

**Christ the King Sunday**  
The last Sunday of the Church Year  
**November 24, 2024**

The glorious  
and gentle  
rule  
of  
Jesus



*Le Mars, Iowa*

**[www.livingfaithlemars.com](http://www.livingfaithlemars.com)**

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

***Worship together at 11:00 a.m.***



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## We gather for worship

**Welcome**

**Announcements**

**Hymn #870** *"We Praise You, O God!"*

### Confession and Forgiveness

*All may make the sign of the cross,  
the sign that is marked at baptism.*

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✚ one God,  
our refuge,  
our delight,  
our Alpha and Omega – our beginning and 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.*

Gracious God of 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.**

### **Prayer of the Day**

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.**

We pray together:

**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.**

**Hymn #614** *“There is a Balm in Gilead”*

### **We hear God’s Word for Us**

First Reading: Isaiah 9:2-8

*This poem promises deliverance from Assyrian oppression, a hope based on the birth of a royal child with a name full of promise. While Judah’s king will practice justice and righteousness, the real basis for faith lies in God’s passion for the people: The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this!*

<sup>2</sup>The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined. <sup>3</sup>You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. <sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. <sup>5</sup>For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. <sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. <sup>7</sup>His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his

kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the LORD of hosts will do this.

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Second Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8**

*The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.*

<sup>4b</sup> 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, <sup>5</sup> 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, <sup>6</sup> and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

<sup>7</sup> Look! 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.

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

Word of God. Word of Life.

**Thanks be to God.**

### **Holy Gospel: John 18:33-37**

The Holy Gospel according to John, the 18<sup>th</sup> chapter

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

*In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.*

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

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**Sermon**

### **We respond to the good news**

Hymn # 838 “*Beautiful Savior*”

Nicene Creed - page 104

Prayers / **Sharing words of Peace**

**Offering**

Thank you for your generosity today. Thank you, also, to those who share offerings through direct deposit.

### **Welcome to God’s Table**

Holy Communion

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.

....let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

Lord’s Prayer / Communion

Blessing

Prayer

Let us together pray:

**We give you thanks, almighty God,  
that you have refreshed us through  
the healing power of this gift of life.  
In your mercy, strengthen us –  
that our living faith may bring peace and hope  
to all the world. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### **We go into God's world**

#### **Benediction**

**Sending Song #439** *“Soon and Very Soon”*

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### **ANNOUNCEMENTS, EVENTS, AND PRAYERS**

**IT'S NOISY OFFERING SUNDAY!** Throw your spare change into the box located on the sign-up table!

**Le Mars Backpack Snack Packers....** Thank you to those who volunteered to help this past Wednesday!

**Time to Deck the Halls!** Stay after service today to help decorate LFL's Christmas tree in the PUCC narthex and to put up the tree and wreaths in the Chapel!

#### **Upcoming Events:**

##### **Decorate the Living Faith Tree at Pioneer Village**

Living Faith volunteers will be decorating our tree in Century Hall at the Plymouth County Fairgrounds at 6:00 on Tuesday, November 26! You're welcome to come out and help beautify our tree!

##### **Living Faith Lutheran/PUCC Cereal Drive Nov. 24 – Dec. 8**

We are collecting boxes (not bags) of cereal to help stock up the cereal supply for the Le Mars Backpack Program. We will be collecting boxes under our Christmas tree in the narthex through December 8.

*Continued, next page:*

**Christmas Caroling 3 PM on December 15 with the PUCC!**

Sign up to bring some Christmas joy to those who can't get out. Soup Supper to follow!

**Please hold the following in prayer:**

Ali

Marilynn

Gladys

Charlie Sue

Nick

Karin

Our nation

The Living Faith brother or sister you're praying for



**Check out Living Faith Lutheran's  
Weekly News & Events Page on our website for more  
information, announcements, and activities!**

<https://www.livingfaithlemars.com/blog>