

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. ²Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. ³Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. ⁴I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

⁵The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ⁶In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: “The LORD is our righteousness.”

Psalm 46

SECOND READING: Colossians 1:11-20

May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully ¹²giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. ¹³He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, ¹⁴in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

¹⁵He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; ¹⁶for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. ¹⁹For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

GOSPEL: Luke 23:33-43

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. ³⁴Then Jesus said, “Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.” And they cast lots to divide his clothing. ³⁵And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, “He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!” ³⁶The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, ³⁷and saying, “If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!” ³⁸There was also an inscription over him, “This is the King of the Jews.”

continued

The Servant King

Many congregations will sing a hymn this Sunday that declares, “Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o’er the grave and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save” (ELW 855). This is an image of a conquering hero who fought Satan and won. Hail to the king! But that is not the king we are presented with in today’s gospel reading. Jesus is a broken, rejected man hanging naked in public shame, dying for a capital offense, sandwiched between two criminals.

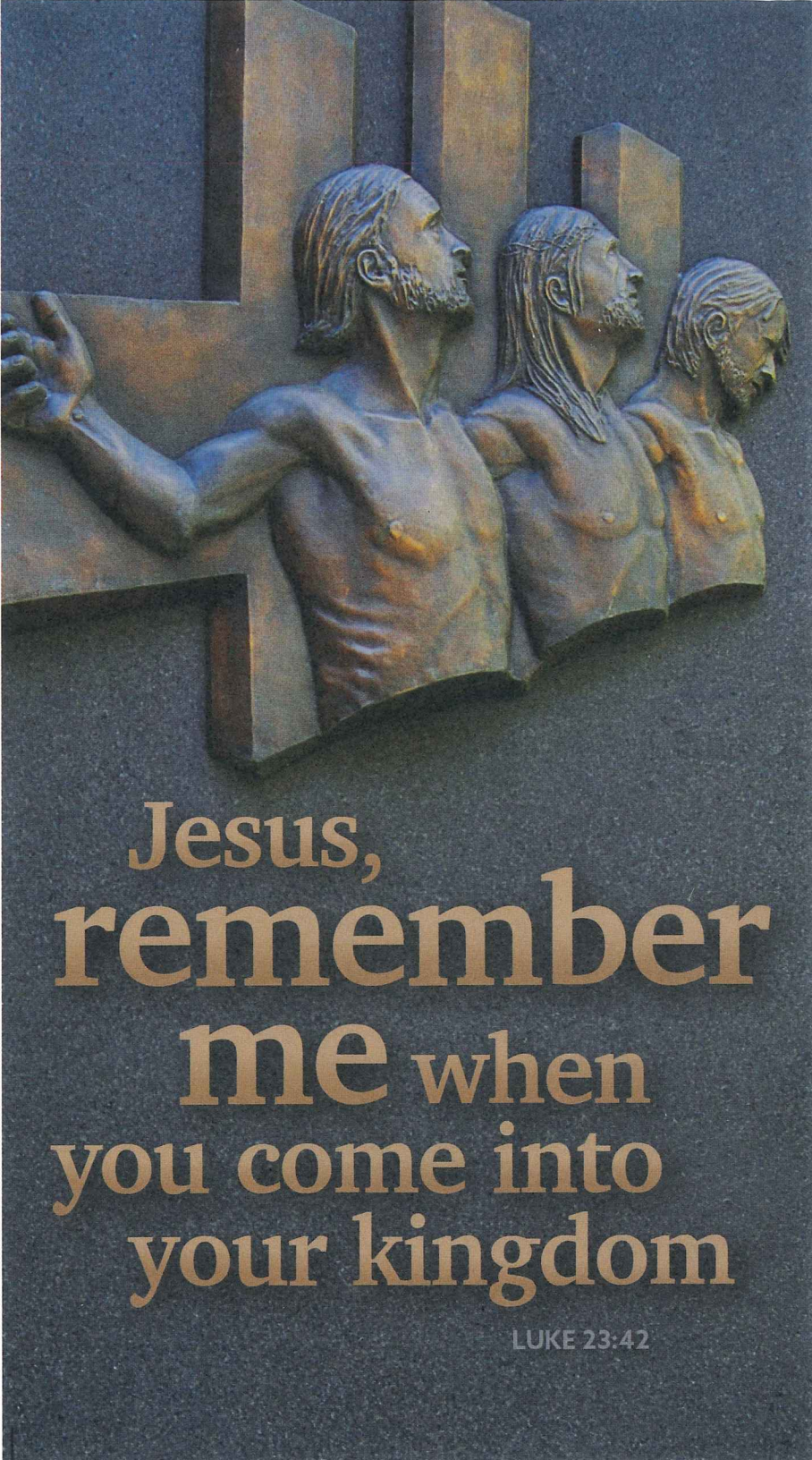
Many people struggle to think of Jesus as king because of the negative actions of historical kings. Kings have too often been men wielding power for their own gain, sitting on thrones upheld by patriarchy and wealth. Furthering this negative image are colonialism and the kings who issued decrees to ravage and control people in their native land. Neither is this the image of Christ the king in today’s reading.

At Gonzaga University (Spokane, Washington), a focus on servant leadership is offered as a concentration in the master’s program in organizational leadership. Its focuses are forgiveness and restorative justice, listening and discerning, community-building, foresight and strategy, and transformational thinking. Doesn’t that sound a lot more like the leadership of Jesus?

Perhaps we are reminded of the hard parts of Jesus’ journey to draw our attention to his purpose and the focus of his teachings. He wasn’t a conqueror, and he didn’t wield power for his own gain. He hung naked on the cross to be the ultimate servant leader. We claim Jesus as our king because of his servant leadership—his focus on forgiveness and restoration, building community, and thinking in transformational ways. Hail the servant king!

Gospel, continued

³⁹One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, “Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!” ⁴⁰But the other rebuked him, saying, “Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? ⁴¹And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.” ⁴²Then he said, “Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.” ⁴³He replied, “Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.”





Good Shepherd Lutheran Church

7800 West McCarthy Road, Palos Heights, IL 60463

The Pastor: Rev. Chris Buresh

The Associate Pastor: Rev. Andrew Bell

Intern: Immanuel Karunakaran

The Director of Children's & Family Ministry: Lori Puttkammer

The Pastor Emeritus: Rev. Dr. Wayne A. Basch



THE 9:00 AM SERVICE OF THE WORD

A Time for Silent Prayer and Meditation

The Prelude: *"Rejoice the Lord Is King" Darwall*

+THE HYMN: ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOR No. 344
(vs., 1, 2, 4 & 5)

+ The Kyrie– page 213

+ The Hymn of Praise: "Glory to God" – page 213

+ The Prayer of the Day (insert)

The Readings for Christ the King Sunday

The Anthem: ***"Let All Things Give Thanks" Hart***

The Sermon: ***"Which Crown?"***

+THE HYMN: JESUS SHALL REIGN No. 434

+ The Apostles' Creed – page 217

+ The Prayers (insert)

The Voluntary: *"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing
With O Worship the King" Berry*

+ "Salvation Belongs to Our God" – page 219

+ The Closing Prayers – page 220

+ The Blessing and Dismissal – page 221

+THE HYMN: CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS No. 855

The Postlude: *"Crown Him with Many Crowns" Hegarty*



Today's chancel flowers are given by Debi Pope in loving memory of her husband, John and her son, Chris.

The 2026 flower chart is on the bulletin board if you would like to sign up for flowers. The cost remains \$40.

Pictures may be taken at our service to use on our updated website.

Please contact us if you desire we not use any photograph including your image.

THE 11:00 AM SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

A Time for Silent Prayer and Meditation

The Prelude: *"Rejoice the Lord Is King" Darwall*

+THE HYMN: ALL GLORY, LAUD, AND HONOR No. 344
(vs., 1, 2, 4 & 5)

+ The Kyrie – page 203

+ The Hymn of Praise: "Glory be to God" – page 204

+ The Prayer of the Day (insert)

The Readings for Christ the King Sunday

The Anthem: ***"Let All Things Now Living" Krug***

The Sermon: ***"Which Crown?"***

+THE HYMN: JESUS SHALL REIGN No. 434

+ The Apostles' Creed – page 105

+ The Prayers (insert)

The Voluntary: *"O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing
With O Worship the King" Berry*

+ The Communion Liturgy – page 206

THE HYMNS DURING COMMUNION:

JESUS, REMEMBER ME No. 616

REJOICE, FOR CHRIST IS KING! No. 430

+ The Prayer after Communion

+ The Blessing and Dismissal – page 209

+ THE HYMN: CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS No. 855

The Postlude: *"Crown Him with Many Crowns" Hegarty*



The Organists: *Beth Ridderhoff & Cindy Gansel*

The Adult Choir Dir: *Aaron Basch*

The Carillon Choir Dir: *Michelle Podewell*

The Lectors: 9:00 *Susan Mish*

11:00 *Andrew Behrman*

The Acolytes: 9:00 *Ethan Held*

11:00 *Lukas Bort and Thalia Marsh*

Our Vision Statement: *Transforming lives by making the hope of God real through bold faith, service, outreach, discipleship and helping all people discover their God-given value.*

Our intercessions include:

The hospitalized: Robin Manning (Christ), Grant Spooner (Silver Cross)

Those to be married : Alexandria Stark and Ryan Knoll

+The bereaved: the family and friends of former member, Arthur Roth

WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

Thank you to all who supported the Missions Committee "Share Your Soles" shoe drive. Several boxes and bags of shoes were delivered.

The clients of UCP Seguin appreciate all the paper products and toiletries provided. Thank you for helping in this time of great need.

Sign-ups are available in the narthex this morning for the beautiful red poinsettias that will grace our sanctuary for Christmas. The flowers may be taken home after the Christmas Day Service. The cost is \$15, and all orders must be received by Wednesday, December 10.

Get the news out about Good Shepherd and come join the Palos Heights holiday parade on Sat., Dec. 6 at 10 am. You can ride or walk, throw candy and hand out flyers with our holiday services. Sign up by calling the office at 708/448-4170.

Gift card orders which support the youth mission trips are due on Sunday, November 30. They will be available to pick up the following Sunday, Dec. 7. Another order will take place on Dec. 7 with pick up on Dec. 14. Thank you for supporting the Youth!

LSSI wish lists are available in the narthex this morning. Please stop by the table to get a wish list for a foster child. All gifts need to be returned to the Galilean room by Sunday, Dec. 7.

Please sign up on the bulletin board if you plan to attend Gingerbread house decorating. Join us on Sun., Dec. 7, Noon – 2:00 pm. We'll have lunch from Pop's and then we will start decorating!

See the back of the insert for this week's calendar and more important notes.

DURING THE WEEK OF NOVEMBER 23

SUN		CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY
		LSSI Gifts Available
	10:10 am	8 th Grade Confirmation
	10:30 am	Cherub Choir
	11:00 am	Sunday School
MON	8:00 pm	"Body & Soul"
TUE	9:30 am	"Faith, Prayer & Joy Group"
	10:30 am	Bible Study
	6:30 pm	Discovering the Bible
WED	7:30 pm	Thanksgiving Eve
THU	10:00 am	Thanksgiving Day Service
SUN	9:00 am	Service of Holy Communion Online service
	10:30 am	Cherub Choir
	11:00 am	Service of the Word
	11:00 am	Sunday School
		1 st Gift Card Order Due

Save the Date: We'll be decorating the sanctuary on Thursday, Dec. 11 beginning at 6:30 pm. The more the merrier!

Good Shepherd's newsletter needs a name! We're looking for some suggestions from you! **Please drop a note on Donna's desk or email her with the following information: your name and phone number and your suggested newsletter name.** See the newsletter for more information and thanks for your participation!

Do you have a musical gift you would like to share during worship? If you play an instrument or would like to sing as a soloist or with a small group, please fill out a quick form that can be found by the organ or in the office and turn it into Donna.

Welcome

It is only right that we should express our unlimited gratitude to God on this Sunday before Thanksgiving. We rejoice in your presence. Let us joyfully praise God through prayer, song and reflection on the Word.

Giving Thanks for All Things



It's easy to list the blessings in life: good health, family, a satisfying career, a comfortable home. We might even be thankful for things others take for granted such as freedom and clean drinking water, reliable transportation and food enough to eat. Then there are the little things, such as gardens, sunrises, pets and coffee.

But what about life's storms or unanswered prayers? Should we be thankful for these? Loss and hardship remind us of our dependence on God. He uses trials to draw us closer to him, to show us that He is our rock and refuge. In misfortune and grief, we discover God's comfort and strength. Should we not, then, be thankful for the storms, too?

Faith

Faith is walking in the dark
And looking for the light.
Faith is knowing God is love
And trusting in His might.

Faith is showing you believe
And that you truly care.
Faith is searching for the Lord
And finding Him in prayer. ~Alice Torgstadt

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

We pray for the church and its leaders here, at our partner parish in Coronationville and in the world. Inspire us in our uniting mission of sharing the good news that we may embody the beloved community in ways that faithfully witness to the Holy Spirit. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the trembling mountains and glad streams of creation. Preserve and renew your coastlines, deep seas, forests, and grasslands. Guide all who tend flocks or care for creatures of all kinds. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for leaders and those who serve in government, civic life, and public safety. Support equity across the globe and heal division with accountability and truth. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for any who are hungry, living in poverty or desperation, weary in body or spirit, sick or mourning (*especially*). Comfort all in need of your tender care. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We pray for the body of Christ gathered here. Bring us into authentic community where all ages are valued and experience God's faithfulness together. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Here other intercessions may be offered.

We give thanks for all who have died in faith (*especially*). May we remember them faithfully until we are gathered with you in the paradise you promise. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

We offer these and all our prayers to you, O God, trusting in your grace and unyielding love, through Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYER LIST

Members of the Congregation

Grant Spooner	Lucette Held
Jim Srbeny	Jim Sheehan
Larri Lyn Rauch	Marilyn Garr
Robin Manning	Warren Meneou
Gail Kendall	Bill Innocenti
Jerry Kendall	Tom Kozlowski
Ray Borner	Bill Johnsen
June Johnsen	Nicole Baldwin

Family and Friends of Members

Gregg Campbell	Ann Dixon
Allison Lathrop	Louise Sims
Lori Toepper Opsenica	Jason Randall Glugla
Sarah Wagner	Rachel Sullivan
Laura Reynolds	Karen Heilman
Andy Zilis	Sylvia Rodriguez
Ronald Held	Tim Hennessey
Barbara Parry	Katy Peterman
John Morrocco	Rick Christensen
Jennifer Strilko	Jessica Clifford
Brian Dinkmeyer	Erin Olson
Betty Naughton	Dave Furtak
Thomas Houlihan	Dale Koch
George Tragos	Maryanne Campbell
Sue McCoy	Jim Cirese
Joe Kaderabek	Alex Gersic
Barbara Lindsay	Silvia Guijarro
Jim Peele	Dan Zakowski
Pam Blessing	



Please let us know if there is someone you need added or removed from the prayer list by contacting the church office by 9 am on Friday. Thank you!