

PRAYER SERVICE
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22
CHRIST THE KING



ANNOUNCEMENTS

God loves you all the time
And all the time God loves you.

HYMN

Crown Him With Many Crowns

ELW 855



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 its own.
whose arm those crim-son tro - phies won which now his brow a - dorn;
rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied.
and rose vic - to - rious in the strife for those he came to save.
cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - cf - fab - ly sub - lime.



A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
fruit of the mys - tic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
No an - gels in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
His glo - ries now we sing, who died and rose on high,
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;



and hail him as thy match-less king through all 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 and glo - ry shall not fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ✙ one God,
in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved. **Amen.**

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy One,
we confess that we are not awake for you.
We are not faithful in using your gifts.
We forget the least of our siblings.
We do not see your beautiful image in one another.
We are infected by sin
that divides your beloved community.
Open our hearts to your coming,
open our eyes to see you in our neighbor,
open our hands to serve your creation. Amen.
Beloved, we are God's children,
and Jesus, our Beloved, opens the door to us.
Through ✙ Jesus you are forgiven,
by Jesus you are welcome,
in Jesus you are called to rejoice!
Let us live in the promises prepared for us
from the foundation of the world.
Amen.

OPENING DIALOGUE

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O God of power and might, your Son shows us the way of service, and in him we inherit the riches of your grace. Give us the wisdom to know what is right and the strength to serve the world you have made, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

FIRST READING Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

¹¹Thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. ¹²As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. ¹⁴I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. ¹⁶I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

²⁰Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. ²¹Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, ²²I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

²³I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. ²⁴And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 95: 1-7a

¹Come, let us sing to the LORD;

let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.

**²Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD with psalms.**

³For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.

**⁴In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.**

⁵The sea is yours, for you made it,
and your hands have molded the dry land.

**⁶Come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the LORD our maker.**

^{7a}For the LORD is our God,
and we are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand.

SECOND READING: Ephesians 1:15-23

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

The holy gospel of Matthew beginning at the 25th chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,

naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.'

⁴⁴Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' ⁴⁵Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

THE MESSAGE

PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be with you always

And also with you.

APOSTLES' 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 into hell.

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

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Sovereign of all, train our ears to hear your cry in the needs of those around us. Bless all social ministries of the church through which we seek to serve others as we ourselves have been served.

You cause rain to fall on the just and unjust alike. Direct our use of creation to provide for the needs of all people in ways that are sustainable for the earth.

Bring peace to every place where conflict rages (*especially*). Grant opportunities for ending divisions among us and usher in your reign of unity and reconciliation.

Heal the sinful divisions we erect between us and release us from systems of oppression and prejudice. Restore our capacity to see your image in those whose dignity we have stripped away (*especially*).

Pour out the gifts of your Spirit on children and youth throughout the church. Sustain those who work in children's ministry, youth ministry, and campus ministry as they nurture the gifts of young people.

Here other intercessions may be offered.

Thank you for saints now departed who fed the hungry, clothed the naked, and tended to the sick. Inspire us by their example, that we may see your presence in those in need around us.

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

BLESSING

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made, who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service, give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

The blessing of God,
Sovereign ,✝ Savior, and Spirit,
be with you today and always.

Amen.

DISMISSAL

Beloved of God,
go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

HYMN

So Will I (100 Billion X)

Hillsong Music

Jordan Irazabal

Pastor Tara Magoon

Please enjoy this musical offering!

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY
Prayers of the Faithful for Week of November 22

TODAY we pray for:

Pat Kizuka
Carl Hewlett
Polly Gillis
Family & friends of Dorothy Hammond as they mourn her death
Allen Whitley
Kathy Long
Louise Ench
Christina
Stacy Dambaugh, Tim Dambaugh & family
Gener Ernst
Sue, friend of JoAnne Deaton
Roger Camp
Krisida Alberto
Diane Kiefer daughter of Margie Betley
Barbara Hewlett, daughter-in-law of Kathy Long
Russ & Joan Snyder
- all in our hearts and minds today.

WE CONTINUE TO PRAY FOR:

Scott, Chris, Denise, Clare Benz and Lynda Martinez, Barbara Lynn Grabher; daughter in law of Erika and Ed Burke, Kyle, Bill Smith; step-father of Rebecca Koreck, Lena, Leslie, friend of Diane Teig, Jack Baskow, Claudia and Geof Bromfield, Connie and family, Scott & Lia Wycoff, The Fenner family, John Worrell—brother in law of Bill Baur, Mike Goyda, Lis Verbeck, Lois Snyder

David & Angie Wasgatt, John Deaton, Joan Sandstorm, Delores Sipe, Doug Price, John Maurer, Bob Waller, Kent Hardel, Gretchen Platz, Ellen Hall, Nanci Hunsinger, Betty Magoon, Claire Schoening, Tyler, Bill Howerin, Marcia Burton, Gina Clay

For our bishops; Elizabeth Eaton, Bill Gohl
For the Dean of the Delmarva Conference; Barbara Melosh
For our staff; Pastor Tara, Susan Allen, Jordan Irazabal, Louis Jones
For leaders & congregations of the Delmarva Conference;
For all pastors and church leaders
For our country; the United States, leaders and citizens.
For all of our global neighbors, stricken by the corvid-19 virus.

**To request a prayer, or update prayers, please call the church office (302-239-6481)
or email office@glcde.org.**

Prayer of Hope During this Pandemic We are frightened, God. Worried for our loved ones, worried for our world. Helpless and confused, we turn to YOU seeking comfort, faith and hope. Teach us God, to turn our panic into patience. And our fear into acts of kindness and support. Our strong must watch out for our weak, our young must take care of our old. Help each one of us to do our part to halt the spread of this virus. Send strength and courage to the caregivers on the front lines of this battle, fortify them with the full force of their healing powers. Send wisdom and insight to the scientists working day and night across the world to discover healing treatments. Bless their efforts, God. Fill our leaders with the wisdom and the courage to choose wisely and act quickly. Help us, God to the see that we are one world, one people who will rise above this pandemic together. Send us health God, watch over us, grace us with your love, bless us with your healing light. Hear us God, Heal us God. Amen. Rabbi Naomi Levy

Announcements for November 22

Opportunities to give back this season

There are so many opportunities to share of ourselves and our resources and information on these opportunities are in this newsletter but we wanted to share it in a condensed format so that you can look for where your interests and passions lie:

- **Family Promise** feeding families currently housed elsewhere the week of Thanksgiving. (middle page 10)
- **Hilltop Thanksgiving baskets**—donations due at Grace on Sunday, November 22nd. (top page 10)
- **Hilltop Christmas gifts**—tradition at Grace for many years—shopping for children of Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood ministry (bottom page 11)
- **Mosaic** is the ministry partner for Rejoicing Spirits. This year, the annual drive for gifts and toiletries for Mosaic home residents in a sponsorship of gifts organized by Mosaic. (top page 12)
- **Alternative Gift Market** reach out to any of the sponsored ministries—internationally and locally—through AGM (top page 11)
- **Drive Thru Live Nativity**—we are working on a tentative plan for a socially distanced live nativity. If you would like to be a part of this ministry opportunity, please contact Pastor Tara.

Drive Thru Communion, Sunday November 29

I know that it has been a long time without the opportunity to feel the connection of Holy Communion with one another. On Sunday, November 29th (that's right after Thanksgiving) from 10 AM to 12 noon. Grace will have the opportunity to come and receive communion in their vehicles. The gluten free bread and wine/grape juice are pre-packaged and will be consecrated at worship and distributed by me to people as they drive up in their cars. All are welcome, no reservations required. The Lord bless you and keep you. In Christ, Pastor Tara

COFFEE & CONNECT starts at 10:00am on Zoom

Join Zoom

Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89184540007?
pwd=VW5Vb25JanJNdjdRK2hkRnZQZVpKdz09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89184540007?pwd=VW5Vb25JanJNdjdRK2hkRnZQZVpKdz09)

Use the following:

Meeting ID: 891 8454 0007

Password: Connect

by Phone: Dial 1-929-205-6099 or 1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 891 8454 0007

Password: 5655226

Please mute or unmute your phone by toggling #6



Due NOVEMBER 22

Thanksgiving Baskets



Thanksgiving Food for the families of Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center

Grace is collecting food to fill Thanksgiving Day food boxes for needy families in Wilmington that are served by the Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center.

Items needed:

Turkeys (frozen) ♦ Instant mashed potatoes ♦ stuffing mix ♦ canned green beans
canned corn ♦ canned sweet potatoes ♦ canned cranberry sauce
♦ brown or white rice ♦ canned or jarred gravy ♦ dinner rolls
♦ pie crust/filling or non-perishable desserts
♦ canned fruit ♦ seasoning (something that could be used for the holiday meal)

Non perishable items can be brought in anytime before or on November 22nd.

Look for the boxes in the **LIBRARY** for food. **Turkeys must be brought in on November 22nd.**

ALL items should be at Grace by 10:00am on the 22nd.

The food is boxed up and taken directly to Hilltop that morning.

Thank you for your support of this ministry! Questions?? Amy Zunino at aizunino@msn.com or 302-234-2549

GRACE HOSTING FAMILY PROMISE NOVEMBER 22-29th

Hosting the families during these times has a very different look. We will need cooks to supply dinners, donations toward ordering Thanksgiving dinners from Bachetti Brothers and lunch supplies, etc.

Anyone who can supply a meal, please contact me at 610-274-2135. I will, at that time, give you the needed details.

Mary Howle

Greeting Mosaic Friends!

Due to the global pandemic, we will be changing up our Holiday Angels and Toiletry Drive program in order to keep everyone safe including donors, volunteers, staff and the people we support. With this in mind, instead of adopting individuals for Christmas this year and getting items from a wish list, Mosaic will be ordering the gifts for each of the people we love and support. The gifts will be delivered safely by "Santa" to each of the homes.

Each person we support will be getting a Mosaic Tote Bag filled with wonderful goodies that are sure to keep them warm and toasty through the holiday and winter months. Each bag will cost \$25.

We have several ways for you to stay involved this year as a **Holiday Angel**:

1. **Sponsor** one or more people, by making your online donation of \$25 or more by using a credit card online at this link (<https://www.mosaicinfo.org/donate/>). Be sure to type DELAWARE CHRISTMAS in the comment box and select Delaware as the agency of choice OR if you would like to write a check please make the check payable to "Mosaic" and write "Christmas" in the memo line. The check can be mailed to Mosaic. Attn/ Angi McCloskey, 261 Chapman Road/ Stockton Suite 201, Newark DE 19702.
2. **Donate a gift card** in the amount of \$10 to one of the following restaurants; WaWa, Chick-Fil-A, Royal Farms, Friendly's, Red Robin, Boston Market, 7-Eleven, McDonalds, Seasons Pizza or Pat's. Gift cards can be mailed to Angi McCloskey at address above.

Deadline for donations is Saturday, December 12. Any Questions, please contact Angi at 302-379-5913 (cell) or angela.mccloskey@mosaicinfo.org.

What is an Alternative Gift?

It's a more meaningful way to celebrate an occasion. So, this Christmas, instead of giving Uncle Harry a gadget, plant a tree or provide a book or a meal to honor his and Christ's birthday!

GRACE HAS A MANY OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO GIVE ONE

Shop using our local market shopping list or our list from Alternative Gifts International.

When we receive your order, we will give you cards for your gifts and inserts describing the program you are giving.

(Additional information about the Alternative Gifts International programs can be found by going to the website alternativegifts.org. Click on or touch GIFTING. There you can read about their causes.)

Fill it out the form (s) with the gifts you want to give. Write the number of cards and inserts you would like to receive. If you don't have a form, contact Nancy Goyda (number below).

Make a check out to Grace Lutheran Church with AGM in the memo line for the amount of the gifts. If you are using both lists, one check for the total amount will be fine.

Mail the list(s) and check to Grace Lutheran Church, 2033 Graves Road, Hockessin, DE 19707

Attention: Nancy Goyda

Once your order is received, you will be contacted about delivery options. Please include your email address, if you have one, to make contact easier.

ALL ORDERS MUST BE RECEIVED BY DECEMBER 13

Questions: Contact Nancy Goyda Phone: 302-235-7112

Email: ngoyda@comcast.net

The Need is Great

"Christmas won't quite be the same this year." There's the understatement of the year! With COVID cases still on the rise, causing limits on family gatherings, and unemployment at levels not seen in over a decade, Christmas will be tough for many families this year. The hardship is especially troublesome in the Hilltop area of Wilmington where the economy is always tough. However, there is hope. The Hilltop Lutheran Neighborhood Center is once again collecting Christmas gifts for some of the needy children who attend the Center. What's unusual is the number of requested gifts is a bit higher than normal. So we who have been blessed with so much are being asked to dig a little deeper this year and see if we can't help where help is needed so much.



Of the 135 children for whom Hilltop is providing gifts, Grace has volunteered to supply gifts for 20 children. That translates to 40 gifts – clothing items and a play item for each child.

Instead of a chart in the Narthex, as in previous years, with the names of children and the gifts they request, we will be using an electronic method. Please review the list and sign up to purchase new items, wrap them, place the name of the child on the gift, and bring it to church on or before **Sunday, December 20**.

There will be a bin marked for Hilltop Christmas gift donations in the library across from the Church Office.

Many thanks in advance for your generosity.

Questions: Jane Foskett, jandifoskett@aol.com, 302-239-4311

Grace Gathering Task Force Update

“And we know that in all things God works for the good of those who love him, who have been called according to his purpose.” Romans 8:28

Our Grace Gathering Task Force has been hard at work on behalf of our congregation. We closely follow the surrounding areas of Grace for updates and projections as COVID cases are again rising substantially in our area. For our purposes, we have agreed to concentrate on statistical data provided by New Castle County.

In-person worship services have been our most urgent focus and our team has developed the following metric, or guidelines, for decisions now and in the future. Again, these are based on New Castle County Statistics, but are also mirrored by our neighboring states.

- Our team is monitoring the percentage of Covid TESTS that are positive. When that percentage is greater than 5%, we will suspend in-person worship and other indoor meetings/activities held at Grace.
- Resuming in-person worship will be considered once that percentage has dropped BELOW 5% for three successive weeks.

As New Castle County’s positive testing is above 5% as of our meeting 11/18/20, we will suspend all in-person worship for at least the next few weeks—we will continue to monitor this percentage weekly. Again, when this rate continues to decrease for three weeks in a row, we will convene to discuss re-gathering again.

The website used to assess this metric is

https://myhealthycommunity.dhss.delaware.gov/locations/county-new-castle/days_to_show/14/primary_trend_type/bar#overview_trends.

Virtual services will continue for the foreseeable future.

“But blessed is the one who trusts in the Lord, whose confidence is in Him.” Jeremiah 17:7

Please pray for our Team, our church, our community, and our world for His peace that passes all understanding as we continue to trust our Sovereign Lord.

Carol Johnson