

# KING OF KINGS

## LUTHERAN CHURCH

May 12, 2024



Eyes that Don't Deceive  
Faith that is Not Futile  
A Message that Matters  
A Truth that's Tested  
A Love that Acts  
Ascension: A Departure that Brings Nearer  
**Confirmation Sunday: A Promise that Overcomes**

## Hymn

CW 441 sts. 1, 7–8

1 I know that my Redeemer lives!  
What comfort this sweet sentence gives!  
He lives, he lives, who once was dead;  
he lives, my everliving head!

2 He lives and grants me daily breath;  
he lives, and I shall conquer death;  
he lives my mansion to prepare;  
he lives to bring me safely there.

3 He lives, all glory to his name!  
He lives, my Jesus, still the same.  
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:  
I know that my Redeemer lives!

Text: Samuel Medley, 1739–1799, abr., Text: Public domain

## GATHERING

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

Shout for joy to God, all the earth!  
**Sing the glory of his name; make his praise glorious.**  
Praise our God, all peoples,  
**let the sound of his praise be heard;**  
he has preserved our lives  
**and kept our feet from slipping.**

Come and hear, all you who fear God;  
**let me tell you what he has done for me.**  
If I had cherished sin in my heart,  
**the Lord would not have listened;**  
but God has surely listened  
**and has heard my prayer.**

*Psalm 66*

He is risen!  
**He is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

## Confession and Forgiveness

15

Beloved in the Lord: let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins to God our Father, asking him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

**Holy and merciful Father, I confess that I am by nature sinful and that I have disobeyed you in my thoughts, words, and actions. I have done what is evil and failed to do what is good. For this I deserve your punishment both now and in eternity. But I am truly sorry for my sins, and trusting in my Savior Jesus Christ, I pray: Lord, have mercy on me, a sinner.**

God, our heavenly Father, has been merciful to us and has given his only Son to be the atoning sacrifice for our sins. Therefore, as a called servant of Christ and by his authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit.

**Amen.**

In the peace of forgiveness, let us praise the Lord.

## Hymn

CW 710

1 Beneath the cross of Jesus  
I find a place to stand,  
and wonder at such mercy  
that calls me as I am;  
for hands that should discard me  
hold wounds which tell me, "Come."  
Beneath the cross of Jesus  
my unworthy soul is won.

2 Beneath the cross of Jesus  
his fam'ly is my own.  
Once strangers chasing selfish dreams;  
now, one through grace alone.  
How could I now dishonor  
the ones that you have loved?  
Beneath the cross of Jesus  
see the children called by God.

3 Beneath the cross of Jesus,  
the path before the crown,  
we follow in his footsteps  
where promised hope is found.  
How great the joy before us  
to be his perfect bride.  
Beneath the cross of Jesus  
we will gladly live our lives.

Text: Keith Getty, b. 1974; Kristyn Getty, b. 1980

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## HEARING

### Gospel

*John 17:11b–19*

Holy Father, protect them by the power of your name, the name you gave me, so that they may be one as we are one. While I was with them, I protected them and kept them safe by that name you gave me. None has been lost except the one doomed to destruction so that Scripture would be fulfilled.

“I am coming to you now, but I say these things while I am still in the world, so that they may have the full measure of my joy within them. I have given them your word and the world has hated them, for they are not of the world any more than I am of the world. My prayer is not that you take them out of the world but that you protect them from the evil one. They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. Sanctify them by the truth; your word is truth. As you sent me into the world, I have sent them into the world. For them I sanctify myself, that they too may be truly sanctified.

### Hymn

*CW 444 sts. 1, 3–4*

1 Jesus lives! The vict'ry's won!  
Death no longer can appall me.  
Jesus lives! Death's reign is done!  
From the grave Christ will recall me.  
Brighter scenes will then commence;  
this shall be my confidence.

2 Jesus lives! For me he died;  
hence will I, to Jesus living,  
pure in heart and act abide,  
praise to him and glory giving.  
All I need God will dispense;  
this shall be my confidence.

3 Jesus lives! I know full well  
nothing me from him shall sever.  
Life nor death nor pow'rs of hell  
part me now from Christ forever.  
God will be a sure defense;  
this shall be my confidence.

Text: tr. Frances E. Cox, 1812–1897, alt.; Christian F. Gellert, 1715–1769, abr.  
Text: Public domain

## Sermon

Acts 6:1–9, 7:2a, 51-60

In those days when the number of disciples was increasing, the Hellenistic Jews among them complained against the Hebraic Jews because their widows were being overlooked in the daily distribution of food. So the Twelve gathered all the disciples together and said, “It would not be right for us to neglect the ministry of the word of God in order to wait on tables. Brothers and sisters, choose seven men from among you who are known to be full of the Spirit and wisdom. We will turn this responsibility over to them and will give our attention to prayer and the ministry of the word.”

This proposal pleased the whole group. They chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit; also Philip, Procorus, Nicanor, Timon, Parmenas, and Nicolas from Antioch, a convert to Judaism. They presented these men to the apostles, who prayed and laid their hands on them.

So the word of God spread. The number of disciples in Jerusalem increased rapidly, and a large number of priests became obedient to the faith.

Now Stephen, a man full of God’s grace and power, performed great wonders and signs among the people. Opposition arose, however, from members of the Synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called)—Jews of Cyrene and Alexandria as well as the provinces of Cilicia and Asia—who began to argue with Stephen.

To this he replied: “Brothers and fathers, listen to me!

“You stiff-necked people! Your hearts and ears are still uncircumcised. You are just like your ancestors: You always resist the Holy Spirit! Was there ever a prophet your ancestors did not persecute? They even killed those who predicted the coming of the Righteous One. And now you have betrayed and murdered him— you who have received the law that was given through angels but have not obeyed it.”

When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. “Look,” he said, “I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God.”

At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.

While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, “Lord Jesus, receive my spirit.” Then he fell on his knees and cried out, “Lord, do not hold this sin against them.” When he had said this, he fell asleep.

## Offering

*Just as you rely upon receiving income on a regular basis, King of Kings relies on your regular contributions. To assist you, the church provides a convenient electronic giving option for setting up regular contributions. Scan the QR code (use your phone camera) to set up a convenient way of electronic giving today or go to our website at [kingofkingsgg.org](http://kingofkingsgg.org) for details.*



### **King's Connection – Welcome to King of Kings!**

*Please help us get to know you better. If you are new to King of Kings, click the QR code here and let us know a little about you and, if you'd like, how we might serve you further. Thank you for worshiping with us today! Members who have a change of contact information can also do that at this link.*

## Confirmation

Confirmands, when you were baptized, your gracious Lord forgave all your sins and covered you with the robe of Christ's righteousness. Through water and Word he created faith in your hearts and adopted you into the family of believers. You have expressed the desire to confess these truths you believe before your Savior, your family and friends, and this congregation. You are ready to say with Paul, “I believed; therefore I have spoken.” In our Catechism class, you have learned to examine your thoughts, words, and actions in the light of God's law, and you have experienced the comfort of forgiveness in the Savior's gospel. With this preparation you are eager to receive the Savior's body and blood in the sacrament.

As we worship with you on this day, we are filled with joy as we see how the Lord has grown your faith and love.

Are you ready and willing to confess your faith before the triune God and those who are worshiping with you today?

**I am.**

Do you believe in God the Father?

*(The congregation is asked to join in this response)*

**Yes, I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.**

Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*(The congregation is asked to join in this response)*

**Yes, I believe in Jesus Christ, his 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 into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*(The congregation is asked to join in this response)*

**Yes, I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Do you reject the devil along with all his lies and empty promises?

**I do reject him.**

Do you believe that all the books of the Bible are the inspired and inerrant Word of God?

**I do.**

Do you believe that the teachings of the Evangelical Lutheran Church, as you have learned to know them from Luther's Small Catechism, are faithful and true to the Word of God?

**I do.**

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to remain faithful to your Lord Jesus and his Word all the days of your life?

**Yes, and I ask God to help me.**

Is it your sincere prayer and desire to live a life that pleases God, to value his Word and sacraments, and to witness to your Savior wherever you go?

**Yes, and I ask God to help me.**

I now invite each of you to receive a blessing from the Lord and a word of encouragement from the Scriptures.

**Marcos Aguilar**  
(Confirmed in 10:30am service)

As for you, continue in what you have learned and have become convinced of, because you know those from whom you learned it, and how from infancy you have known the Holy Scriptures, which are able to make you wise for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus.

2 Timothy 3:14,15

**Kira Doebler**

Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.

Joshua 1:9

**Gia Stubbs**

So do not fear, for I am with you; do not be dismayed, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you; I will uphold you with my righteous right hand.

Isaiah 41:10

**Kristie Dickinson**

For it is by grace you have been saved, through faith—and this is not from yourselves, it is the gift of God.

Ephesians 2:8

**Tim Duprey**

As you have received Christ Jesus the Lord, so live in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving.

Colossians 2:7

**Amy Lee Duprey**

We are God's handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.

Ephesians 2:10

The grace of our Lord + Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Amen.**



## Prayer

*Please share any prayer requests with Pastor Doeblner. These can be prayers that can be included here as a congregation, or they can simply be added to his private prayer list during the upcoming week.*

## 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.**

# RECEIVING

## Words of Institution

Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night he was betrayed, took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat; this is my + body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it to them, saying, "Drink from it, all of you; this is my + blood of the new covenant, which is poured out for you for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me."

The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**Amen.**

## Distribution

*King of Kings Lutheran Church observes the biblical practice of member communion (this has also been called close communion). If you are currently not a member of our congregation, we kindly ask that you speak with our pastor before communing. We look forward to talking about this very important issue with you!*

## Communion Hymn

CW 660

1 Here, O my Lord, I see you face to face;  
here would I touch and handle things unseen,  
here grasp with firmer hand eternal grace,  
and all my weariness upon you lean.

2 This is the hour of banquet and of song;  
this is the heav'nly table spread anew.  
Here let me feast and, feasting, still prolong  
the brief bright hour of fellowship with you.

3 I have no help but yours nor do I need  
another arm but yours to lean upon.  
It is enough, O Lord, enough indeed;  
my strength is in your might, your might alone.

4 Mine is the sin but yours the righteousness;  
mine is the guilt but yours the cleansing blood.  
Here is my robe, my refuge, and my peace:  
your blood, your righteousness, O Lord, my God.

5 Too soon we rise; the vessels disappear;  
the feast, though not the love, is past and gone.  
The bread and wine remove, but you are here,  
nearer than ever, still my shield and sun.

6 Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,  
yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,  
giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,  
the Lamb's great marriage feast of bliss and love.

Text: Horatius Bonar, 1808–1889, abr., alt.  
Text: Public domain

The true body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you to life everlasting. Go † in peace.

**Amen.**

## Hymn

CW 924

1 Abide, O dearest Jesus,  
among us with your grace  
that Satan may not harm us  
nor we to sin give place.

2 Abide, O dear Redeemer,  
among us with your Word  
and thus now and hereafter  
true peace and joy afford.

3 Abide with heav'nly brightness  
among us, precious Light;  
your truth direct and keep us  
from error's gloomy night.

4 Abide with richest blessings  
among us, bounteous Lord;  
let us in grace and wisdom  
grow daily through your Word.

5 Abide with your protection  
among us, Lord, our strength,  
lest world and Satan fell us  
and overcome at length.

6 Abide, O faithful Savior,  
among us with your love;  
grant steadfastness and help us  
to reach our home above.

Text: tr. August Crull, 1845–1923, alt.; Josua Stegmann, 1588–1632  
Text: Public domain

## Blessing

The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord look on you with favor and † give you peace.  
**Amen.**

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**Preach** - Proclaim Law and Gospel in truth and purity.



**Teach** - Provide lifelong, Christian nurturing and spiritual growth in God's Word so our lives will be a testimony to his glory.

## Serving This Morning

Preacher:

Accompanist:

Greeters:

Fellowship:

Communion Assistant:

Ushers:

Announcements:

Altar Set Up:

Audio/Video Booth:

Sunday School:

Pastor Brian Doeblér

Mary Plocher

Jerry & Gloria Sydow

Open

Jon Plocher

Andrew & Robin Quebe

Jon Plocher

Michael Moss

Noelle Hoffman & Andrew Sierszyn

No Sunday School

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King of Kings  
Lutheran Church

FROM BEGINNING TO END, JESUS DOES IT ALL!