

St. Paul Lutheran

Taylor, TX
LCMC

November 22, 2026

Welcome to
St. Paul Lutheran Church
Child Development Center and Pre-School

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley, D.R.S., Ph.D., Pastor



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lcmc

Lutheran Congregations in Mission for Christ

WELCOME

WE'RE GLAD YOU JOINED US


HAPPY
Thanksgiving
Warm wishes for you and your family
this Thanksgiving season.



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Thrivent is committing $3 million to support organizations. When you donate through Thrivent's giving platform, they will boost your gift so your generosity goes further.

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PRAY FOR:

THE PERSECUTED

Pray also for those who have yet to know Christ.

Rejoice in our confident hope. Be patient in trouble, and keep on praying.

Romans 12:12 (NLT)

PRAYER LEAGUE

prayerleague.org



INTRODUCTION

On this final Sunday of the church year our gospel is Jesus' great story of judgment. In the end, the faithful are those who served Christ by ministering to those who are poor, hungry, naked, sick, or estranged. In the first reading God is the shepherd who seeks the lost, weak, and injured and feeds them with justice.

We gather this day to celebrate the reign of Christ and his victory over death, yet we await the consummation of all things yet to come. Acknowledging Christ as our merciful ruler, we go forth that his reign may be known in our loving words and deeds.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,
our dwelling place for all generations,
whose compassion never slumbers.
Amen.

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

Silence is kept for reflection.

Holy God,
we confess that we have trusted in our preparation instead of your invitation. We prioritize our piety over care for your beloved.

We trust the voice of our shame and fear,
which keeps us from entering fully
into relationship with you and others.
We are not awake to the coming of your
reign.
Rouse us and rescue us,
that we may enter into your joy.
Amen.

Inherit the riches of God’s grace.
☩ Jesus, the good shepherd, feeds you with his mercy.
You are forgiven.
Blessed are you.
Amen.

Gathering Song

“Lift High the Cross”

Hymn # 660

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

Hymn # 660

[1] Come, Christians, follow
where our captain trod,
our king victorious, Christ,
the Son of God.

[Refrain]

Hymn # 660

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

Hymn # 660

[2] All newborn servants of the Crucified
bear on their brows the seal
of him who died.
[Refrain]

Hymn # 660

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

Hymn # 660

[3] O Lord, once lifted on the glorious tree,
as thou hast promised, draw us all to thee.
[Refrain]

Hymn # 660

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

Hymn # 660

Final **So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory!**

[Refrain]

Hymn # 660

Refrain

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim
till all the world adore his sacred name.

Hymn # 660

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

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy.

Christe eleison

Christ, have mercy.

Kyrie eleison

Lord, have mercy.

Pg. 213

Glory To God

Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to God in the highest,
glory to God, glory to God,
and peace to God's people on earth.

Pg. 213

Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,

we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

[Refrain]

Pg. 213

[Refrain]

Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to God in the highest,
glory to God, glory to God,
and peace to God's people on
earth.

Pg. 213

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

[Refrain]

[Refrain]

Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to God in the highest,
glory to God, glory to God,
and peace to God's people on
earth.

Pg. 213

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

[Refrain]

Pg. 213

[Refrain]

Glory to God, glory to God,
glory to God in the highest,
glory to God, glory to God,
and peace to God's people on
earth, and peace to God's people
on earth.

Pg. 213

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray
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.

WORD

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

Because Israel's kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the LORD will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The LORD will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, "my servant David," who will feed and care for the people.

11 Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for
my sheep and will sort them out. 12 As shepherds
sort out their flocks when they are among scattered
sheep, so I will sort 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. 13 I
will bring them out from the peoples and gather
them from the countries and 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.

14 I 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. 15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep,
and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD.
16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays,
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.

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

23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant
David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them
and be their shepherd. 24 And 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

We are the people of God's pasture and the sheep of God's hand. (Ps. 95:7)

1 Come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us shout for joy to the rock of our salvation.
2 Let us come before God's presence
with thanksgiving
and raise a loud shout to the LORD
with psalms.

3 For you, LORD, are a great God,
and a great ruler above all gods.
4 In your hand are the caverns of the earth;
the heights of the hills are also yours.

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

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead. The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

15 I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and
your love toward all the saints, and for this reason
16 I do not cease to give thanks for you as I
remember you in my prayers, 17 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, 18 so that, with the eyes of your heart
enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to
which he has called you, what are the riches of his
glorious inheritance among the saints,

[19] and what is the immeasurable greatness of his
power for us who believe, according to the working
of his great power. [20] God 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,
[21] far 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.

22 And he has put all things under his feet and has
made him the head over all things for the church,
23 which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all
in all.

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia.
Lord, to whom shall we go?
Alleluia.
You have the words of eternal Life.
Alleluia, alleluia.

Pg. 216

GOSPEL

The Holy Gospel according to
Matthew 25:31-46

Glory to you, O Lord.

GOSPEL: Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

[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. 32 All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, 33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand,
‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit
the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation
of the world, 35 for 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, 36 I
was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick
and you took care of me, I was in prison and you
visited me.’

37 Then 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? 38 And
when was it that we saw you a stranger and
welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing?
39 And when was it that we saw you sick or in
prison and visited you?’ 40 And the king will
answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to
one of the least of these brothers and sisters of
mine, you did it to me.’

41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You
who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal
fire prepared for the devil and his angels, 42 for I
was hungry and you gave me no food, I was
thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, 43 I 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.’

44 Then 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?’ 45 Then 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.’ 46 And these will go
away into eternal punishment but the righteous
into eternal life.”

The gospel of the Lord.
Praise to you, O Christ.


CHILDREN'S
SERMON

Sermon

Rev. Dr. George R. Qualley

MATTHEW25



Whatever you do for the least . . .

Hymn of the Day

“Jesus Shall Reign”

Hymn # 434

[1] Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run; his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

Hymn # 434

[3] People and realms of ev'ry tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song; and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

Hymn # 434

Final Let ev'ry creature rise and bring peculiar honors to our king; angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

Hymn # 434

With the whole church let us confess our faith.

CREED

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 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.

Congregation may be seated

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

United with the great cloud of witnesses, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all of creation.

A brief silence.

Prepare your people for your reign to come among us. Where the church is wary, make us bold; where we are complacent, stir us to action; where we are anxious, assure us of your never-ending care.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

All the heights, depths, and expanses of the earth belong to you. Deliver every corner of your creation from disaster. Restore lands ravaged by floods, fires, drought, or contamination.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Gather all the nations at your side and teach them the ways of your kingdom of wholeness and abundant life. Empower judges, juries, and legal advocates to create and uphold pathways toward transformative justice.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Bind up the wounds of all your people. Give courage to all who experience uncertainty, guide all people facing difficult decisions, and lift the spirits of any who are in need and we remember our friends and family members before you.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Accompany communities struggling with conflict. Help us to listen deeply to one another, that we might know one another more fully and release any hurt or anger. Create ways of healing and reconciliation among us.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

We pray for all our military, especially those deployed. We keep in our prayers all the Wounded Warriors that have returned home to heal. We pray for our missionaries Miah and Henrico in East Asia, serving with the Prayer League, and for our sister congregation at Harbor of Joy Lutheran Church in Milford Iowa, Ohio.

Especially today we celebrate and lift before you the ministry of St. Paul - Phillipsburg Lutheran Church in Brenham, Texas. May your grace flow through them as they share your Good News.

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Fill us with the spirit of wisdom and perseverance that you grant to all the saints, and bring us, at the last, into the hope of your promised new day.
God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Into your steadfast love, faithful God, we entrust all for whom we pray, in the name of Jesus, your beloved.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.
Amen.

Canticle of Thanksgiving

Refrain ***Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb for ever and ever.***

Pg. 219

[1] Great and wonderful are your deeds, O God of the universe; just and true are your ways, O Ruler of all the nations.

Who can fail to honor you, Lord, and sing the glory of your name?

Pg. 219

Refrain ***Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.***

Pg. 219

2 For you alone are the Holy One, and blessed is the one whose name is the Word of God. All praise and thanks to you, holy God!

Pg. 219

Refrain ***Salvation belongs to our God and to Christ the Lamb forever and ever.***

Pg. 219

THANKSGIVING FOR THE WORD

Let us pray.

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

Amen.

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

THE 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.

SENDING

BLESSING

The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.
Amen.

Sending Song

“Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Hymn # 855

[1] Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne;
hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns
all music but its own.

Hymn # 855

Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king
through all eternity.

Hymn # 855

[3] Crown him the Lord of love –
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.

Hymn # 855

No angels in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bend their burning eyes
at mysteries so bright.

Hymn # 855

Final **Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.**

Hymn # 855

All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not
fail throughout eternity.

Hymn # 855

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another.

Thanks be to God.

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CHRIST THE KING
Sunday