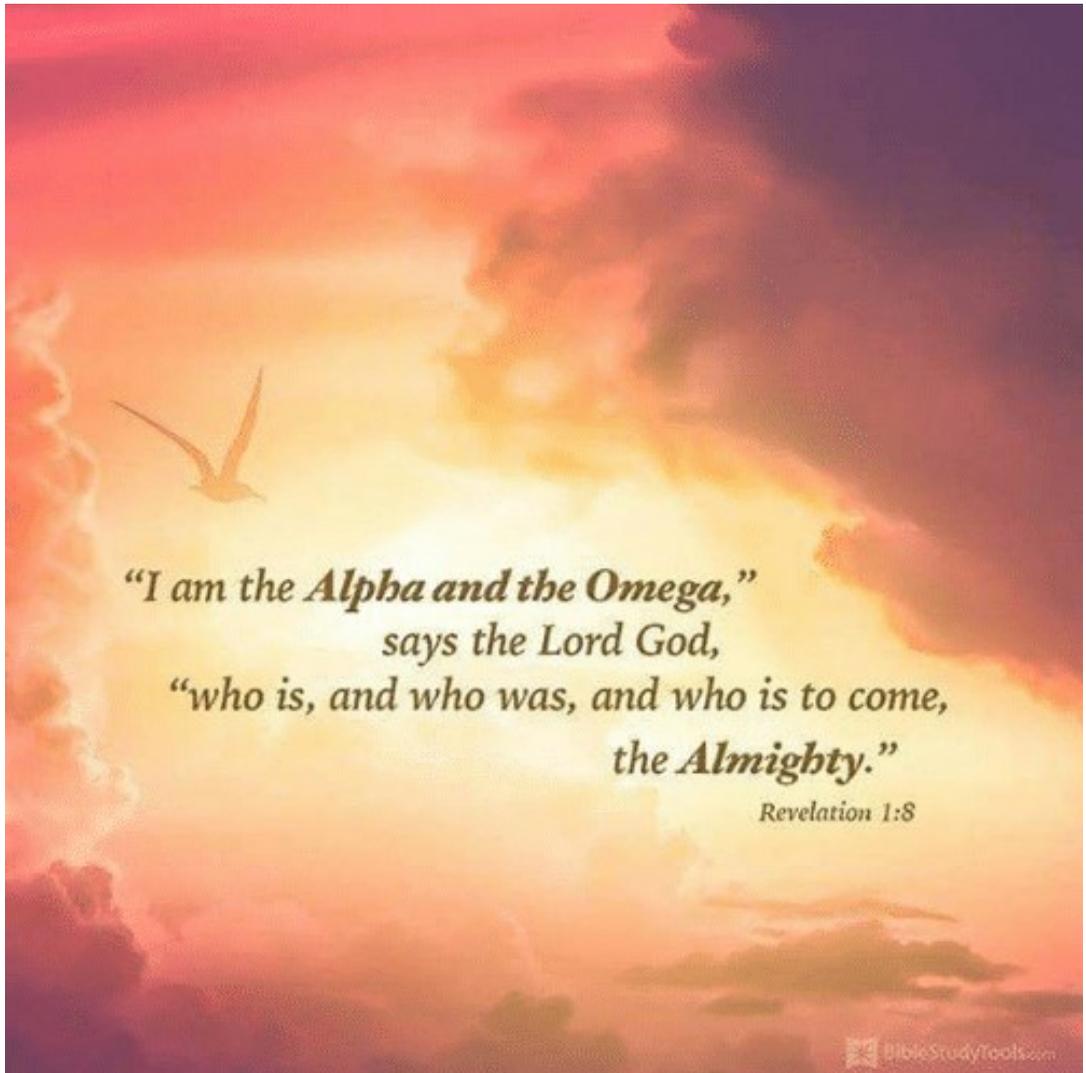


***CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY***  
***NOVEMBER 21, 2021***



*“I am the **Alpha and the Omega**,”  
says the Lord God,  
“who is, and who was, and who is to come,  
the **Almighty**.”*

*Revelation 1:8*

**St. John’s Evangelical Lutheran Church**  
**3220 Columbus Street**  
**Grove City, Ohio 43123**

**WELCOME!**

We are glad to welcome you today as we gather together to worship God! Please be sure you complete the salmon insert inside your bulletin and turn it in to the usher at the time of communion.

This bulletin will assist you in participating in worship. All parts spoken by the congregation are listed in **bold print and preceded by "C:"**

There are also instructions printed in *italics* that will indicate other helpful descriptions of the service. Large Print Hymns are available. Please see an usher.

Thank you for turning off your cell phones or putting them on "silent" during the service.



*We are committed to **invite** and **welcome** all to Jesus Christ, to **equip** all with an active faith that works in real life, and together go into the world to **serve** in Jesus' name.*

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### PRELUDE: "Aria on a Chaconne"

Joel Martinson

*The prelude is a contemplative piece by American composer Joel Martinson (1960- ). A chaconne is a musical form, usually in 3/4 time, with a short, repeating bass line. Though originally written for organ, this piece has also been arranged for concert band.*

*Please stand*

## INVOCATION, CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

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

C: **Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.  
[*moment of silent confession*] Gracious God,

C: **Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

P: Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our +Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

C: **Amen.**

## HYMN 634 "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!" (v. 1,2,5, & 6)

### APOSTOLIC GREETING

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

C: **And also with you.**

### HYMN OF PRAISE



*Refrain* This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our



God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -



ia. (1) Wor thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose



blood set us free to be peo - ple of God.



*Refrain* This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our



God. Al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu - ia. al - le - lu -



ia. (2) Pow - er, rich - es, wis - dom, and strength, and



hon - or, bless - ing, and glo - ry are his.



*Refrain* This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our



God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -



36 ia. (3) Sing with all the peo - ple of God, and



40 join in the hymn of all cre - a - - tion:



44 Bless-ing, hon - or, glo - ry, and might be to God and the



48 Lamb for - ev - er. A - - men.



51 *Refrain* This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our



54 God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu -



57 ia. (4) For the Lamb who was slain has be -



61 gun his reign. Al - le - lu - - ia.



65 *Refrain* This is the feast of vic - to - ry for our

68

God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -

71

lu - ia.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves of music in G major (one sharp). The first staff, starting at measure 68, contains the lyrics 'God. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le -'. The second staff, starting at measure 71, contains the lyrics 'lu - ia.' The music is written in a simple, melodic style with various note values and rests.

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

**P:** The Lord be with you.

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

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.**

## First Reading: Daniel 7:9-10,13-14

As 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. A 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. As 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. To 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.

**R:** The Word of the Lord.

**C: Thanks be to God.**

## Second Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8

John to the seven churches that are in Asia: 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, and 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, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. Look! 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. "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

## GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



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



You have the words of e - ter - nal life.



A - le - lu - ia. A - le - lu - ia.

**P:** The Holy Gospel according to the 18th chapter of John.

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

### **HOLY GOSPEL: John 18:33-37**

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

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

### **ANTHEM**

[Women's Chorale 8:15]

"You Shall Have a Song" Harriet Ziegenhals

Accompanied by Susan Locey, Flute

[Chancel Choir, 11:00am]

"Thanks Be to Thee" George Frederick Handel

### **SERMON**

Pastor Patti Morlock

### **HYMN 389 "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"**

### **APOSTLES' 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 OF THE CHURCH

*Response:*

P: ...Lord in your mercy,

C: **Hear our prayer.**

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

P. The Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **We lift them to the Lord.**

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

C: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

P: It is indeed right, our duty, and our joy...

...and join their unending hymn:

## HOLY HOLY HOLY

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,  
heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -  
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who  
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

**C:** 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.

## HOLY COMMUNION

*All baptized Christians who believe that Christ is present in the wine and bread for forgiveness, life, and salvation are welcome to partake of communion. Please indicate to the server if you would prefer to receive grape juice. All children and adults who prefer to receive a blessing instead of communion are welcome to come forward. Please indicate you would prefer to receive a blessing by keeping your hands folded.*

## BLESSING, PRAYER and BENEDICTION

### HYMN 434 "Jesus Shall Reign"

## DISMISSAL

**P:** Go in peace. Serve the Lord!

**C:** Thanks be to God!

## POSTLUDE: "Praise the Lord on High"

Rachel Sawyer



*Mightier than the  
waves of the sea is  
His love for you.*

*Psalm 93:4*

## **Psalm 93**

### **The Majesty of God's Rule**

<sup>1</sup> The LORD is king, he is robed in majesty;  
the LORD is robed, he is girded with strength.  
He has established the world; it shall never be moved;  
<sup>2</sup> your throne is established from of old;  
you are from everlasting.

<sup>3</sup> The floods have lifted up, O LORD,  
the floods have lifted up their voice;  
the floods lift up their roaring.

<sup>4</sup> More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters,  
more majestic than the waves<sup>[a]</sup> of the sea,  
majestic on high is the LORD!

<sup>5</sup> Your decrees are very sure;  
holiness befits your house,  
O LORD, forevermore.

# Listening for the Promise

## Weekly Devotional

### Christ the King Sunday – November 21, 2021

*“Be on guard, keep awake.” (Mark 13:33)*

Once again, we see strange and ominous images as Jesus concludes his “apocalypse.” A key that may be helpful for today’s Gospel is a verse from last Sunday’s reading, Mark 13:8, “These are but the beginning of the birth pains.”

In a strange and weird way, this is kind of a birth story. Whenever Jesus arrives, at the beginning, like in Bethlehem, or at the end, like in the apocalypse, Jesus shakes our world. This is bad news for all those pompous, self-righteous rulers and it is good news for struggling and suffering believers who are often the victims of those rulers.

This apocalyptic talk was meant to be words of comfort and hope for early, struggling Christians who were being persecuted. During our difficult times, these apocalyptic words can be words of hope. They say to us, be alert, watch, be ready, God is coming to set right what’s wrong. Hang on, look up, take heart.

In Genesis 1, the first things created were the sun, moon, and stars. Now, in another strange passage (vs. 24-25), maybe it’s Jesus saying that God is starting over with the world, going back to square one, fixing what’s wrong, and setting things right. That’s good news because we’ve got lots of things in this world that need to be set right!

Yet, there is a warning with the newness, because some suffering and pain may come to us. God is giving birth to something wonderfully new, but like any birth, it will not be painless. The birth and newness that Mark describes as cosmic is something that some of you may have experienced in your own lives. The work that God does among us and in us is holy, loving work, but it often causes us pain. Perhaps you are in a predicament and as a Christian you ask yourself, “I wonder if God is in any of this? What is God up to?” It is difficult to be in a desperate time when things seem to be falling apart, but you may actually be living in a time when God is putting new things together for you.

It’s really not a bad thing for a Christian to ask these questions during tough times. Is this death or birth? Is this the best of times or the worst? Is the pain I’m going through the pain that comes with new birth? Amen.