

ST. PAUL'S LUTHERAN "BLUE" CHURCH

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Interim Pastor: Rev. James Hammond 610-437-1960; jjtrev1@verizon.net

Christ the King ☩ November 25, 2018

**PRELUDE – "FAIREST LORD JESUS" – TIM DORAN
ANNOUNCEMENTS**

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

Blessed be the Holy Trinity, ☩ one God, who calls us into an everlasting hope, who guides us to springs of the water of life, who enlightens us with the spirit of wisdom. **Amen**

One with the communion of saints in all times and places, let us confess our sin against God and one another.

Silence for reflection

O God, our merciful redeemer,
we confess the ways we live only for ourselves. We fail to see you in our neighbor's face. We turn our ears from voices that cry out. We pass by the hungry and the oppressed. In your great mercy, forgive our sin and strengthen us for service to all in need; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for you, and for ☩ his sake, God forgives you all your sin. Blessed are you! Rejoice and be glad, beloved people of God. **Amen.**

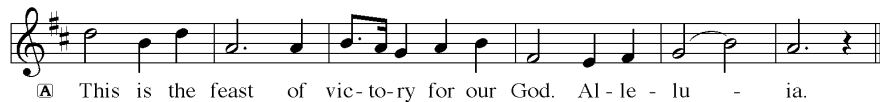
HYMN #855 "CROWN WITH MANY CROWNS"

GREETING

P: The grace of our LORD Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE



PRAYER OF THE DAY

P: The LORD be with you. **C: 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.**

FIRST LESSON:

DANIEL 7:9-10, 13-14

PSALM 93 *Sung responsively*

Psalm Tone 6



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.

²**Ever 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.

⁴**Mightier 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 evermore.

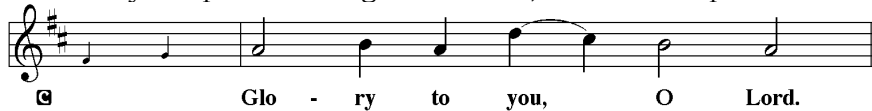
SECOND LESSON:

REVELATION 1:4B-8

VERSE

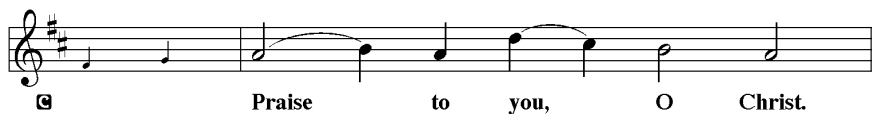


L: The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 18th Chapter.



THE HOLY GOSPEL: JOHN 18:33-37

L: The Gospel of the LORD.



SERMON

HYMN #838 "BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR"

NICENE CREED

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one LORD, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven; by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the virgin Mary, and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the LORD, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen

THE PRAYERS

Response : **hear our prayer.**

SHARING OF THE PEACE

P: The peace of the LORD be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

OFFERING — "TO THE ENDS OF THE EARTH" — J. DANIEL SMITH

Offering is gathered for the poor and those with needs in our community and world.

OFFERTORY RESPONSE #884

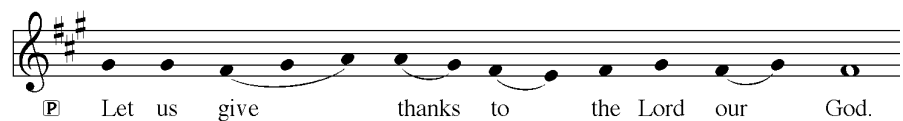
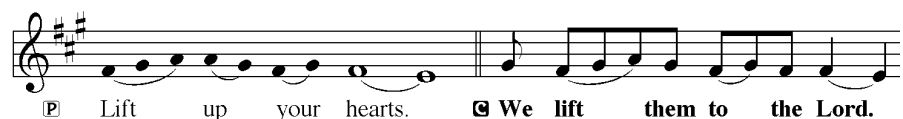
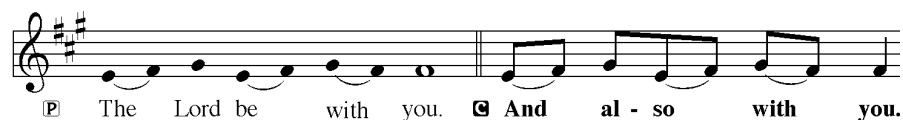
*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

A: Let us pray... Heavenly Father,

C: all that we are and have comes from you alone. Receive these gifts which we offer to the honor and glory of our King and Savior, Jesus Christ, your Son, our LORD. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING



It is indeed right and salutary...we praise your name and join unending hymn:



EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER *The pastor offers the prayer.*

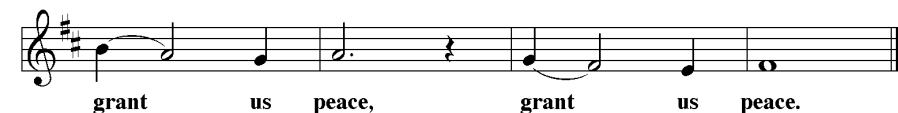
LORD'S PRAYER

**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**

INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

Hunger no more. Thirst no more. Come to the banquet of life.

LAMB OF GOD



HOLY COMMUNION HYMN: #482 "I COME WITH JOY"

BLESSING

The Body and Blood of our LORD Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **Amen.**

PRAYER

A: Let us pray...LORD, in this Most Holy Sacrament you have given Christ, the King of all creation, as food for eternal life. Give us the grace to live by His Gospel, and bring us to the joy of His Kingdom, where He lives and reigns forever and ever. **Amen.**

BENEDICTION

The love of God surround you; the grace of ✠ Christ release you; and the Holy Spirit be your guide and strength, now and forevermore. **Amen.**

HYMN #825 – "YOU SERVANTS OF GOD"

DISMISSAL

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

POSTLUDE - "THE HEAVENS ARE TELLING" – LUDWIG VAN BEETHOVEN

✠ ✠ ✠

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WELCOME TO ALL IN THE NAME OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST!

We especially welcome those who are visiting. We invite you to sign our guest register in the narthex. Blank envelopes in the pews are for visitors.

"God's purpose for St. Paul's Lutheran Blue" Church is to spread the Good News of Christ's love for all people in the Southern Lehigh community and beyond. –Blue Church Mission Statement, adopted 2012

THE DAY IN THE CHURCH YEAR....CHRIST THE KING ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

Even after Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, they 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.

ABOUT THE SCRIPTURE READINGS.....

DANIEL 7:9-10, 13-14: *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.*

REVELATION 1:4B-8: *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.*

JOHN 18:33-37: *In John's gospel, the story of Jesus and Pilate presents two different ways of exercising power: through force or with love.*

PRAYER FOR THE DAY: Jesus, help us recognize your reign in human life.

PRAYER FOR THE WEEK: LORD Jesus, we praise you as our king who reigns from the throne of the cross. Look upon all the suffering people of the world and come to them with your mercy. Amen.

PLEASE NOTE: - For those people wishing to take Holy Communion without wine, there are four cups in the center of the Communion tray with grape juice.

BLUE CHURCH PRAYS FOR....Sick/Recovering: Roman Denora, Robert Fulford, Joel Hammond, Hattie Smith, Maureen Swanson, Irmi, Dan, Deb

Note: This is a short-term list, for those who are in "acute care" situations—hospitalized or in recovery, dying, facing the recent death of a loved one, or presently facing a severe life crisis. The names of those for whom we pray will be kept on the list for one month. If you wish to have them placed back on the list please contact the church office.

LEADING OUR WORSHIP

CELEBRANT	The Rev. James Hammond
ORGANIST	Dr. Jennifer Dodd
GREETER	Loraine Kline
ASSISTING MINISTER	Dick Storat
LECTOR	Dick Storat
CANTOR	Ron Fried
USHERS	Roger & Gloria Knappenberger
CHURCH COUNCIL REP	Carol Stoudt
ALTAR FLOWER DELIVERY	Pete & Cathy Link

CONGREGATIONAL BULLETIN BOARD

TODAY: 9:00 AM Choir Rehearsal.
9:30 AM Christian Education.
10:30 AM Worship.

WED.: 9 AM Quilting.

SAT.: 9 – 12 NOON Church Balcony Cleaning.

NEXT SUN.: 9 AM Choir Rehearsal.
9:30 AM Christian Education.
10:30 AM WORSHIP – 1st Sunday in Advent.

COMING EVENTS – mark your calendar!

DEC. 10 – 7 PM – Church Council Meeting.

DEC. 15 – 4 PM St. Lucia Fest Program at Blue Church.
(Snow Date – Dec. 16)

WEEKLY GIFTS, PRESENTED TO THE GLORY OF GOD:

ALTAR FLOWERS...by Shirley Hildebrand in memory of Harley Wagner.

SANCTUARY LAMP...by Wendy and Greg Storat in honor of granddaughter Addison's Birthday.

COMMUNION BREAD & WINE...by Deb & Dean Stover

THE COAT DRIVE IS ONCE AGAIN UNDER WAY. Don't throw out your old coats. Blue Church is collecting gently used coats to help those who can use them for the upcoming winter season. The collection of coats will continue through the Christmas season. You can bring in coats for drop off in the bin in the narthex.

VOLUNTEERS ARE NEEDED FOR BETTY LOU'S PANTRY DISTRIBUTION TWO SATURDAYS IN DECEMBER. They are December 8th and December 22nd from 8:30 AM – 11:30 AM. A sign-up sheet is on the Bulletin Board in the Narthex.

Blue Church is responsible for providing Betty Lou's Pantry with **80** bottles of laundry detergent for the month of December (our church's month to serve the pantry). The Pantry does not supply laundry detergent. **Thanks to your generosity we have collected 71 bottles toward our goal so far.** Simply bring them to church and we will store them until December.

THE LEHIGH MISSION DISTRICT CHRISTMAS

INGATHERING is continuing this year to brighten the holy season of Christmas for our Christian brothers and sisters who have special needs. There will be a box in the Narthex to collect the items. Please check the flyer for the list of items needed. Also note that Blue Church will need to provide 10 individual wrapped gifts for names that will be provided to us. Index cards with the information on it will be available so that people can take them and provide the gift

As in the past, we are now accepting monetary contributions for Christmas for a family or families in the Southern Lehigh community through Betty Lou's Food Pantry. Contributions will be accepted until Sunday, December 2, 2018.

If you would like credit for your monetary contribution at Blue Church, be sure to write your name on the front of the envelope. The envelopes are located on the table in the narthex next to a basket in which to place your contribution. Let's help make this family's holidays a joyous one. We thank you again for your support. Christian Action Team.

HELP IS NEEDED ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1ST FROM 9 – 12 NOON TO CLEAN THE BALCONY FOR THE UPCOMING HOLIDAY SEASON. Come for all or just part of the time. Any help will be appreciated.

BLUE CHURCH BAKERS – Donations of cookies are desired for the St. Lucia Fest Program at Blue Church on Sunday, December 15th.

HELP BLUE CHURCH BY SHOPPING AT AmazonSmile. Each time you do Amazon will donate 0.5% of the amount of the purchase. Each quarter Blue Church will then receive a check. Before shopping simply select **ST PAUL LUTHERAN CHURCH COOPERSBURG PA** as your charitable choice to receive your donation. Pick up an information sheet on the table in the Narthex.

Stewardship Snippet

Nov. 18, 2018

Psalm 16:11 – You show me the path of life. In your presence there is fullness of joy; in your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

As we grow in spiritual maturity, steward/disciples learn ever more deeply the difference between the fleeting, shallow happiness the world offers and the rich, satisfying joy and pleasures of our life in God.

Please consider the Simply Giving Program in your stewardship giving to the Church. The program offers a secure electronic payment solution that allows you to make regular offerings. Sign up is easy. Simply fill out a form located in the narthex and return it to the church office. Any questions, contact Kathy Exner.
