

TODAY'S LESSONS: CHRIST THE KING

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Jeremiah 23:1-6

Reader A reading from the Prophet Jeremiah.

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore 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. Then 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. I 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. The 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. In 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."

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Psalms 46

- 1 God is our refuge and strength, *
a very present help in trouble.
- 2 Therefore we will not fear, though
the earth be moved, *
and though the mountains be topped
into the depths of the sea;
- 3 Though its waters rage and foam, *
and though the mountains tremble
at its tumult.
- 4 The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

5 There is a river whose streams make
glad the city of God, *
the holy habitation of the Most
High.

6 God is in the midst of her; she shall
not be overthrown; *
God shall help her at the break of
day.

7 The nations make much ado, and the
kingdoms are shaken; *
God has spoken, and the earth
shall melt away.

8 The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

9 Come now and look upon the works
of the Lord, *
what awesome things he has done
on earth.

10 It is he who makes war to cease in
all the world; *
he breaks the bow, and shatters
the spear, and burns the shields
with fire.

11 "Be still, then, and know that I am
God; *
I will be exalted among the na-
tions; I will be exalted in the
earth."

12 The Lord of hosts is with us; *
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

Colossians 1:11-20

Reader A reading from the letter of
St. Paul to the Colossians.

Now 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 giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for 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. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He 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. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and 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.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People *Thanks be to God.*

Luke 23:33-43

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

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. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. The people stood by, watching Jesus on the cross; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews." One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People *Praise to you, Lord Christ.*

Today's Readers:

Lessons: Pat Snyder

Prayers: Diana Brehob

TODAY'S MUSIC

Opening Hymn

Hymn #518

Descant

4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

1 Christ is made the sure foun - da - tion, Christ the head and
 2 All that ded - i - cat - ed ci - ty, dear - ly loved of
 3 To this tem - ple, where we call thee, come, O Lord of
 4 Here vouch - safe to all thy serv - ants what they ask of

thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

cor - ner - stone, cho - sen of the Lord, and pre - cious,
 God on high, in ex - ult - ant ju - bi - la - tion
 Hosts, to - day; with thy wont - ed lov - ing - kind - ness
 thee to gain; what they gain from thee, for ev - er

with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

bind - ing all the Church in one; ho - ly Zi - on's
 pours per - pet - ual mel - o - dy; God the One in
 hear thy serv - ants as they pray, and thy full - est
 with the bless - ed to re - tain, and here - af - ter

in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

help for ev - er, and her con - fi - dence a - lone.
 Three a - dor - ing in glad hymns e - ter - nal - ly.
 ben - e - dic - tion shed with - in its walls al - way.
 in thy glo - ry ev - er - more with thee to reign.

Offertory Anthem

For the Beauty of the Earth

Donnalynn Grunewald

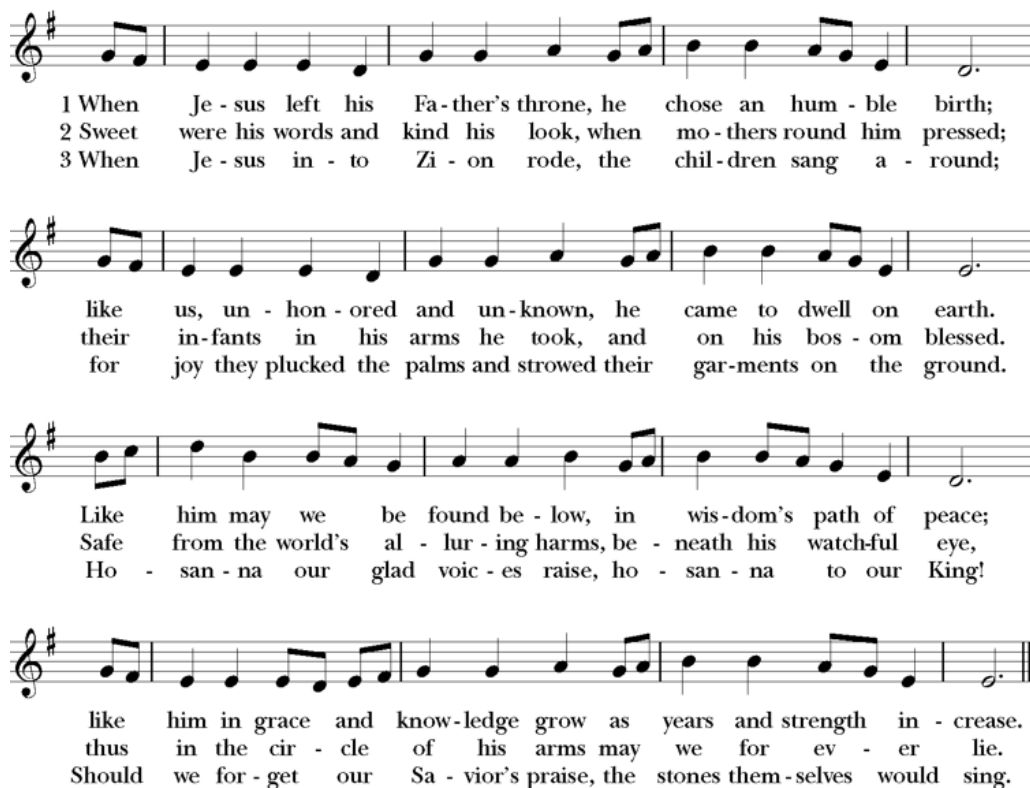
Communion Music

God is our Strength and Refuge

Eric Coates

Sending Hymn

Hymn #480



1 When Je - sus left his Fa - ther's throne, he chose an hum - ble birth;
2 Sweet were his words and kind his look, when mo - thers round him pressed;
3 When Je - sus in - to Zi - on rode, the chil - dren sang a - round;
like us, un - hon - ored and un - known, he came to dwell on earth.
their in - fants in his arms he took, and on his bos - om blessed.
for joy they plucked the palms and strowed their gar - ments on the ground.
Like him may we be found be - low, in wis - dom's path of peace;
Safe from the world's al - lur - ing harms, be - neath his watch - ful eye,
Ho - san - na our glad voic - es raise, ho - san - na to our King!
like him in grace and know - ledge grow as years and strength in - crease.
thus in the cir - cle of his arms may we for ev - er lie.
Should we for - get our Sa - vior's praise, the stones them - selves would sing.

Postlude

Father Most Holy

vocal trio: Diana Brehob, Todd Kappauf, and Eliza Barger

Please pray for

Those in need of healing: Jane (Rose), Connie (Johnson), William (Schulenberg), Cole (Young), Pam (Kerns), Courtney (Jones), the Jones Family, Stephanie (Robinson), Ida (Davenport), Pat (Snyder), the Collins Family, Bob (Chapman), Shirley (Haas), Jen (Jewkes), Pat (Mulkern), Lynn (Honeycutt), Hardy (Shelton III), Jacey (Ciernak), Abbie B., the Kirton-Burbank family, Sarah (Rodemeyer) Caelyn, Oliver, & Annabelle, Paula (Gray-Roberston), Leola, Fran (Moir), Louise (LeBeau), Greg (Haas), and Brianna (Plozai)

For the churches of Diocese of the Michigan: St. Matthew's & St. Joseph's (Detroit).

For the churches of our companion Diocese of the Dominican Republic: St. Titus' (Jimani).



December Calendar of Events

You're invited to celebrate
this special time of year!

Wednesday Evening Eucharist
and Bible Study
5:30pm in the Chapel

Lessons & Carols
December 6, 6pm

Billy Mark Concert
December 12, 7pm

Children & Youth Christmas Party
December 13, 5pm in the Fellowship Hall

Neighborhood Caroling
& Littlefield Recorders
December 20, 6pm

Greening of the Church
December 21 following the 10am service

Christmas Eve Service
Followed by Festive Coffee Hour
December 24, 8pm

Christmas Day Service
December 25, 10am