St. Paul’s Lutheran Church
Christ the King
November 24, 2019

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Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God.

Jeremiah’s promise of the execution of “justice and righteousness in the land” finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears so utterly contradictory that the king should be crucified with the criminal. This victory appears for all the world as ignominious defeat. Yet through the gate of death our Lord opens the door to paradise.

CONFESSION and FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
healer of our every ill,
source of unending mercy.
Amen.

Embraced in enduring grace and good hope,
let us turn again to God,
confessing the truth about ourselves.

Merciful God,
we come before you, beloved but broken.
We have not always treated others
as we would want them to treat us.
We have not always called out injustice and abuse.
We have not always been kind to ourselves.
We have not always taken care of the world
we share with other living creatures.
Remind us of who we are,
beloved children bathed in your love.
Renew us by your Spirit to live as your holy people,
bringing healing to the brokenness around us.
Amen.

At every moment you are held in existence by the love of God, renewed by the Spirit within and among you, and made alive again in Christ. Receive this assurance in Jesus’ name: you are ☩ forgiven and freed to live for the healing of the world.
Amen.

GATHERING HYMN  (ELW p. 855)  Crown Him with Many Crowns

GREETING

Beloved of God, called to be saints: Grace, mercy, and peace be with you all.
And also with you.
KYRIE

Señor, Señor, ten piedad; ten piedad de nosotros.
Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy.

Señor, Señor, ten piedad; ten piedad de nosotros.
Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy.

Cristo, Cristo, ten piedad; ten piedad de nosotros.
Christ, have mercy on us; O Christ, have mercy.

Señor, Señor, ten piedad; ten piedad de nosotros.
Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy.

Señor, Señor, ten piedad; ten piedad de nosotros.
Lord, have mercy on us; O Lord, have mercy.
CANTICLE OF PRAISE

Let us pray. 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, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

The assembly is seated

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Oremos. Oh Dios, nuestra verdadera vida, servirte es libertad, y conocerte es un gozo sin fin. Te adoramos, te glorificamos, te damos gracias por tu gran gloria. Permanezcan con nosotros, reinen en nosotros y conviertan este mundo en una morada adecuada para su divina majestad, por medio de Jesucristo, nuestro Salvador y Señor, que vive y reina con ustedes y con el Espíritu Santo, un solo Dios, ahora y para siempre. Amén.
**Word**

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.

**FIRST READING: Jeremiah 23:1-6**

*Today's reading builds on the common ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah’s unjust rulers have caused their people, their “flock,” to be scattered. Nevertheless, the Lord will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.*

1 Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. 2 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. 3 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. 4 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.

5 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. 6 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.”

Word of God, word of life.  
**Thanks be to God.**

**RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 46**

*R: I will be exalted among the nations.*

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 shake in the depths of the sea; 3 though its waters rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble with its tumult. 4 There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God, the holy habitation of the Most High. 5 God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken; God shall help it at the break of day. 6 The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth melts away. R 7 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. 8 Come now, regard the works of the Lord, what desolations God has brought upon the earth; 9 behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire. 10 Be still, then, and know that I am God; I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth.” 11 The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our stronghold. R
SECOND READING:  Colossians 1:11-20

An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal, and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is eternally reigning with God.

11 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 12 giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. 13 He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, 14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; 16 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. 17 He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. 18 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. 19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, 20 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.

Word of God, word of life.
Thanks be to God.

The assembly stands

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION


Glory to You, O, Lord.
Amid scoffing and slander from those who sarcastically call him Messiah and king, Jesus reveals that to be Messiah and king is to give one’s life for others. Here he uses his power to welcome a despised sinner to paradise but puts his own death into God’s hands.

33When 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.” 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.”

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.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to You, O Christ.

SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY (ELW p. 838) Beautiful Savior

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United with the saints of every time and place, let us pray for the church, those in need, and all of God’s creation.

The assembly shall kneel, as they are able

God, our shepherd who rules with righteousness, empower and enliven the shepherds and Synods of your church, especially our Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton, Bishop Sue Briner, the Lower Susquehanna Synod, the Southwestern Texas Synod and House of Prayer Lutheran Church in San Antonio, TX, in their mission to share in the inheritance of the saints and to proclaim the message of Christ’s reconciling work for all peoples, creatures, things on earth and in heaven above. Hear us, O God. Your Mercy is great.

God, you are our righteousness. Fill us with the hope of steadfast love and shine light on places that were invisible to us, so that we see your kingdom made visible on earth. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

God, your reign extends from the black holes of the universe to a single grain of sand. Guide us to sustain and restore all of your creation, and to live in peace with this planet. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

God, you are exalted among nations. Protect the people in countries ravaged by violence, warfare, and hatred, and raise up wise and generous leaders to find their strength in you. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

God, you are our help in times of trouble. Like a shepherd who guards the sheep, watch over your flock: those who are sick and hurting in body, mind, or spirit, those who are mocked, and those who are lonely, especially Suzanne, Diane, Shane, Norma, Linda, Jack, Raymond, Mary Louise, Steve, Khloe, Krys & Jamie, Elfren, Moma, Jimmy, Erna Mae, Alejandra, Carly, Meredene, Jerry, Kyle, Cody, and Norma, as well as those that we name out loud or in our hearts... Guard and keep them in your loving care. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

God, you call us forth from this place to lives of service. Equip the outreach ministries of St. Paul’s Squared, St. Paul’s Lutheran Church in Karnes City and St. Paul Lutheran Church in Nordheim. Use our hands and feet, sharing Christ’s love with neighbors in need. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Almighty God, the beginning and the end, prepare and make your people ready to share in the inheritance of the saints. In thanksgiving, we remember those who have gone before us and their witness to the redemption that is in your son. Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.

Rejoicing in hope, we lift our prayers to you, most gracious Lord, trusting that you have received them in your care. Amen.

PEACE

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

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need.

(ELW p. 465) As the Grains of Wheat

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray. God our creator, you give us all we are, all we have, all we bring, and all we need. Draw us together around your table with all your saints on earth and in your eternal home. Let us eat and drink your promise of new life, that we might be your promise to the world, spoken in Jesus’ name.

Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

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:
Santo, santo, santo es el Señor,
Dios del universo; santo es el Señor.
San-to, san-to, san-to, san-to es el Señor,
Dios del universo; santo es el Señor.
Ho-ly, ho-ly, ho-ly Lord... God,
Ho-ly is the Lord.
Hosanna en el cielo, hosanna en la tierra.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna here on earth...
THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God,
    our Bread of life, our Table, and our Food,
you created a world in which all might be satisfied by your abundance.
You dined with Abraham and Sarah, promising them life,
    and fed your people Israel with manna from heaven.
You sent your Son to eat with sinners
    and to become food for the world.
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.
Remembering, therefore,
    his life given for us
    and his rising from the grave,
we await his coming again to share with us the everlasting feast.
By your Spirit nurture and sustain us with this meal:
    strengthen us to serve all in hunger and want,
    and by this bread and cup make of us the body of your Son.
Through him all glory and honor is yours,
    Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,
in your holy Church,
both now and forever.

Amen

LORD’S PRAYER

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

    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

God keeps adding places to the table. Come to the banquet that has no end!

assembly is seated. The

COMMUNION SONG

This meal gives you strength for your journey of faith & life. Go forward as the body of Christ in your family, community and the world. Children or anyone choosing not to commune, but wishing to be blessed, may indicate this by folding their arms across their chest. Anyone who is unable to come forward may indicate to an usher that you wish to receive communion where you are seated.
TABLE BLESSING

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We thank you, God our host,
for inviting us here to taste the future
when you will feed all the hungry at your table.
Keep this hope alive in us and in our communities,
so that we might bring hope to a suffering world,
in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Sending

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

Signed and sealed by the Holy Spirit,
you are Christ’s message of love for this troubled world,
written by the same Sender.
May our Lord Jesus Christ and God our Father,
who loved us and through grace gave us
eternal comfort and good hope,
++ comfort your hearts and strengthen them
in every good work and word.

Amen.

SENDING SONG (ELW p. 634) All Hail the Power of Jesus Name!

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Set your hope on Christ.
Thanks be to God.

DOXOLOGY (ELW p. 884) Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow
For Prayerful Consideration

**Ill, Injured or Otherwise Struggling:** Suzanne Dietzel, Diane Dziuk, Shane Edens, Norma Foreman, Linda Henning, Jack Hockey, Evelyn Hoffman, Raymond Jenkins, Mary Louise Jonas, Steve Kelly, Frances Kempe, Khloe Martinez, Krys & Jamie Michael, Elfren Moczygemba, Jimmy Moore, Moma Ndeh, Alejandra, Carly Rosenboon, Meredene Shockome, Casey Stagg, Jerry Vajdos, Cody Zaiontz, and Norma Zamzow

**For those in the military:** Nick Adams, Anthony Alvarez, Allen Bowles, Justin Chandler, Justin Elkins, Rodney Foreman, Jamaica Goodhue, Jacob Jones, Felipe Leal, Jr., Garrett Peterson, Jon Wayne Schulz, James Skinner, Chris Sustaita, Kassie Thompson, John Vasquez, and Delmiro Villanueva

**Anniversary & Birthdays:** Arthur & Patsy Yanta (Nov 25), Dorothy Gross, Andrew Witte, Ricky Witte (Nov 28)

Welcome!

We have all come to St. Paul’s by different paths, and from various walks of life. Through worship, study, prayer and fellowship we each seek to deepen our faith, comfort and encourage one another and dedicate our lives more fully to sharing Christ in our homes, our community and the world. All are welcome at St. Paul’s. We are eager to know you, and we invite you to get to know us. **If you are unable to hear, require a bulletin, or need any other assistance,** please signal an usher.

Announcements

Opportunities to Learn, Worship, Pray, and Serve

**Deck The Halls!**

TODAY, immediately following the Worship Service, we’ll join together as a congregation... younger and older, folks of all shapes and sizes... and decorate the church for Christmas!

Many hands make light the load...working together, we can transform the sanctuary in about 1 hour or less.

**Quilting**

The Quilting Group meets each Tuesday at 9:30 a.m. All are Welcome!
Thanksgiving Service
A Community Worship Celebration for Karnes County

Tuesday, Nov. 26, 2019
7 PM
at
Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
590 St. Hwy.72 West Kenedy, TX 78119
(830)583-2285

Join us as we gather together to give thanks and praise to God this Thanksgiving Season.

All in Karnes County are welcome to come and participate in this service.
The offering will go to support the Karnes County Christian Thrift Center
A dessert reception will follow the service.
REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

Please leave your contributions in the red tub located in the Narthex. All donations will be delivered to the San Antonio Food Bank.

December 1 - box of cereal
December 2 - peanut butter
December 3 - stuffing mix
December 4 - boxed potatoes
December 5 - macaroni and cheese
December 6 - canned fruit
December 7 - canned tomatoes
December 8 - canned tuna
December 9 - dessert mix
December 10 - jar of applesauce
December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
December 12 - cranberry sauce
December 13 - canned beans
December 14 - box of crackers
December 15 - package of rice
December 16 - package of oatmeal
December 17 - package pasta
December 18 - spaghetti sauce
December 19 - chicken noodle soup
December 20 - tomato soup
December 21 - can corn
December 22 - can mixed vegetables
December 23 - can carrots
December 24 - can green beans

PASSIONATEPENNYPINCHER.COM
CHRISTMAS VESPERS 2019: ALL EARTH IS HOPEFUL

Titled “All Earth is Hopeful,” this year's Vespers service of word and music will feature the TLU Choir, TLU Treble Choir, Kantorei Chamber Choir, and the TLU Symphonic Winds and Percussion. This year's program is a reminder of Advent as a time of quiet reflection, prayerful waiting, and hopeful anticipation of the birth of Christ. San Antonio actress, Sam Carter Gilliam, will perform short monologues between the musical numbers which weave a story and lend context to the music being performed.

Christmas Vespers will be held in TLU's Jackson Auditorium at 7:30 p.m. Friday, Dec. 6; 7:30 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 7; and 4 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 8. Tickets for each Vespers service are free but required.

SERVICE SCHEDULE

- Friday, Dec. 6, at 7:30 p.m. in Jackson Auditorium
- Saturday, Dec. 7, at 7:30 p.m. in Jackson Auditorium
- Sunday, Dec. 8, at 4 p.m. in Jackson Auditorium
- Sunday, Dec. 15, at 4 p.m. at St. Martin's Lutheran Church, Austin (no tickets required)

TICKET RESERVATION

Tickets will be available for reservation online and in the TLU Bookstore beginning Nov. 1. All Vespers services at TLU are free and open to the public, but tickets are required due to limited seating. vespers@tlu.edu