



*With the birth of Jesus in our hearts
We carry light and love to the world*

*Sunday, November 22, 2020
Feast of Christ the King
25th Sunday after Pentecost*

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH
Sunday, November 22, 2020
Feast of Christ the King
25th Sunday after Pentecost
Reverend Giuseppe Mattei

The Liturgy is from Setting 4, page 147, in the hymnal.

Information for the hearing impaired: Are you having difficulty hearing what is being said during our worship service? If so, try using our Assisted Hearing System, which is available from an usher.

Today's worship service will be replayed next Sunday at 6pm on FM radio station 102.9 and is available to VIEW anytime late afternoon today on the home page of our website www.nlcww.org.

Attendance for last Sunday: 65



INTRODUCTION

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice. We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

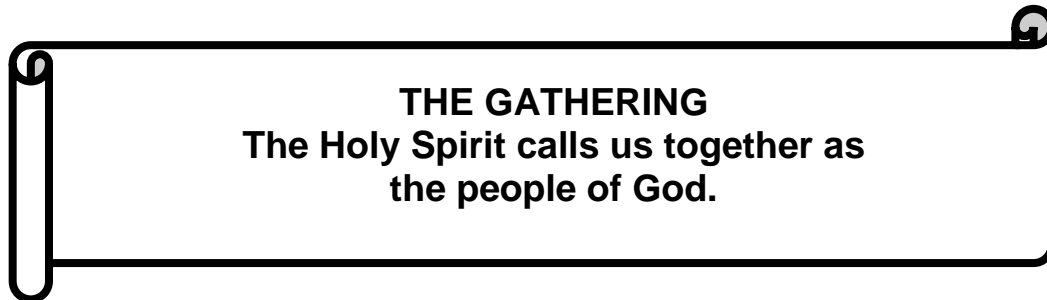
CHIMES

Indicates the start of worship

PRELUDE

We Bow Down

Paris



CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.

God of all mercy and consolation, come to the help of your people, turning us from our sin to live for You alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that we may confess our sin, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

A moment of silence for self-reflection.

Most merciful God, 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.

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, and of the ✝ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

GATHERING HYMN

Oh, Worship the King

842
vs. 1 & 5

- 1 Oh, worship the King, all-glorious above. Oh, gratefully sing God's power and love; our shield and defender, the Ancient of Days, pavilioned in splendor, and girded with praise.
- 5 O measureless might, ineffable love, while angels delight to hymn you above, the humbler creation, though feeble their lays, with true adoration shall sing to your praise.

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.**

KYRIE ELEISON

Kyrie Eleison is a pre-Christian expression in Greek that means "Lord have mercy." When we ask for the mercy of God, we are asking for his nearness and for the necessary healing of our human brokenness.

As the Prodigal Son I come to you, merciful God. I have wasted my whole life in a foreign land; I have scattered the wealth which You gave me. Kyrie eleison, **Lord have mercy.**

Receive me in repentance, O God, and have mercy upon me. Open to me the doors of repentance, O Giver of life. Christe eleison, **Christ have mercy.**

In your compassion purify me by the loving kindness of your mercy. Have mercy on me, O God, according to your steadfast love. According to your abundant mercy, blot out my transgressions. Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity, and cleanse me from my sin. Kyrie eleison, **Lord have mercy.**

CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Glory to God in the highest **and on earth peace, good will to all people.**

We praise You, we bless You, we worship You, we glorify You, we give thanks to You for your great glory. Lord, King, heavenly God, Father almighty.

Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ, and Holy Spirit. Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy on us, You who take away the sins of the world. Receive our prayer, You who sit at the right hand of the

Father, and have mercy on us. For You only are holy, only You are Lord Jesus Christ, to the glory of God the Father. Amen.

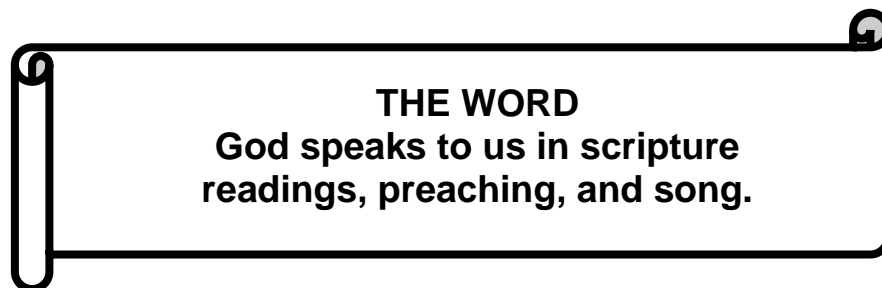
Each day I shall bless You, and I will praise your name forever and to the ages of ages.

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.

Please be seated.



SPECIAL MUSIC

We Crown You Lord of All

Harlan/Norblitt

Soloist: Kim Mehan-Conklin

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF THE PROPHET EZEKIEL

34:11-16, 20-24

Reader: Deacon Ruth Ann Hoy

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 word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THE PSALM

Psalm 95:1-7a

¹Come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

²**Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

³For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.

⁴**In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.**

⁵The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.

⁶**Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

^{7a}For the LORD is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

A READING FROM THE BOOK OF EPHESIANS

1:15-23

Reader: Deacon Ruth Ann Hoy

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 word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia.

THE HOLY 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; ³⁵for 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.’ ⁴¹Then 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 of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand as you are able.

HYMN OF THE DAY *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!* 634
vs. 1 & 3

- 1 All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall; bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all. Bring forth the royal diadem and crown him Lord of all.
- 3 Hail him, you heirs of David's line, whom David Lord did call the God incarnate, man divine and crown him Lord of all. The God Incarnate, man divine and crown him Lord of all.

APOSTLES CREED

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will come 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.

Stand or sit as you desire.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

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

After each petition: Hear us, O God. **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. **Amen.**

PEACE

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

Please be seated.



OFFERING

Please remain seated. You may drop your offering in the basket by the exit door or at the office during the week. You may also donate safely on-line at <https://www.nlcww.org> or on our Facebook page. Please pull out of the bag your communion set and hold both containers into your hands.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Merciful God, **as grains of wheat scattered upon the hills were gathered together to become one bread, so let your church be gathered together from the ends of the earth into your kingdom, for yours is the glory through Jesus Christ, now and forever. Amen.**

DIALOGUE AND PREFACE

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to You, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Form II, page 108

In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us pray the prayer Christ himself 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 and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Taste and see that the Lord is good.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

TABLE BLESSING

Consume the elements now. Return the non-consumed wine to the table in the narthex for proper disposal. Wait until the end of service to toss empty containers into wastebasket.

Observe a moment of silence.

Please stand as you are able.

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

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Gracious God, in this meal You have drawn us to your heart, and nourished us at your table with food and drink, the body and blood of Christ. Now send us forth to be your people in the world, and to proclaim your truth this day and evermore, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.



BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon you with favor and ✚ give you peace. **Amen.**

SENDING SONG

Crown Him with Many Crowns

855

vs. 1 & 4

- 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.
- 4 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.

SENDING

People of Nativity, what is our mission?

With the birth of Jesus in our hearts we carry light and love to the world.

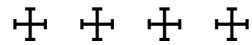
DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the good news.
Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

We Praise You, O God

Johnson



NEXT WEEK'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

Isaiah 64:1-9	Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19
1 Corinthians 1:3-9	Mark 13:24-37

PRAYERS: The list will be cleared every other week. If you wish to remain on the list for longer than two weeks, please call the office and request a long-term prayer. *In case of emergency, contact the office at **352-597-1456** and leave a detailed message. Messages are checked daily.*

PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Peg Ahlquist, Windy Binns, Bob Bohn, Linda Borowski's son and family, Linda Borowski's daughter and family, Kim Bozzuto, Elliott Burger, Darlene Christensen, Woody and Joan Cornetta, Patti Cotter, Norma Diedrich, Donald Foley, Jocelyn Foudali, Jacob Abraham Foudali, Austin Garrett, Cindy Garrett, Geiser family, Irene and Larry Gilbert, Brittina Guzik, Talitha Guzik, Donald Haig, Irma Haig, William and Charlotte Hamm, Gary and Mary Heinecke, Richard and Nancy Heinecke, Carlan and Jill Helgeson, Zoila Herrera, Kay Hill, Bob Johnson and family, Mary Jones, Michael Koch, Alfred Korndorfer, Carl and Asta Lundh, Claude and Germaine Major, Elaine Malone, Mary McDowall, Robert Meredith, Maria Mesko, Rich Miller, Marianne Mock, Christopher Morman, Mark and Wayne Musarra, Sheryl O'Connor and family, Oliver family, Rosie Rosten, Mike Ruffner, Ava Ruffridge, Nancy Salerno, Sharon SanFilippo, Margret Steffens, Keli Tedesco, West family, Janet Wilkens, Ann Wright, Laurretta Z.

PRAYERS FOR OUR LOVED ONES IN THE MILITARY

Nic Baker, Carlos Bayron Jr., Daniel Davis, Kyle Davis, Colton Hill, Andria T. Hook, Jonathan Hudson, Brett Johnson, Cpt. Will Lawlor, Zachary McGuire, CTT2 William Pause, Brandon Pierce, Clinton Pierce, Isaac Redmond, Andrea Roache, Joel Roberts, William Robshaw, OS2 Jordan A. Torres, Cpl. Timothy Spruytte, Chad Waldorf.



ALTAR FLOWERS: *If you would like to honor someone special or commemorate a special event, please call the church office (352-597-1456) to order altar flowers. Donation is \$25.00.*

WORSHIP LEADERS TODAY

Presiding Minister
Assisting Minister
Music Director
Scripture Reader
Altar Guild
Audio/Video Record
Gardener(s)
Head counter this week

Reverend Giuseppe Mattei
Deacon Ruth Ann Hoy
Donna Olsen
Deacon Ruth Ann Hoy
Lilo Horeis
Art Alt
Ken & Carol White
Barbara Crisanti

MISSION STATEMENT

**With the birth of Jesus in our hearts
we carry light and love to the world.**

OUR VALUES STATEMENT

We recognize that we are not here by chance but are gathered together to be the church of God in Christ.

We recognize that God is making us, through grace, into a Fellowship that embodies and expresses the spirit of Christ.

In this fellowship, the Bible says, "there is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male or female, for all of us are one in Christ Jesus" (Galatians 3:28). We, therefore, welcome equally all people, regardless of religious office, position, possessions, education, race, age, gender, sexual orientation, mental ability, physical ability or other distinctions. (Adopted 9/7/07)

NATIVITY LUTHERAN CHURCH OF WEEKI WACHEE A CONGREGATION OF THE FLORIDA-BAHAMAS SYNOD OF THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA

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Reverend Giuseppe Mattei
Deacon Charlotte Downing
Deacon Ruth Ann Hoy
Deacon Michelle Mehan-Conklin
Deacon Jack Page
Deacon Clyde Rosten
Music Director: Donna Olsen
Audio/Visual Director: Art Alt
Bell Choir Directors: Jane Henkel/Cherylann Schneider
Sunday Service at 9:30 a.m.