Christ the King



November 22, 2020 10:30 AM

Join us for our livestream at <u>https://www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit/</u> or <u>https://www.youtube.com/user/StJohnsSummitNJ</u> Zoom Coffee Hour: URL: <u>https://zoom.us/j/753360733</u>



Everyone is welcome. As people of God, St. John's welcomes all regardless of age, economic status, ethnic background, gender, physical or mental ability, race or sexual orientation. We affirm that in Christ "there is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is neither male nor female." (Galatians 3:28)This is Christ's church, and Christ has bid you come.

November 22, 2020

Our worship service for today is being provided by Bishop Tracie Bartholomew and the staff of the New Jersey Synod, ELCA. We give thanks to God for their partnership in the gospel.

Advent Intergenerational Zoom Events: Each Sunday of Advent we will gather on Zoom for a time of learning, singing, and sharing. All ages. Week 1, November 29 at 4:00 PM. Bring a star to share. Zoom link: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82809432951</u>

LSMNJ Christmas Giving Tree: Please help provide Christmas gifts for families and seniors in need by either purchasing gift cards for at least \$35 from a grocery store, Walmart, or Target, returning them to St. John's by December 2; or purchasing gifts from LSMNJ's Amazon Smiles Christmas Gift List. To access the children's wish list: <u>https://smile.amazon.com/hz/</u>charitylist/ls/BO29XPGZ2EIP, select LSMNJ as your charity, select gifts, ensure delivery by December 7 and CONFIRM SHIPPING ADDRESS as LSMNJ, 3 Manhattan Dr., Burlington, NJ 08016, (609) 386-7171, NO WEEKEND DELIVERIES.

Online Pledge Form: Our primary mode of collecting 2021 Financial Stewardship Pledges will be online. Please fill out the Online Pledge Form <u>https://forms.gle/9X3dVQkh6J8MCU5v9</u>. You may also submit the paper pledge card in person to the church office.

Pledge Update: Thus far we have received 56 pledges for a total of \$302,190 towards our goal of \$450,000. If you haven't yet submitted your pledge, please do so today.

Church Office Closed: The church office will be closed November 23–30 for Thanksgiving. In case of emergency, please contact the pastors.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors: Please give generously to the emergency fund sponsored by the Summit Interfaith Council to help Summit immigrant neighbors adversely affected by COVID-19. You may make your tax-deductible donation to the Relief Fund <u>here</u>, by either check or PayPal. Checks should be made out to and mailed to Beacon UU Congregation in Summit, 4 Waldron Ave., Summit, NJ 07901.

Advent & Christmas Worship Schedule

Advent Evening Prayer: Wednesdays, December 2, 9, 16 at 7:00 PM Blue Christmas: December 23 at 7:00 PM Grieving, hurting, feeling blue? Join us for a special service of hope.

Christmas Eve Virtual Services: 5:00 PM and 10:00 PM on YouTube and Facebook Christmas Eve In-Person Outdoor Service at 8:00 PM. Come to Bethlehem and see! Join us around the manger (in the Memorial Garden) as we hear the Christmas story and share communion.



Prayer Before Worship

God of majesty, you love us with an everlasting love and show us the way to justice and peace. In Jesus Christ you have reconciled the whole world to you and claimed us as your own, that we may live as his body on earth and, with all the saints, enter into your glory on the last day. Amen.

From Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A, Vol. 2

THANKSGIVING FOR BAPTISM

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the fountain of living water, the rock who gave us birth, our light and our salvation. **Amen.**

Joined to Christ in the waters of baptism, we are clothed with God's mercy and forgiveness. Let us give thanks for the gift of baptism. We give you thanks, O God, for in the beginning your Spirit moved over the waters and by your Word you created the world, calling forth life in which you took delight.

Through the waters of the flood you delivered Noah and his family. Through the sea you led your people Israel from slavery into freedom. At the river your Son was baptized by John and anointed with the Holy Spirit. By water and your Word you claim us as your children, making us heirs of your promise and servants of all.

We praise you for the gift of water that sustains life, and above all we praise you for the gift of new life in Jesus Christ. Shower us with your Spirit, and renew our lives with your forgiveness, grace, and love.

To you be given honor and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN 434 Jesus Shall Reign



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

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.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray. 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 Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**



FIRST READING Ezekiel 34:11–16, 20–24

¹¹Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. ²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep.²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. ²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. The assembly responds: Thanks be to God.

SECOND READING Ephesians 1:15–23

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The reader concludes: The word of the Lord. The assembly responds: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL Matthew 25:31–46

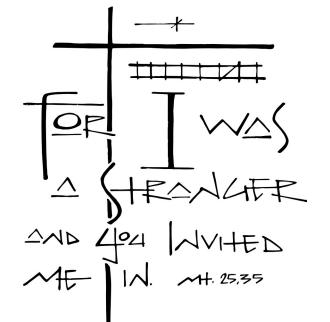
The holy gospel according to Matthew. Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹"When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵ for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?' ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.' ¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, 'You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' ⁴⁴Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

The Gospel is proclaimed, concluding: The Gospel of the Lord. Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

Bishop Tracie L. Bartholomew



HYMN OF THE DAY 439 Soon and Very Soon



Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945 Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch Text and music © 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc./Crouch Music, admin. EMI Christian Music Publishing

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

PEACE

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



THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray. O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever. **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

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

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. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

BLESSING

The God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

The God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The God of all grace + bless you now and forever. Amen.



SENDING HYMN 838 Beautiful Savior



Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent.

DISMISSAL

Go forth into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the fainthearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. **Thanks be to God.**

ZOOM COFFEE HOUR: URL: https://zoom.us/j/753360733

Zoom Children's Time, **Sundays** at **9:30 AM**. Join: <u>https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86580617100</u>. Children's Time will be on hiatus beginning November 29 and will resume in January.

Evening Prayer: Wednesdays at 7:00 PM on both our Facebook and YouTube pages.

Hymns of Faith is on hiatus until December 2.

Worship Live Stream at **10:30 AM** on Facebook at <u>www.facebook.com/stjohnssummit</u> or our YouTube Channel at <u>www.youtube.com/user/StJohnsSummitNJ</u> **Worship bulletins** are located: <u>https://www.stjohnssummit.org/bulletins</u>.

Giving Is Important. We count on your generous offerings to continue to do our robust ministry. Please give generously. You may <u>give online</u> or mail checks to the church.



Ministers: The People of St. John's

Clergy & Staff

The Rev. Gladys G. Moore, Pastor pa The Rev. Blake A. Scalet, Pastor Donna Garzinsky, Director of Music Carolyn Rothman, Church Administrator Deacon Linda Walker, Minister of Children's Faith Formation The Rev. Dr. Harry Kocotos, Visitation Pastor Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton Anne Ryan Dello Russo, Nursery

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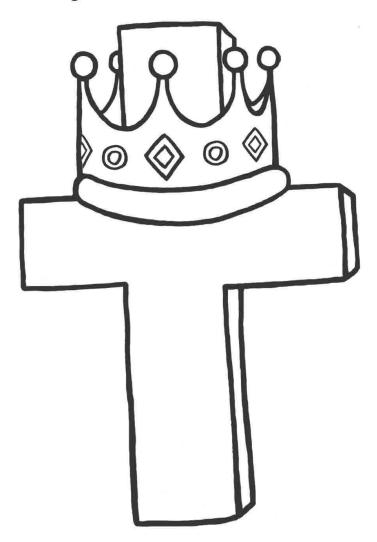
ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH 587 Springfield Avenue, Summit, NJ 07901 www.stjohnssummit.org 908-273-3846 | Fax: 908-273-9604

Children's Bulletins



- Today is **Christ the King** Sunday.
- Christ the King is a **festival** Sunday at church.
- On Christ the King Sunday, we remember that **Jesus** loves and saves us.

We call Jesus a king because Jesus is our leader. Color the jewels on this crown so a queen or king could wear it.





Jesus told his disciples they were like sheep when they cared for each other.

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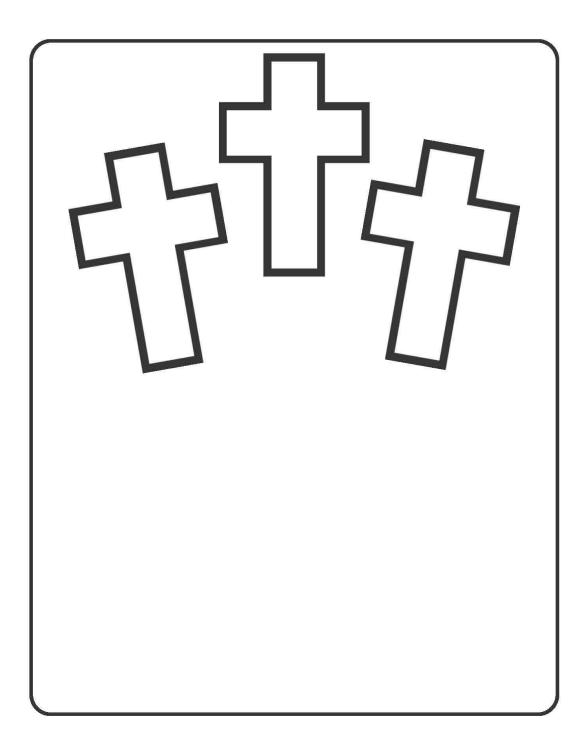
Jesus is our shepherd who leads us. We are the sheep.

Sometimes the sheep get lost. We can help Jesus find the sheep. Can you find the three SHEEP in this word find?

A	P	S	H	0	U
C	W	H	Е	S	Т
K	I	A	D	Η	Е
R	S	H	Е	Е	P
0	C	J	L	Е	N
S	H	Е	Е	P	G

On Christ the King Sunday we remember that Jesus rose from the dead and lives and rules forever.

Do you see a cross at your church? The cross reminds us of Jesus. Color these crosses. Then draw a cross in the space.

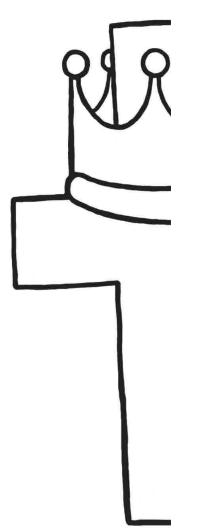


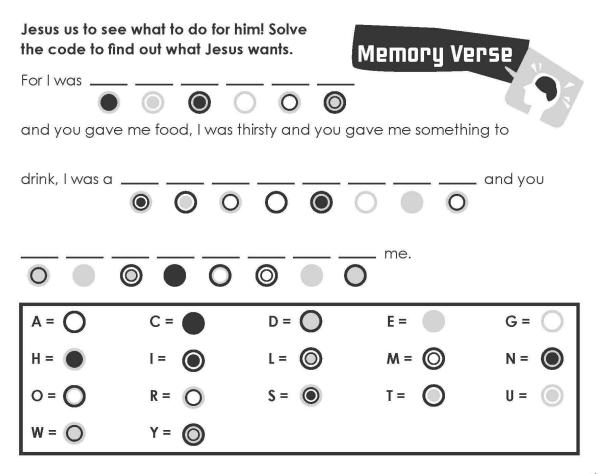


- Today is **Christ the King** Sunday.
- Christ the King is the **last Sunday** in the season after Pentecost.
- This Sunday completes our **church year journey** through the life of Jesus Christ that started last winter with the first Sunday in Advent.

The Big Picture

On Christ the King Sunday we look back at the church year. We see the big picture of Jesus' birth, life, death, and resurrection. Complete this picture of the Christ the King symbol.





Jesus Is...

Find the words below describe Jesus.

Lord, King, Savior, Loving, Kind, Teacher, Healer, Friend, Helper, God's Son, Fabulous, Amazing, Wonderful, Gentle

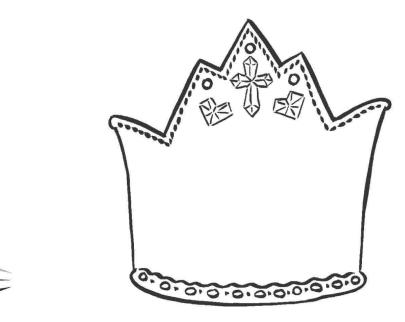
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Your Kingdom Come

In the Lord's Prayer we prayer your kingdom come. What do you think those words mean? What is God's kingdom like?

Draw a picture in this crown that shows God's kingdom.



Jesus Our King

It's Christ the King, the last Sunday of the church year. What a great festival day—kind of like New Year's Eve! Jesus is our king forever. Today we celebrate everything about him.

Write the word that tells what Jesus is doing.









King Songs

Listen to the songs you sing during worship today. Do any of them use words like king, kingdom, royal, or throne? Write about them here.

