

Reign of Christ

St. Andrew Lutheran Church

November 22, 2026

Welcome to St. Andrew!

At St. Andrew Lutheran Church, we strive to be a loving and welcoming community of faith. We are centered in the Good News of Jesus Christ, who calls us to reconciliation and wholeness in a world of alienation and brokenness.

All are welcome, without exception, regardless of race, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, physical or mental ability, education, income, or family status.

All are welcome here to worship God, receive the sacraments, and share in fellowship, leadership, and service. We commit to treasuring one another's similarities and differences as one body in Christ.

We are called to provide a safe space in the community as we break down the barriers of isolation. We understand that being truly welcoming involves actively working against racism, heteronormativity, sexism, transphobia, ageism, ableism, classism, and other forces that seek to divide and oppress. We commit to continuing to discover what it means to be "Reconciling in Christ."

"Welcome one another therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God."
-Romans 15:7

Orientation to the Service

This bulletin will guide you through the entire service. Starting on page 3, words printed in **bold** are for everyone to say aloud together. Instructions and information are printed in *italics*.

Hymns (songs) are found in the hymnals in the pew racks in front of your seat.
ELW = Evangelical Lutheran Worship (red hymnal)
ACS = All Creation Sings (blue hymnal)

Green-topped Welcome Cards are found in the pew racks in front of your seat. We would love for guests, visitors, and anyone in need of prayer or more information about the church to fill one out. Please place it in the offering plate or hand it to an usher after the service.

Children are welcome in worship! God put the wiggle in children, so please do not feel you have to shush or suppress those wiggles in God's house. All are welcome here! Consider sitting toward the front where it is easier for children to see and hear what is happening in the service. There are worship activity bags available for children on a shelf in the back of the sanctuary, and a staffed nursery is available for very young ones. Ask an usher if you need help locating it.

Restrooms can be found by exiting the back of the sanctuary and turning right. Walk straight until you pass the coffee bar, and you will find the women's and men's restrooms to your right. An all-gender, ADA-compliant restroom will be found to your left, near the door to the kitchen.

Online access to the bulletin and hymns: standrewlutheran.com/worship/worship-bulletins/

Reign of Christ

November 22, 2026 | 9:30 AM

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.

PRELUDE

GATHERING — *THE HOLY SPIRIT CALLS US TOGETHER AS THE PEOPLE OF GOD.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

The congregation may stand.

GATHERING HYMN — Crown Him with Many Crowns | ELW 855

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.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Let us pray together.
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.

The congregation is seated.

WORD *GOD SPEAKS TO US IN SCRIPTURE READING, PREACHING, AND SONG.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Pr. Colleen Nelson

Elementary-aged children (grades K-5) are invited to attend The Roots Children's Church, led by trained St. Andrew volunteers and located in the Children's Library downstairs. Parents are welcome to observe. The children will return to worship in time to receive communion.

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

A reading from Ezekiel.

11Thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort
them out. 12As 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. 13I
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. 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 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.

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.

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

PSALM 95:1-7a

Let us read the Psalm responsively by whole verse.

1Come, 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.

3For 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.

5The 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.

7aFor 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

A reading from Ephesians.

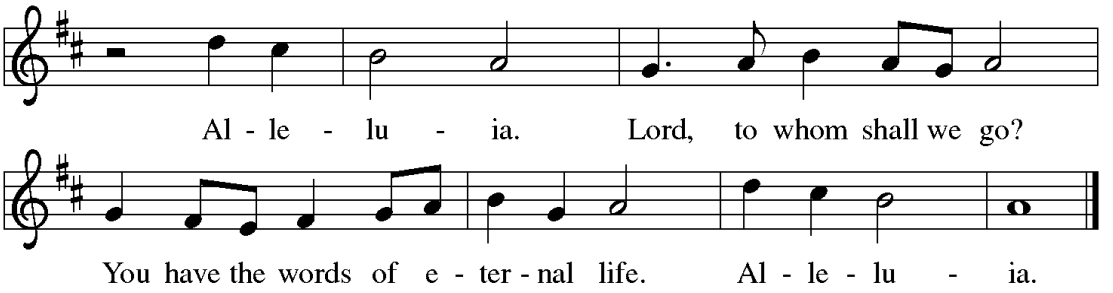
15I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the
saints, and for this reason 16I do not cease to give thanks for you as I
remember you in my prayers, 17that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the
God of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to
know the Creator, 18so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may
perceive what is the hope to which you are called, what are the riches of the
glorious inheritance among the saints, 19and what is the immeasurable
greatness of the divine power for us who believe, according to the working of

God's great power. [20]God put this power to work in Christ when God raised him from the dead and seated him at God's 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 God has put all things under Jesus' feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, [23]which is his body, the fullness of God who fills all in all.

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

The congregation may stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



GOSPEL Matthew 25:31-46

The holy gospel according to Matthew.
Glory to you, O Lord.

Jesus said to the disciples: [31]"When the Son of Humanity 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 sovereign will say to those at his right hand, 'Come, you who are blessed by my Creator, 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 sovereign will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these siblings 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 the fallen 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.

The congregation is seated.

SERMON Pr. Colleen Nelson

The congregation may stand.

HYMN OF THE DAY O Christ, What Can It Mean for Us | ELW 431

The congregation may assume a posture of prayer. You may kneel, sit, or stand; fold your hands or turn them upward; close your eyes or look to the altar.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

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

All are invited to share a sign of peace with one another (handshake, hug, peace sign, etc.). Placing your hands together in a praying position will signal to those around you that you prefer not to physically touch others.

The congregation is seated.

MEAL — *GOD FEEDS US WITH THE PRESENCE OF JESUS CHRIST.*

INVITATION TO OFFERING

During this time of offering, we join Christ in turning the values of the world upside down. The world tells us that our money is ours alone, but we know that our wealth comes from God and is meant for the flourishing of the whole community. Therefore, we choose to be generous, sharing our resources with one another.

Contributions to St. Andrew Lutheran Church may be placed in the offering plate or made online by scanning the QR code to the right. Thank you for your generosity!

OFFERING — *Crown Him Lord of All!* arr. by Marty Parks
Sanctuary Choir, vocals; Pr. Allison Bengfort, violin;
under the direction of John Gladen

All hail the pow'r of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall.
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!

Ye chosen seed of Israel's race, ye ransomed from the fall,
hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!

Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget (Oh, crown him!)
the wormwood and the gall, (Crown him Lord!)
go spread your trophies at his feet, (Oh, crown him!)
and crown him Lord of all! (Oh, crown him Lord!)

Let ev'ry kindred, ev'ry tribe (Oh, crown him, Lord!)
on this terrestrial ball, (Oh, crown him Lord,)
to him all majesty ascribe, and crown him Lord of all!

Crown him Lord! Forever worshiped; forever adored!

Crown him, you martyrs of your God, whom from his altar call;
extol the stem of Jesse's rod, and crown him Lord of all!

O, that with yonder sacred throng we at his feet may fall!
We'll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!

Lord of all!

The congregation may stand.

OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray together.
Eternal God, our time, talents, and treasures are gifts from you.
Receive what we offer, and all that you entrust to us, until hungry no more,
all the world is fed, through Jesus Christ, our Liberator and Lord. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Our Creator is here.
God is here, among us and within us.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them with all creation.

Let us give thanks to God, our Maker.
With every living thing, we give God thanks and praise.

Before there was … You called creation good and called us to belong to it.
For the gift of life, we give you thanks.

Yet we have … their way to the sea, like seeds breaking open in darkness.
Grace upon grace. Gift upon gift. Life upon life.

Then you came … Winter does not last forever. Life can rise from a grave.
Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

So we proclaim … crossing continents, and oceans breathing with the moon:
Holy, holy, holy! Heaven and earth are full of your glory!
Hosanna in the highest!

And now you meet us in things … Do this for the remembrance of me.
We remember.

Holy Spirit, wind of God, … and to notice the sacredness of what is ordinary.
Breath in us, Spirit of God.

Make us people … No stranger. No creature. No river. No forest.
Everything belongs to you. And everything belongs together.

When we leave this table, send us back … And when we forget,
remind us.

When we become afraid,
remind us.

When we become cynical,
remind us of resurrection.

For you are the God who creates, … All that we are, all that lives,
and all that is yet to be belongs to you.
And so we give you thanks—with our bodies, with our voices,
with our lives, and will all creation, now and forever. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

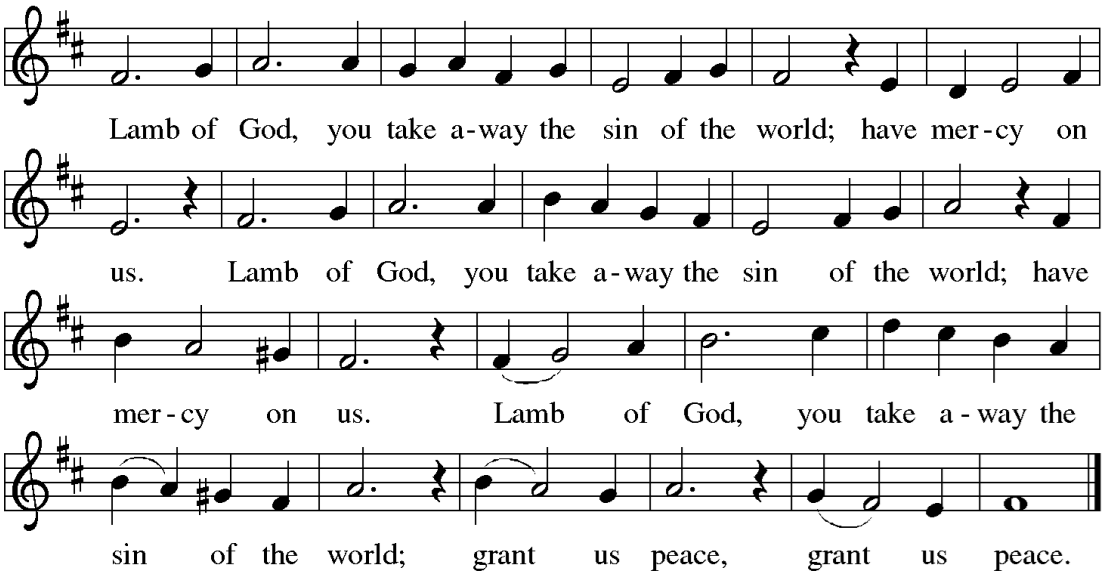
Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,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

The congregation is seated.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

All are invited to commune without exception! At the direction of an usher, those wishing to commune may proceed down the center aisle. A piece of gluten-free bread will be placed in your hands. You may dip the bread in the wine (red chalice) or the grape juice (light-colored chalice), or you may choose to partake of bread only. If you prefer to receive a blessing, please cross your arms across your chest to indicate this preference. If you would like to receive communion in your seat, please alert an usher, and the elements will be brought to you.

LAMB OF GOD



DISTRIBUTION HYMN Jesus Shall Reign | ELW 434

The congregation may stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray together.
Holy God, we have received your never-ending mercy in this meal. You continuously seek the lost, bind the injured, and feed your people abundantly. Now send us out, awake to your presence, now and forever. Amen.

SENDING *GOD BLESSES US AND SENDS US IN MISSION TO THE WORLD.*

BLESSING

The holy Trinity, Creator, ☩ Christ, and Holy Spirit, bless you with wisdom to welcome the reign of God, today and always.
Amen.

SENDING HYMN Prepare the Royal Highway | ELW 264

DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Encourage one another.
Thanks be to God!

POSTLUDE

Serving Today in Worship

Presiding Minister: Pr. Colleen Nelson
Preacher: Pr. Colleen Nelson
Assisting Minister: Tom Mehlhorn
Altar Guild: Noelle Mehlhorn
Children's Church: Cindy Stadel
Communion Assistants:
Greeters: Patty Jones
Lector: Joan Johnson
Musicians: Karl Gustafson, accompanist;
Pr. Allison Bengfort, violinist;
John Gladen, Minister of Music
Nursery Assistant: Amy Harker
Tech Team: Janet Vorvick, Chase Isaccson
Ushers: Dana Taylor-Blakemore
Worship Coordinator: Liz Hardy
Zoom Host:

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