# APOSTLES LUTHERAII CHURCH

7092 Main Street, Gloucester, VA 23061 | 804-693-9098 | www.apostles-elca.org



## Christ the King SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 20, 2022 | 10:00 AM

Our Mission is to be a Caring Inclusive Christian Community responding to God's grace through Worship, Service, and Sharing the Gospel.





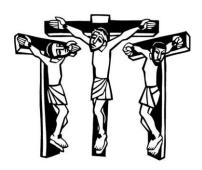
#### **WELCOME TO APOSTLES LUTHERAN CHURCH!**

It is an honor to worship God with you this morning. We pray you experience the loving presence of the Spirit as we share our words, our actions, and the Holy Meal. If you are worshipping with us for the first time, please fill out a card in the pew rack with your contact information. A restroom can be found by exiting the rear door of the worship space. It is directly in front of you to the right. Additional restrooms can be found in the back corner of the fellowship area, near the Pastor's office.

#### RECONCILING in CHRIST

We, the people of Apostles Lutheran Church, follow Paul's message to the Galatians (3:28): "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus." Believing that because we are all one in Christ, and created in God's image, all are welcome as beloved children of God. We welcome into the full life of the church all those whom God sends us. Rejoicing in God's amazing diversity, we welcome people of all ages, races, gender identities, sexual orientations, and physical and mental abilities. Centered in Christ, we commit ourselves to breaking down dividing walls and building a community where all are beloved.

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 utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.



#### **GATHERING**

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

#### PRELUDE AND SILENT PRAYER

Martin Luther said of music: "Next to the Word of God, the noble art of music is the greatest treasure in the world." Please take a moment to **silence all cell phones.** 

#### **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Please rise in body or in spirit. All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at baptism.

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity,  $\pm$  one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

#### Amen

Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

#### Amen

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of  $\pm$  Jesus

Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

#### Amen

#### **GATHERING HYMN**

#### **ELW #855**

#### "Crown Him with Many Crowns

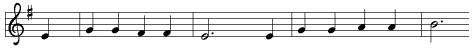


#### **APOSTOLIC GREETING**

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.

#### **K**YRIE



- 1 Have mer-cy on us, Lord, and hear our sol-emn prayer.
- 2 Have mer-cy on us, Christ, and wash a way our sin.
- 3 Have mer-cy on us, Lord; make sin and shame de part.



We come to hear your liv-ing word; it saves us from de-spair.

Pour out your grace and make us whole that new life may be-gin.

Re-new us with your sav-ing pow'r; cre-ate in us new hearts!

#### **CANTICLE OF PRAISE**



- 1 Gio-ry be to God in neav-en; peace, good-will to all the earth
- 2 Glo-ry be to Christ for ev er, Lamb of God and Lord of love.
- 3 Ho-ly One we now ac-claim you; Lord a lone, to you we call;



Might-y God of all cre - a - tion, Fa - ther of sur - pass - ing worth: Son of God and gra - cious Sav - ior, you have come from heav'n a - bove; Ho - ly One in faith we name you, God most high, yet near to all:



we ex - alt you, we a - dore you, we lift high our thanks and praise. on the cross you died to save us; now you reign at God's right hand. Je - sus Christ, with God the Spir - it, in the Fa - ther's splen - dor bright.



Saints and an - gels bow be - fore you; here on earth our songs we raise. Hear our prayer; re - store, for - give us; in your prom-ise firm we stand. For the peace that we in - her - it, glo - ry be to God on high!

#### **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

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

#### **WORD**

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

Sit

#### **FIRST LESSON**

**JEREMIAH 23:1-6** 

Coming of the shepherd and righteous Branch who will execute justice

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, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.

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

<sup>5</sup>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. <sup>6</sup>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."

Response after the First Lesson Word of the Spirit, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 46

I will be exalted among the nations. (Ps. 46:10)

<sup>1</sup>God is our ref- <sup>|</sup> uge and strength, a very present <sup>|</sup> help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup>Therefore we will not fear, though the | earth be moved, and though the mountains shake in the depths | of the sea;

<sup>3</sup>though its waters <sup>|</sup> rage and foam, and though the mountains tremble <sup>|</sup> with its tumult.

<sup>4</sup>There is a river whose streams make glad the cit- | y of God, the holy habitation of | the Most High.

<sup>5</sup>God is in the midst of the city; it shall <sup>1</sup> not be shaken; God shall help it at the <sup>1</sup> break of day.

<sup>6</sup>The nations rage, and the | kingdoms shake; God speaks, and the earth | melts away. R

<sup>7</sup>The Lord of <sup>|</sup> hosts is with us; the God of Jacob <sup>|</sup> is our stronghold.

8Come now, regard the works | of the Lord, what desolations God has brought up- | on the earth;

<sup>9</sup>behold the one who makes war to cease in <sup>1</sup> all the world; who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the <sup>1</sup> shields with fire.

<sup>10</sup>"Be still, then, and know that <sup>|</sup> I am God;

I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted | in the earth."

<sup>11</sup>The Lord of <sup>|</sup> hosts is with us; the God of Jacob <sup>|</sup> is our stronghold. **R**  Hymn to Christ, firstborn of all creation; peace through his blood

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.

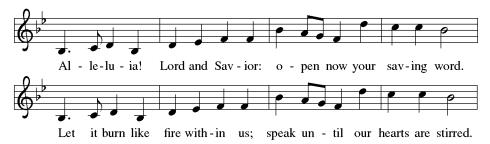
<sup>11</sup>May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully <sup>12</sup>giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup>He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, <sup>14</sup>in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

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

Response after the Second Lesson Word of the Spirit, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

#### **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**





Please rise in body or in spirit. The gospel is announced.

The Holy Gospel according to Luke, the 23<sup>rd</sup> Chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL LUKE 23:33-43

Jesus is crucified between two thieves: you will be with me in Paradise

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.

<sup>33</sup>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. <sup>34</sup>[Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing."] And they cast lots to divide his clothing. <sup>35</sup>And 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!" <sup>36</sup>The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, <sup>37</sup>and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" <sup>38</sup>There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

<sup>39</sup>One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" <sup>40</sup>But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? <sup>41</sup>And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." <sup>42</sup>Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom." <sup>43</sup>He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise."

The gospel concludes:

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

#### **SERMON**

#### **DR. PETE LILJEBERG**

Silence is kept after the reflection.

#### **HYMN OF THE DAY**

**ELW #838** 

"Beautiful Savior"



Text: Gesangbuch, Münster, 1677; tr. Joseph A. Seiss, 1823–1904 Music: SCHÖNSTER HERR JESU, Silesian folk tune, 19th cent. Please rise in body or in spirit

#### **APOSTLES' CREED**

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

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**

Trusting in the One who made us, dwells in us, and calls us to life, we pray for the world, the church, and all in need ...

Each portion of the prayers ends with these words: God of grace,

hear our prayer.

Into your hands, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your unlimited capacity for love and mercy, through your grace.

Amen.

#### **SHARING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

We share a distanced sign of Peace with our neighbors saying

Peace be with you to which we respond And also with you.

#### **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

Sit

#### **OFFERING**

An offering is gathered for the mission of the church, including the care of those in need. To give online:

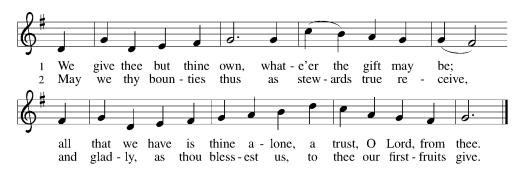
- + Visit <u>apostles-elca.org/contributions</u>
- $\pm$  From your mobile phone, text the word GIVE to 844-215-5453

Please rise in body or in spirit

#### **CANTICLE OF THANKSGIVING**

**ELW #686** 

"We Give Thee but Thine Own"



Text: William W. How. 1823-1897, alt.

Music: HEATH, L. Mason and G. Webb, Cantica Lauda, 1850

Please rise in body or in spirit

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

Blessed are you, Maker of all things. As you have entrusted us with all that you have created, now gather our gifts, nourish us with this sacrament, and send us to those who hunger and thirst, for the sake of Jesus Christ our Savior.

Amen.

#### **GREAT THANKSGIVING**

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

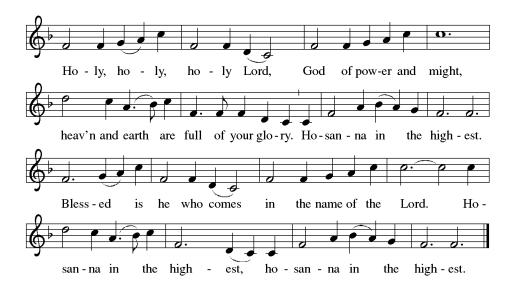
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### **PREFACE**

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:



You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God. You are most holy, and great is the majesty of your glory.

You so loved the world that you gave your only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but have eternal life.

We give you thanks for his coming into the world to fulfill for us your holy will and to accomplish all things for our salvation.

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.

For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.



Remembering, therefore, his salutary command, his life-giving passion and death, his glorious resurrection and ascension, and the promise of his coming again, we give thanks to you, O Lord God Almighty, not as we ought but as we are able; we ask you mercifully to accept our praise and thanksgiving and with your Word and Holy Spirit to bless us, your servants, and these your own gifts of bread and wine, so that we and all who share in the body and blood of Christ may be filled with heavenly blessing and grace, and, receiving the forgiveness of sin, may be formed to live as your holy people and be given our inheritance with all your saints.

To you, O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever.



#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Lord, remember us in your kingdom and teach us to pray.

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**

Christ spreads a table before you. Gather here with all the saints.

Sit

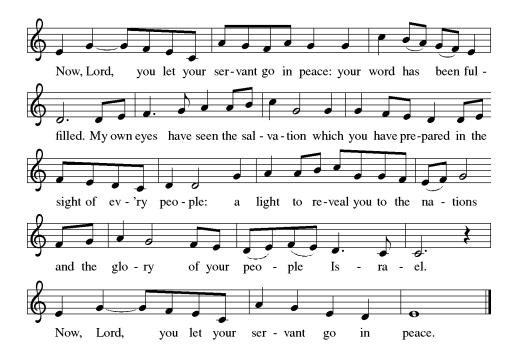
#### **COMMUNION**

All are invited to join us at the Lord's table to receive the presence of Jesus through the bread and wine. Jesus himself invites you and Jesus turns no one away. You will be invited to come forward to receive the elements. Holy Communion are the gifts of God for the people of God.

#### **LAMB OF GOD**



After all have returned to their places, the assembly stands.



#### **PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

We give you thanks, most gracious God, that you have fed us with the bread of heaven and given us a foretaste of Paradise. Enliven us to be your body in the world and to serve those who are in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

#### **SENDING**

God blesses us and sends us in mission back into the world.

#### **BLESSING**

The God of peace, who creates all things and calls them good, who makes us alive in lesus, and who breathes on us the Spirit of hope, + bless you now and forever.

Amen.

SENDING HYMN ELW #537

#### "On Our Way Rejoicing"



#### **DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Be a blessing in the world.

#### Thanks be to God!

#### **POSTLUDE**

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#### **WORSHIP LEADERS**

	Serving Today	Serving Next Week
Worship Leader/Preacher	Pete Liljeberg	Pastor Jay Serafin
Presiding Minister	Pastor Jay Serafin	Pastor Jay Serafin
Accompanist	Janet Gomez	Janet Gomez
Acolyte	Jade Hawkins Chase Ambrose	
Greeter/Usher	Betsy Liljeberg Jenny Hawkins	
Lector	Linda Hodges	Judy Wright

#### **THANKSGIVING TABLE PRAYERS**

Please help yourself to a candle and the table prayers to use for your Thanksgiving gathering – they are on the table in the narthex.

#### **WELCOME TO PASTOR JAY SERAFIN**

Pastor Jay Serafin has been recommended by the Virginia Synod to be a candidate for our Interim Pastor. Please take time today to introduce yourself to Pastor Jay and his wife, Jamie.

#### **READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY**

### First Lesson: Isaiah 2:1-5

Weapons of war transformed into instruments of peace

#### Psalm 122

I was glad when they said to me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord." (Ps. 122:1)

#### Second Lesson: Romans 13:11-14

Salvation is near; time to wake from sleep

#### Gospel: Matthew 24:36-44

The sudden coming of the Son of Man

#### PLEASE KEEP IN YOUR PRAYERS

Opal Baker, Eddie Freeman, Manning Freeman, Don Garfield, Heidi Henderson, Michael Schlemmer, George Thomas, Jewel Thomas, Sue and George Turner, and Jerry and Lena Woodlief

#### **OUR FAMILY AND FRIENDS**

Patricia Armentor, family of Sharon Bagley (friends of Judy Wright), Paul Bauer, Karen Bell (Pam Moore's sister), Sally Burkholder, Amy Carter, the Clements family, Laura Clodfelter, Family of Kimberly Conine, Ben Davis (friend of Donna Ambrose), Tommy and Kathie Davis, Mary Divelbiss, Colton Elliot (Michael Schlemmer's cousin), Laura Fleige, Teresa Floersheim- Miller (Ingrid Peterson's mother), Michelle Fowler (Reida Avery's daughter), Dana Goodwin (Juanita Sturdy's daughter), Shirley Grimes (Ben Grimes' mother), family of Shirlean Hackman, Mike Hall, Chaneice Hayden (Daniel Hayden) Carl and Kaleb Hess, Adam Hewko (nephew of the Hansons), Aris Hibbs (friend of Ray Scholz), Diane Hill (friend of Nancy Wagner), the Little Family, Lorraine Malkemus, Lotte Mathias, Wayne Mathews, Jean McKee (Lilly Frost's grandmother), Sylvia Midgette (grandmother of Krystle McMahan), Keith Morgan, Jamie Mullaney, Carol Pascale (Lynn Jaeger's mother), Brad Person (Lilly Frost's uncle), Dick Peterson and his brother, Carol Schlemmer, James Schollian (friend of Nancy Wagner), Michael Scholz (nephew of Ray Scholz), Erin Seamonson (Lara Jaeger), Kathy Shackleford, Fred Smith, Tammy Smith, Linda Sutterfield, Dave Wagner (husband of Nancy), Chuck Webb (Tina Britt's father), Makenzie Webb (niece of Tina Britt), Elizabeth and Steven White, Kitty Witty, Cory Woodlief, Jim and Carol Wolf, Jim Wright (Judy Wright's husband), Greg Yvonovich (friend of Margaret and Ben Grimes), Derek Zwiers (friend of CK Ambrose)

#### **OUR SPONSORED CHILDREN IN GUATEMALA**

Amayra, Hugolino and Manuela

#### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

There is a book located at the rear of the worship space for you to write any prayer requests you have for today. Fill out a "Prayer Request" (on the back of each pew) and place it in the offering plate to add a prayer request to the "Prayer List" included in the bulletin and the newsletter. **Please print legibly!** 

#### THIS WEEK AT APOSTLES

#### November 20, 2022 - November 27, 2022

TODAY	10:00 AM	Worship Service/World Hunger	
		Sunday	
	11:00 AM	Congregational Meeting /	
		Coffee Fellowship	
MONDAY	7:00 PM	Men's AA	
TUESDAY	7:00 PM	Al-Anon	
THURSDAY	HAPPY THANKSGIVING!		
SATURDAY	6:30 PM	AA Young and Sober	
SUNDAY	10:00 AM	Worship Service	
	11:00 AM	Congregational Meeting	
		Coffee Fellowship	

#### **CONGREGATIONAL MEETING - TODAY!**

Voting members: please stay after worship today to discuss and approve a ministry spending plan for 2023. **We need your voice and vote!!** 

#### **ELCA WORLD HUNGER SUNDAY - TODAY!**

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of each month at Apostles is designated as World Hunger Sunday. A basket is available during communion for your hunger offering – God feeds us so that we can feed others!

#### HAPPY BIRTHDAY

**Donna Ambrose** – November 23 | **Regan Badger** – November 25 | **CK Ambrose** – November 27

#### HAPPY BAPTISMAL BIRTHDAY

Marina and Nicolas Allen - November 21

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