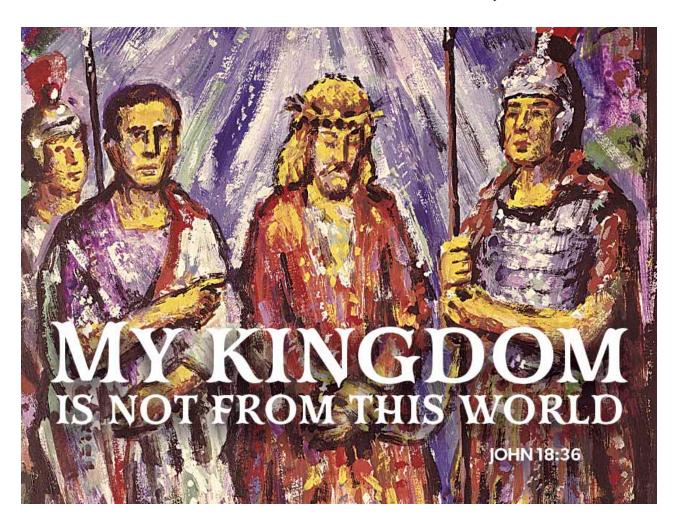
St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church SUNDAY November 24th, 2024



WELCOME

To our Church Family

We're Glad You're Here.

1

🥿 St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

We are so glad that you chose to worship with us today. If you are visiting with us for the first time, please visit our Welcome Center in the North Narthex. As our way of saying thank you, you will receive a St. Paul's Welcome Bag with a coffee cup and information about our church. You may also want to download our new St Paul's App and visit our website. Information on both is in the Welcome Bag.

For our young worshipers we have children's packets to play and color with during the service. These are on the white stand near the east entrance to our sanctuary.

You are Welcome at the table!

If you have been baptized and believe Christ is present in the Eucharist (Holy Communion), you are welcome to join us at the table. Please come forward at the direction of the ushers and return to your seats using the side aisles. If you do not wish to partake in the Sacrament but would like to receive a blessing, please just cross your hands over your chest when you come forward.

Grape juice and Gluten-free wafers are available on request. Grape juice is in the colored glasses in the center of the communion tray. If you are not able to come forward and would like to receive communion, please inform an usher and the pastor will bring communion to you.

Altar Flowers

The **altar flowers** were given today by Gladys Zepp in honor of her family. The **throne flowers** were given today by Vera Keefer in memory of Bob Keefer and also by Nancy and Dan Lint in memory of Nancy's sister Sherry.

Introduction

Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

Readings and Psalm

Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14

The one coming with the clouds rules over all

Psalm 93

Ever since the world began, your throne has been established. (Ps. 93:2)

Revelation 1:4b-8

Glory to the one who made us a kingdom

John 18:33-37

The kingdom of Christ

Today's Hymns from The Tower The Westminster Strike Welcome and Announcements

Church Carillon

Prelude

Prelude on MORNING SONG

Robert J. Powell (b. 1932)

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, our refuge, our delight, our beginning and our end. **Amen.**

Let us come in truth before the one who loves us and has freed us from our sin. *Silence is kept for reflection.*

Eternal One, robed in majesty and mercy,

we confess that sin has taken hold of us and we are complicit in its power. We are disturbed in spirit and our hearts cannot rest. Unbind us and set us free. Lead us again to the waters of rebirth, that we may live just and generous lives for the good of your world and the care of our neighbors, following in the servant way of Jesus. Amen.

These words are trustworthy and true: Christ bore our sins once, for all, on the cross, swallowing up death forever. For his sake, you are + forgiven and God remembers your sin no more. Let your heart be glad again, and rejoice in your salvation.

Amen.

GATHERING HYMN

Crown Him With Many Crowns

ELW 855

GREETING

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

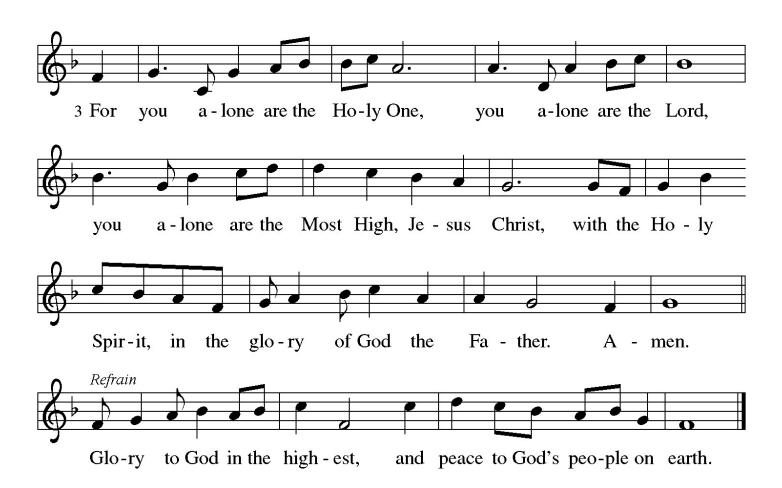
And also with you.

KYRIE









PRAYER OF THE DAY

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.

Amen.

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

⁹ 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.
¹⁰ 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.

¹³ 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.

¹⁴ To him was given dominion and glory and kingship,

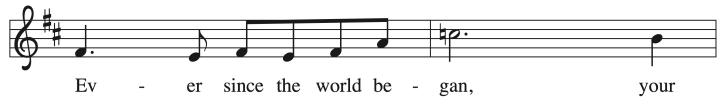
that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him.

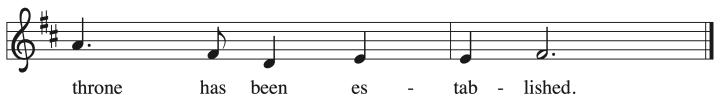
His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm: Psalm 93





- ¹ The LORD is king, robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and [|] armed with strength. The LORD has made the world so sure that it can- [|] not be moved.
- ² Ever since the world began, your throne has | been established; you are from | everlasting. R
- ³ The waters have lifted up, O LORD, the waters have lifted | up their voice; the waters have lifted up their | pounding waves.
- ⁴Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers | of the sea, mightier is the LORD who | dwells on high.
- ⁵Your testimonies are | very sure, and holiness befits your house, O LORD, forever and for- | evermore. **R**

Second Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8

^{4b} 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, ⁵ 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, ⁶ and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! 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.

⁸ "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of e-ter-nal life.

GOSPEL: John 18:33-37

The holy gospel according to John, the 18th chapter.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³³ Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴ Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵ 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?" ³⁶ 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." ³⁷ 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."

The Gospel of our Lord

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON Rev. Mark Kreemer

HYMN OF THE DAY The King Shall Come ELW 260

APOSTLE'S 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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Rooted in God's abundant love for the world, let us pray for our neighbors, the church, and all of creation.

After each petition the following response is given:

^{*}Or, "he descended into hell," another translation of this text in widespread use.

Merciful God,

receive our prayer.

We offer our prayers to you, gracious God, trusting in your boundless love for all that you have made, through Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

Offertory Anthem: Simple Gifts Mack Wilberg (b. 1955)

Chancel Choir

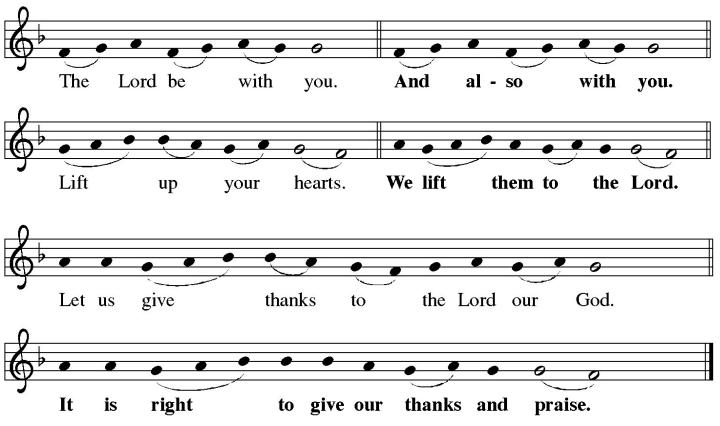
Judy Hall, flute; Robin Tryon, piccolo

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Lord Jesus, our portion and our cup, you offered yourself in love for the world, and in this meal you nourish us with your life. Fill us with your abundance, that we may feed the hungry and welcome the stranger, trusting in your name. **Amen.**

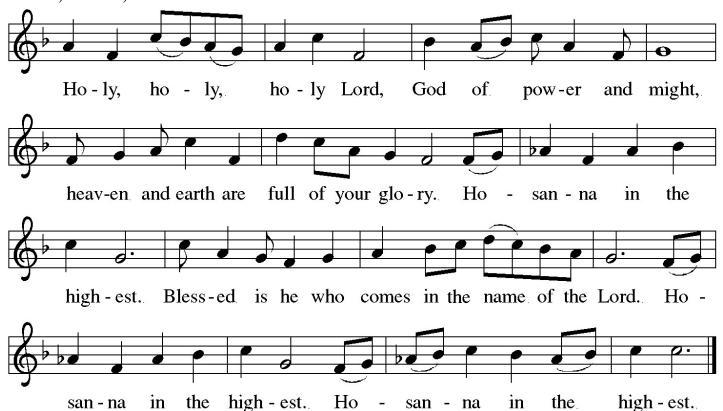
GREAT THANKSGIVING



PREFACE

It is our duty and delight that we should everywhere and always offer thanks and praise to you, O God, through Jesus Christ, and so with the church on earth, all creation and the host of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

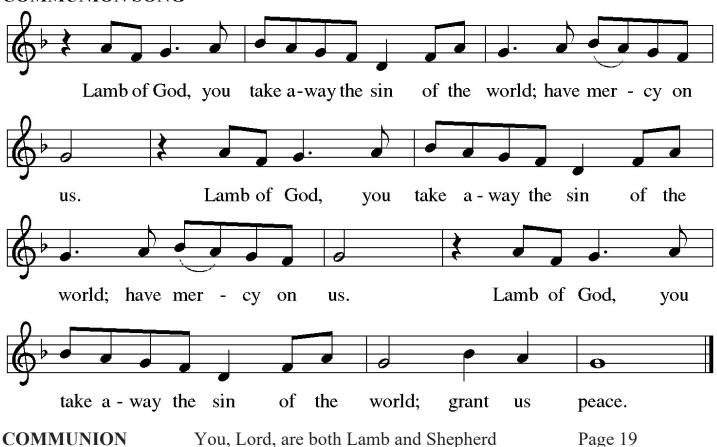
LORD'S PRAYER

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

Behold, God is making all things new. Take your place in the new creation.

COMMUNION SONG



POST-COMMUNION BLESSING

May the body and blood of our lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen**.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Faithful God, you have spread before us a feast of rich food and drink in the body and blood of your Son. Now send us out to labor with you, in service to the world you have made, and among the people you have made your home, in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

SENDING HYMN

Before You, Lord, We Bow

ELW 893

BLESSING

The Ancient One, enthroned, the Crucified One, now risen, the Indwelling One, poured out, + bless you now and forever. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another in Christ.

Thanks be to God.

Postlude:

Voluntary No. 6

Arlen Clarke (b. 1954)

જજજ

In our prayers today we will remember

Any Williams, Phyllis Wilson, Jackie Whitman, Jessie Shaffer, Mark King, Sue Rodgers, Rick Theiss, Jim Loveday, Rosemary Stephen, Ariane Roberts, Shane Reed, Chrissy Sturtz, Donnie Whitman, Mary Martin.

જજજ

Angel Tree

The Salvation Army Christmas Tree Tags will be available today, Sunday, November 24, in the Gleitsman Lounge. The gifts must be returned unwrapped by Sunday, December 8.

જાજાજા

Art Show in Gleitsman Lounge

Come see the beautiful photos by Peg Gibbs in the lounge. Sign up for which photos you would like to purchase (\$25 each), and then payment and pick up days will be December 15 or January 12. A portion of the proceeds will go to the church.

Adult Sunday School Class

The Promise of His Coming

But, in accordance with his promise, we wait for new heavens and a new earth, where righteousness is at home. (2 Peter 3:13)

You might wonder what the book of Genesis has to do with the Season of Advent. Actually, more than you might think! Join us as we continue our study in Genesis and prepare our hearts for Christ's coming and ultimate fulfillment of all his promises. The class meets at 11:30 each Sunday morning, upper level of Parish Hall. An elevator is available for your convenience.

જાજાજ

Thursday Bible Study

The Grace of Les Misérables

We will continue the study titled *The Grace of Les Misérables*. Victor Hugo's *Les Misérables* is a truly epic story. Whether you've tackled the 1,400-page 19th century novel, witnessed the Broadway musical (and memorized its soundtrack), or seen the several screen adaptations of it, you already know the power of its story.

In the six-week study *The Grace of Les Misérables*, author and pastor Matt Rawle dives into six ideals found in the story—grace, justice, poverty, revolution, love, and hope—each represented by a character in Hugo's story. As these imperfect and relatable characters interact, we can see how these ideals work together (perhaps even in spite of each other) out in the world.

જાજાજ

Capital Campaign Report

Remaining Phase One Projects	\$377,000
Funds raised	\$308,906
Remaining funds	\$ 68,094
to be raised	

Christmas Food Baskets

St. Paul's will collect nonperishable food and miscellaneous items for our Community Meal families. The items will be given for Christmas at our Community Meal on Friday, December 13.

Please place your donations in the box provided at the side entrance of the church. If you have questions, please contact Cindy Lash at 330-417-7407.

Nov. 24 Spaghetti Sauce, Pasta, Instant Potatoes

Dec. 1 Paper Products (paper towels, toilet paper)

Dec. 8 Bar Soap, Toothpaste, Toothbrush

Previous weeks' items are still very much welcomed: Tea and Coffee, Peanut Butter and Jelly, Canned Soups and Pork 'n Beans, Cereal and Mixes (cake, brownie, muffins), Canned fruits and Vegetables

Thank you for your generosity!

Blessings and peace,

Cindy Lash & The Welfare and Social Action Committee

જાજાજ

Music in December



On December 1, the Firestone CCLC Madrigals will return to our morning worship service.

December 1 is also the annual Community Candlelight Walk from 5-7:30. St. Paul's will feature vocal and instrumental soloists and several pieces from the Chancel Choir.

December 24, Christmas Eve services:

Family Service and special solo music: 7 pm Camarada Brass, special music by the Chancel Choir: 10:00 pm

Community Social Media Pages

Facebook & Instagram

Search "Massillon Lutheran Churches"

Facebook

Search "St Paul's Lutheran Church in Massillon" Search "Cathedral Concerts at St Paul's"

જાજાજ

Christmas Caroling to our Home Bound

Make plans to join us for Christmas caroling for our members who are home bound on **Saturday, December 7 at 2:00 pm.** This is a great chance to feel the true spirit of Christmas. We will break into groups and go off in different directions to sing and bring Christmas cheer to these special members of our congregation. When the singing to done plan to return to church for a warm meal. Please help us plan for dinner by signing up in the Welcome Center

જાજાજ

Midweek Advent Worship at 7 pm

December 4 – Christ Lutheran Church December 11 – Holy Trinity Lutheran Church December 18 – Faith Lutheran Church



Thank you to those serving today:

Presiding Rev. Mark Kreemer

Director of Music Dr. Abigail Haake

Lector Patty Long

Assisting Minister Veronica Kreemer

Communion Assistants Shane Jackson & Barb Palmer

Greeter Pastor Lynn & LaShell Williamson

Sacristy Kathryn Myers

Ushers John & Jennifer Stanko

Chuck Richards, Mike Skelly

Soundboard Jim Johnson

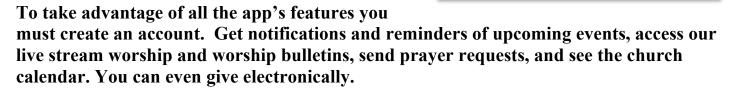
Video/Live-Stream John Stanko

Download the St. Paul's Phone APP

Go to your Google or Apple app store on your smart phone and download the "My Church" by Pushpay. It is a free download.

Open the app and search for St Paul's by typing STPLC APP.

Then click on the St Paul's logo—that's it.





Hymns, Liturgies, and Live stream permissions granted by the following:

Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License # **SAS027923** Copyright © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved.

GATHERING HYMN	Crown Him With Many Crowns	ELW 855
----------------	----------------------------	---------

Public Domain

HYMN OF THE DAY The King Shall Come ELW 260

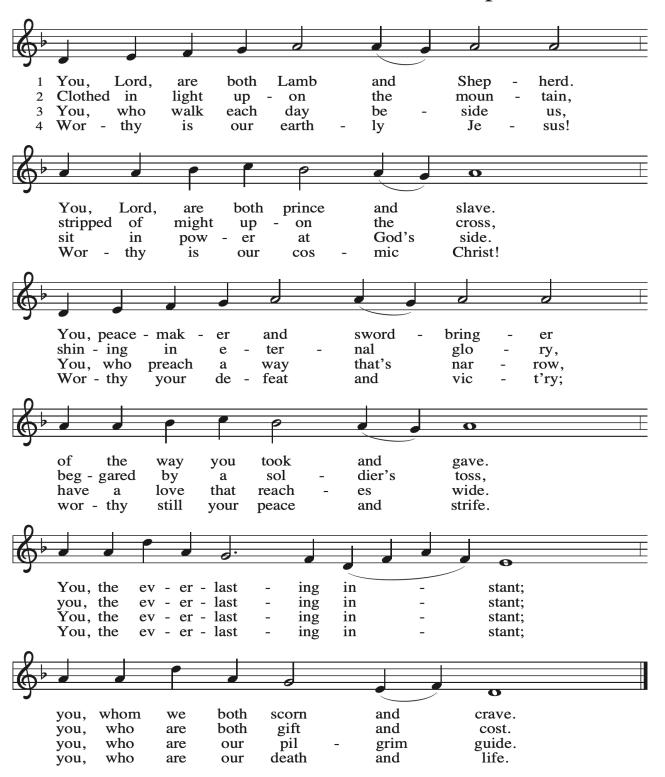
Public Domain

COMMUNION You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shepherd Insert Permission to podcast / stream the music in this service obtained from ONE LICENSE, License #A-734490. All rights reserved

SENDING HYMN Before You, Lord, We Bow ELW 893

Public Domain

You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd



Text: Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1955-1993

Music: PICARDY, French folk tune, 17th cent.

Text © 1991 GIA Publications, Inc., giamusic.com. All rights reserved.

Duplication in any form prohibited without securing permission from copyright administrator or reporting usage under valid license.

Love Redefines Power and Dominion

In fairy tales, kings live in a castle, usually located on a hill (a safe place), surrounded by a moat for the utmost protection for the king and family. Modern political leaders often have more technologically advanced means to provide a similar level of safety against would-be attackers. Because of these preconceived notions of what kings are, hearers will need to be reminded that Jesus redefined the title "king." The appointed psalm says, "The waters have lifted up, O LORD, . . . the waters have lifted up their pounding waves. Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, mightier is the LORD who dwells on high" (Ps. 93:3-4). While a king might have the ability to sail atop a roaring, chaotic sea, Christ the King is one who stills the waves (Mark 4:35-41).

In John's gospel for today, Jesus says "For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth" (John 18:37). Perhaps the 'this' Jesus is referring to is a motioning with his hands to the cross, the clearest demonstration of God's love for humanity and the truest definition of kingship. Jesus redefines what power is and what people think God's power looks like to fight evil and suffering in the world. Jesus does not resist the way of the cross with force.

Rather than protecting himself from harm in any way, the vulnerable King Jesus dares to demonstrate God's love for all people. Jesus does not run from pain, anguish, or suffering. Rather, the risen Jesus, "the ruler of the kings of the earth" (Rev. 1:5), rushes to the places of disaster and suffering in the world. Jesus goes where storms are ravaging and have ravaged lives and brings life and calm into the chaos.

Comments from the Cloud of Witnesses

To portray Christ as King certainly does not mean that we think of Christ as up in the sky controlling the world by invisible strings or undetectable ray guns. To speak of Christ as King is a matter of faith. Often the hard facts about our world seem to deny our faith's picture of Christ as King. Hate seems stronger than love. Conflict is more prevalent than peace. Lies win out over truth. Pain often overshadows happiness. Yet the Bible readings point us beyond the world as it is to the world of faith. Christ our King has made himself one of us. Christ is not only King; Christ is our Friend, our Brother, our Lover. Whatever suffering our King permits or decrees for us, he suffers with us. In faith we can see beyond hate and conflict and lies and pain to Christ the King. Sometime, in some way, our King will work things out for good. In some way, at some time, we can hope that evil and destruction will be completely subdued.

-Kathe Wilcox and Milton Crum

[Kathe Wilcox and Milton Crum, in *Homilies for the Christian People*, 365-367.]

Crown Him with Many Crowns



- 1 Crown him with man y crowns, the Lamb up on his throne;
- 2 Crown him the vir gin's Son, the God in car nate born,
- 3 Crown him the Lord of love— be hold his hands and side,
- 4 Crown him the Lord of life, who tri-umphed o'er the grave
- 5 Crown him the Lord of years, the po ten tate of time,



hark, how the heav'n-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but tro - phies won which now his brow those crim-son whose arm bove, in beau-ty glo - ri - fied. rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a vic - to - rious strife for those he came to in the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fab - ly of the sub - lime. cre - a tor





thy match-less king through all and hail as e - ter - ni - ty. the root whence mer - cy ev - er flows, the babe of Beth - le - hem. but down - ward bend their burn - ing eyes at mys - ter - ies so bright. who died, e - ter - nal life to bring, and lives that death may die. thy praise shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty. glo - ry and

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800–1894, sts. 1–3, 5; Godfrey Thring, 1823–1903, st. 4

Music: DIADEMATA, George J. Elvey, 1816-1893

The King Shall Come



- 1 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light tri um-phant breaks,
- 2 Not as of old a lit-tle child, to bear and fight and die,
- 3 Oh, bright er than the ris ing morn when Christ, vic to rious, rose
- 4 Oh, bright er than that glo rious morn shall dawn up on our race
- 5 The King shall come when morn-ing dawns and light and beau ty brings.



when beau - ty gilds the east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes. but crowned with glo - ry like the sun that lights the morn-ing sky. and left the lone-some place of death, de - spite the rage of foes. the day when Christ in splen-dor comes, and we shall see his face. Hail, Christ the Lord! Your peo - ple pray: come quick-ly, King of kings.

Text: John Brownlie, 1859-1925

Music: CONSOLATION, A. Davisson, Kentucky Harmony, 1816

Before You, Lord, We Bow



- Be fore you, Lord, we May ev 'ry moun-tain
- Earth, hear your mak er's
- each height, voice; your

bow,

- God who reigns a vale and for - est great re - deem - er
- bove and shine green,
- own; be -
- And when in pow'r he comes, oh, may then ev - 'ry land from

our



rules the world be - low with bound-less pow'r and love. Our thanks we wis-dom's light, and forth in its rich fruits be seen! May ev - 'ry lieve, o - bey, re - joice, and wor - ship God a - lone. Cast down your rend - ing tombs send forth a glo - rious band, count - less



bring in and praise, our sing! joy hearts we raise, to you we tongue be tuned to praise and join to raise grate - ful a song. pride, your sin de - plore, and bow be - fore the Cru - ci fied. sing heav'n's high king sal - va - tion's song! throng, with joy to to

Text: Francis Scott Key, 1779-1843, alt.

Music: DARWALL'S 148TH, John Darwall, 1731-1789