Introduction to the day: Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right. He would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); he would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Man) given dominion in Daniel's vision. Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king. His authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day he is given dominion, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

GATHERING

(sung by Wing & A Prayer only)

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

OPENING SONG/PRELUDE

Even So Come

©Chris Tomlin, Jason Ingram, Jess Cates

WELCOME

The congregation invited to stand as they are able and face the baptismal font.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

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

Amen.

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Have mercy on us, O God.

We confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbor.
We have built walls instead of tables and have turned away the stranger.
We have sought glory for ourselves and have treasured that which does not satisfy. Help us to love as you love, to welcome those you send, and to treasure mercy and justice.
Turn us from our ways to your ways, and free us to serve those in need.
Amen.

God, who makes all things new, forgives your sins for H Jesus' sake and remembers them no more.

Lift up your heads and your hearts.

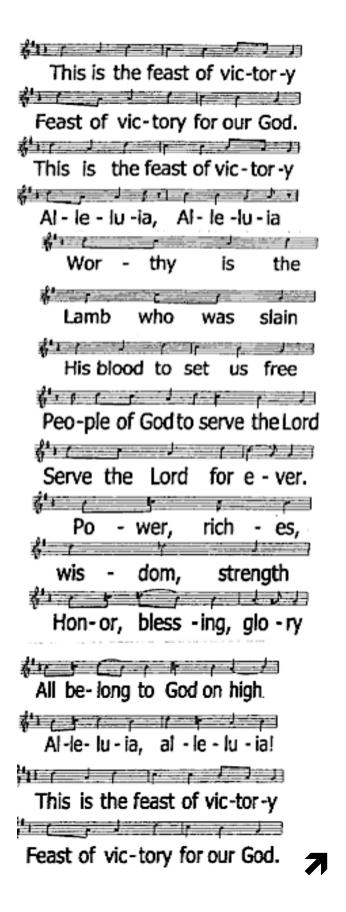
Yours is the kingdom of God.

Amen.



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.

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of 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: Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14 (Mike Grant)

To the community for whom this passage was written, it seemed as though the oppression they were experiencing would never end. Daniel's message is: It shall end. The Ancient One, who is judge, will call all nations to account and will give dominion to "one like a human being," the Messiah.

A reading from Daniel.

9As I watched.

thrones were set in place,

and an Ancient One took his throne.

his clothing was white as snow,

and the hair of his head like pure wool;

his throne was fiery flames,

and its wheels were burning fire.

¹⁰A stream of fire issued

and flowed out from his presence.

A thousand thousands served him,

and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him.

The court sat in judgment,

and the books were opened.

¹³As I watched in the night visions,

I saw one like a human being

coming with the clouds of heaven.

And he came to the Ancient One

and was presented before him.

¹⁴To him was given dominion

and glory and kingship,

that all peoples, nations, and languages

should serve him.

His dominion is an everlasting dominion

that shall not pass away.

and his kingship is one

that shall never be destroyed.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 93 (Mike Grant)

¹The LORD is king, robed in majesty; the LORD is robed in majesty and armed with strength.

The LORD has made the world so sure that it cannot be moved.

²Ever since the world began, your throne has been established; you are from everlasting.

³The waters have lifted up, O LORD, the waters have lifted up their voice; the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

⁴Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, mightier is the LORD who dwells on high.

⁵Your testimonies are very sure,

and holiness befits your house, O LORD, forever and forevermore.

SECOND READING: Revelation 1:4b-8 (Mike Grant)

The book of Revelation begins by celebrating the Almighty God, who spans all of time. Similarly, Jesus is celebrated as the firstborn from the dead who rules over the world's rulers. He is the one whose return we eagerly await.

A reading from Revelation.

⁴ Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him, even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

STEWARDSHIP TEMPLE TALK (Mike or Meredith Grant)

KIDS' MESSAGE (Pr. Allen Dunn)

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able to welcome the Gospel.

GOSPEL: John 18:33-37 (Pr. Carolyn Brodt)

In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.

The holy gospel according to John.

Glory to you, O Lord.

³³Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated

SERMON (Pastor Carolyn Brodt)

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able

HYMN OF THE DAY Lift High the Cross (ELW 660)



CREED

Let us join with Christians throughout the world and confess our shared faith using the words of the 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.

Please be seated.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Mike Grant)

Eternal God, you hold firm amid the changes of this world. Hear us now as we pray for the church, the world, and everyone in need.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to testify to the truth. We pray for preachers, missionaries, evangelists, and teachers who carry your forgiveness and love to the world. Fill their words and actions with compassion and kindness so that your truth will shine. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to liberate all of creation. We pray for all living things longing for the freedom to flourish, from ancient trees and wild grasses to endangered animals and rare insects. Give human beings compassionate hearts to care for them. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to lead us into the way of peace. Direct the members of international alliances in choosing a nonviolent path toward the future. Give them the humility and wisdom to make just decisions to benefit all. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to make us into your own people, set free to serve you. We pray for people who serve the well-being of others, especially ministries in our community including the feeding program at St. Vincent de Paul's. Renew them in their work. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to rule in all times and places. We pray for the friends of our congregation who are unable to join our worship in person and for all who are sick and suffering. Join their prayers with ours and unite them with us in the body of Christ. God, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God, you sent your Son Jesus to be our beginning and our ending. We give thanks for those whose lives have given us a glimpse of Jesus' reign of justice and peace. Empower us to join their witness. God, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

The congregation may offer additional prayer concerns either aloud or in the chat box

God our hope and strength, we entrust to you all for whom we pray. Remain with us always, through Jesus Christ, our Savior.

Amen.

PEACE

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

MEAL

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ.

OFFERING

We acknowledge that all we have is a gift from God and in gratefulness we return to God a portion of the time, finances, and gifts that God has given us. Thank you so much for your continued support.

OFFERING PRAYER

Holy God,

the earth is yours and everything in it, yet you have chosen to dwell among your creatures. Come among us now in these gifts of bread and wine, and strengthen us to be your body for the world through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal:

surrounded by evil and bordered by death

we appeal to you, our Sovereign, our Wisdom, and our Judge.

We praise you for Christ, who proclaimed your reign of peace

and promised an end to injustice and harm.

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.

Remembering, therefore,

the sacrifice of his life and death and the victory of his resurrection,

we await with all the saints his loving redemption of our suffering world.

Send your Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine

and on all who share in the body and blood of your Son:

teach us your mercy and justice, and make all things new in Christ.

Through him all glory and honor is yours,

Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit,

in your holy Church, both now and forever. Amen

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us using the words of the language of your heart.

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 has set the table with more than enough for all. Come!

If you are joining us online, you are welcome to take communion in your home or to be in a time of prayer.

If you are worshiping with us onsite, please follow the directions of Pastor Carolyn and the ushers.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed Jesus, at this table, you have been for us both host and meal. Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet.

Amen.

The congregation is invited to stand as they are able.

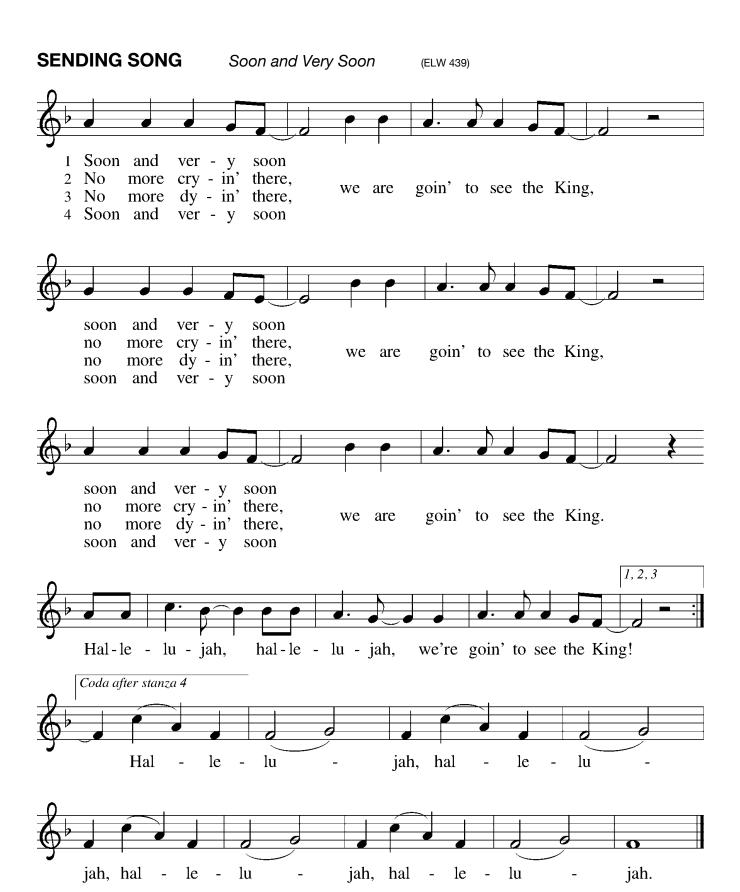
SENDING

God blesses us and sends us in mission to the world.

BLESSING

God, the beginning and the end, who has written your name in the book of life, the bless and keep you in grace and peace from this time forth and forevermore.

Amen.



Please be seated.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

After brief announcements related to the ministry of Bethel, the congregation is invited to stand and face the baptismal font as they are able.

DISMISSAL

Led on by the saints before us, go in peace to serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God and we will.**