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 ..

Matthew 25:35

Christ the King Sunday

November 26, 2017

8:30 am

St. John's Lutheran Church

Salisbury, North Carolina

Welcome to St. John's!

We're so glad that God has brought us together in this place.
For more information about today's worship, please refer to the pew card found in the hymnal.

Gathering

The Holy Spirit calls us together as the people of God

Prelude *Crown Him with Many Crowns* Edward G. Mead
DIADEMATA

Welcome *Please sign the Friendship Pad and pass it to your neighbor in the pew.*

Please stand, turning towards the cross of Christ.

Call to Worship and Prayers of Confession

As we gather for worship, you are invited to make the sign of the cross as a sign of your baptism.

In the name of the Father, and of the + Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us pray. 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.**

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. But if we confess our sins, God who is faithful and just will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

Gracious God, **have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

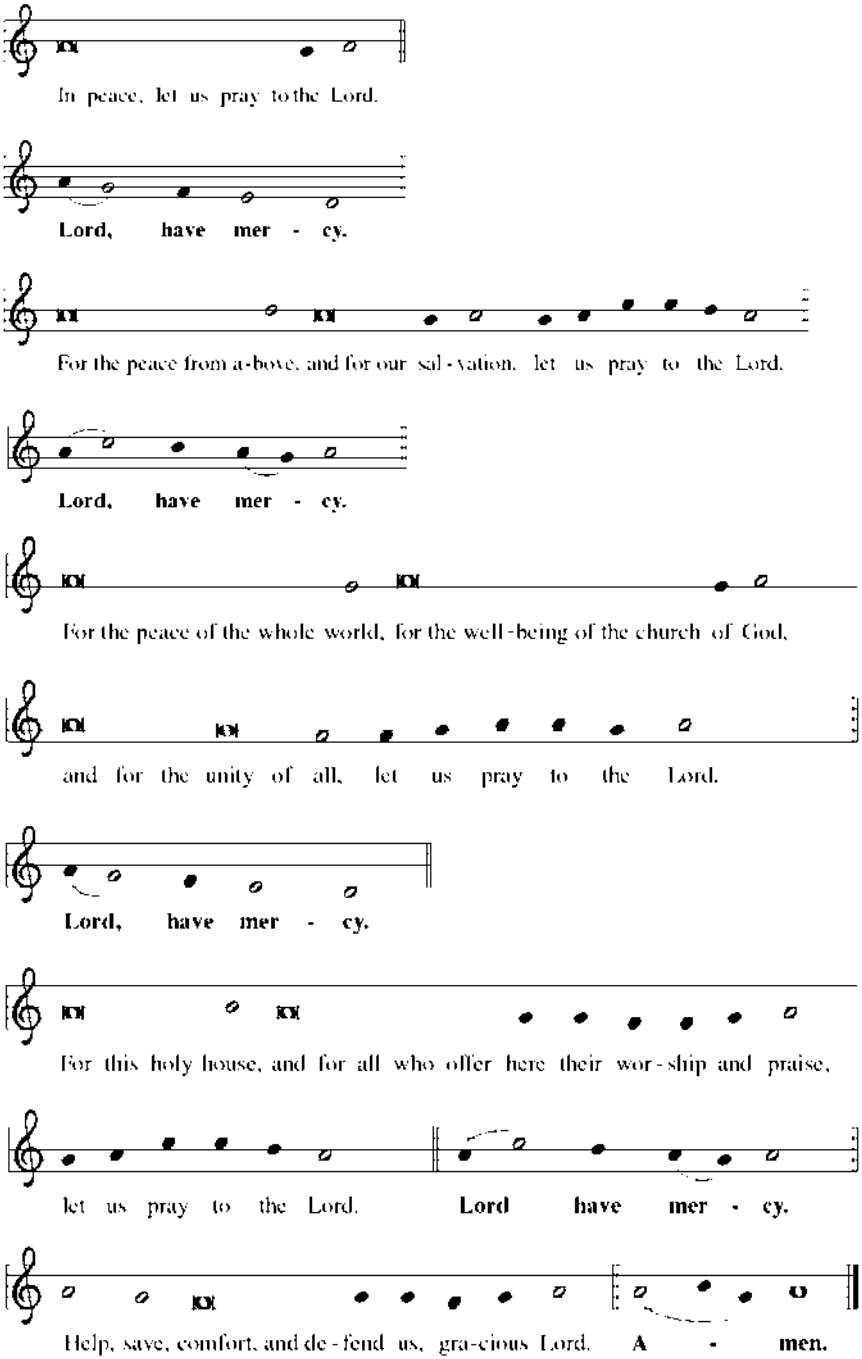
God's Promise of Forgiveness

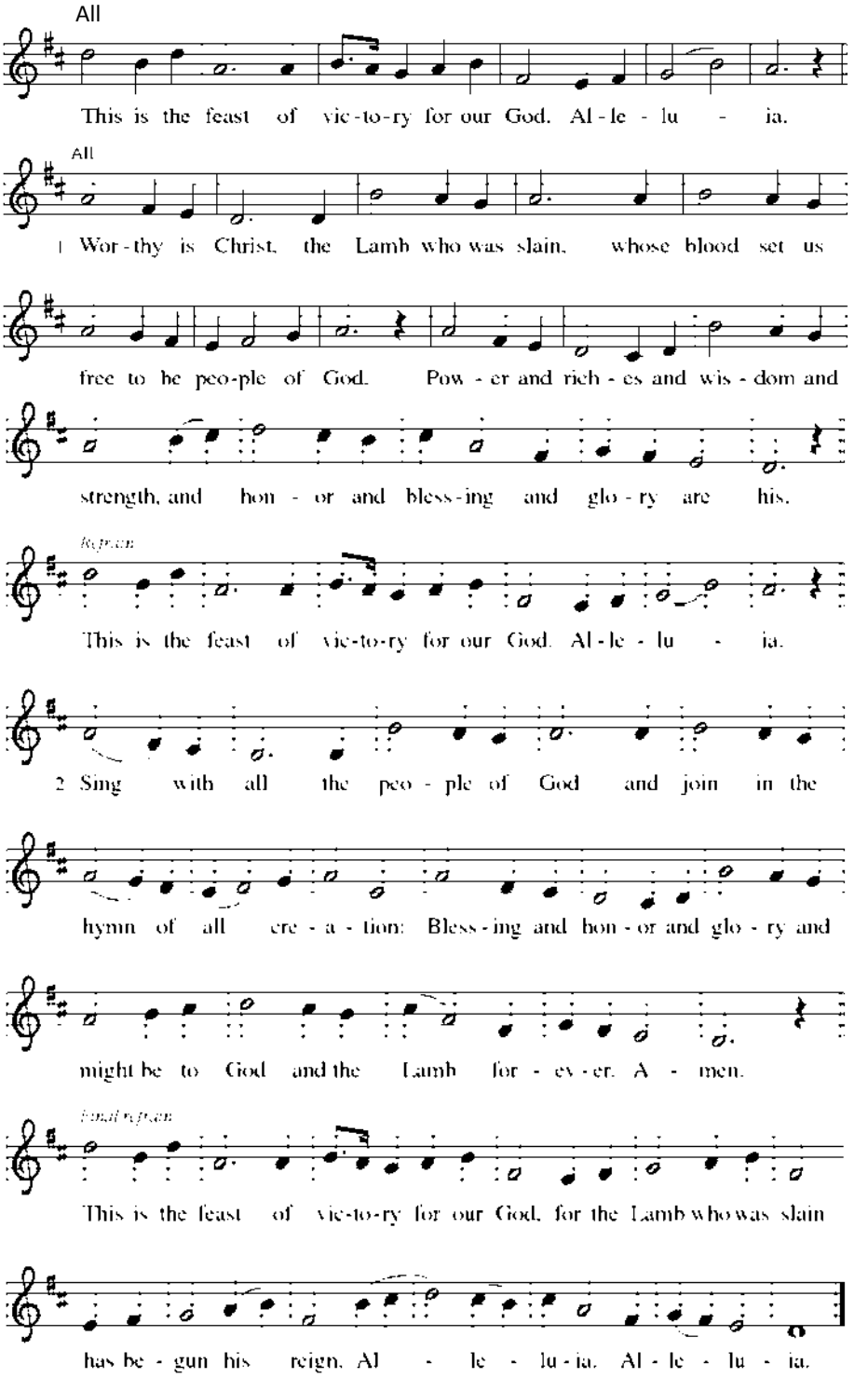
God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen.**

Entrance Hymn 855 *Crown Him with Many Crowns* DIADEMATA
Verses 1-4

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. *A centering prayer asking for God's mercy and peace.*




All
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu - ia.
All
1 Wor-thy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain, whose blood set us
free to be peo-ple of God. Pow-er and rich-es and wis-dom and
strength, and hon-or and bless-ing and glo-ry are his.
Refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God. Al-le-lu - ia.
2 Sing with all the peo-ple of God and join in the
hymn of all cre-a-tion: Bless-ing and hon-or and glo-ry and
might be to God and the Lamb for-ev-er. A-men.
Final refrain
This is the feast of vic-to-ry for our God, for the Lamb who was slain
has be-gun his reign. Al-le-lu-ia. Al-le-lu-ia.

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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.**

Please be seated

Word

God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching and song

First Reading: Ezekiel 34:11-16,20-24 *God, the true shepherd*

[11]For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. [12]As 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. [13]I 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. [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 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.

[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.

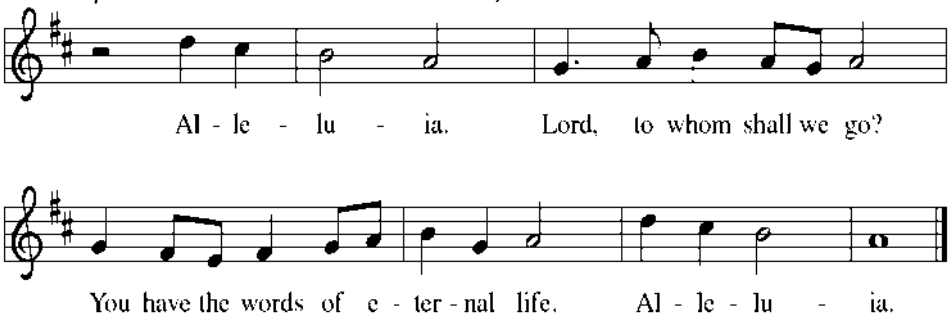
[23]I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. [24]And I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Second Reading Psalm 95 *A call to worship and obedience*

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand for the reading of the Gospel. "Alleluia" is an ancient Jewish acclamation that means "God be praised." In the Christian tradition, Alleluia means "He is risen!"



The Holy Gospel: Matthew 25:31-46 *The judgment of the nations*

The Gospel of our Lord. **Thanks be to God!** *Please be seated*

Sermon The Rev. Danielle DeNise

Please stand

Hymn 712 *Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service* BEACH SPRING

Apostles' Creed. *The three paragraphs of the Creed express our belief in the three-fold nature of God as Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.*

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 *Each petition ends: "Lord in your mercy.* ***Hear our prayer****."*

Sharing the Peace of Christ *The peace of the Lord be with you always.* **And also with you.**

Please be seated

Meal

Collection of our Tithes and Offerings, and Preparation of the Lord's Table

Offering Voluntary *Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service* Philip M. Young
BEACH SPRING

As the gifts are presented the congregation stands and sings the Doxology, ELW 884

Let us pray. Merciful Father, **we offer with joy and thanksgiving what you have first given us — our selves, our time and our possessions, signs of your gracious love. Receive them for the sake of him who offered himself for us, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

The 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.**
It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise. ... And join their unending hymn: *Response music, page 153, ELW.*

Eucharistic Prayer, *followed by the Lord's Prayer, p. 154, front of red ELW*

The gifts of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God!** *Please be seated*

Distribution of Holy Communion, *see page 2 of bulletin for instructions.*

Hymn *Lamb of God, p. 154, front of red ELW*

Blessing and Prayer

Sending

God blesses us and invites us to help advance his kingdom

Benediction

Sending Hymn 546 *To Be Your Presence* ENGELBERG

Dismissal Go in peace to love and serve the Lord! **Thanks be to God!**

Postlude *Christ is the King!* Charles R. Anders
BEVERLY

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