



Nothing Is Impossible:

A Time of Faith, Blessings & Hope

November 22, 2020

9:30am Worship Online - 10:00am Drive-In Worship

322 Ohio St. Racine, WI 53405 (262) 637-7431

www.lcrracine.org www.youtube.com/c/lcrracine

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PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Give thanks to God, for God is good.

God's love endures forever!

God is leading us out of our wilderness.

God will provide a safe haven for us.

Place your trust in God's loving kindness.

God has heard our cries and offers us hope.

God has come to God's people with grace and hope.

Praise God for the many ways God blesses our lives.

Thanks be to God who brings us to life.

Thanks be to God who nurtures, forgives and sustains us. Amen.

GATHERING SONG

"O God Beyond All Praising"

ELW 880

PRAYER OF THE DAY

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, now and forever. Amen.

Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23

In this passage, God is praised for revealing ultimate divine power in raising Jesus from the dead.

The resurrected, exalted Christ is Lord of both the church and the entire universe, now and in the age to come.

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. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far 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. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all. The Word of the Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

Gospel of Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated:

what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ³¹“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. ³²All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, ³³and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. ³⁴Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; ³⁵for 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, ³⁶I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ ³⁷Then 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? ³⁸And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? ³⁹And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ ⁴⁰And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family you did it to me.’ ⁴¹Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; ⁴²for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, ⁴³I 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.’ ⁴⁴Then 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?’ ⁴⁵Then 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.’ ⁴⁶And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

The Gospel of Our Lord, **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL SONG

"Rejoice, for Christ is King!"

ELW 430

THE 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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary and became truly human.
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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

Pause after each prayer for a brief time of reflection.

L: Hear us, O God. **C:** Your mercy is great.

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever. **Amen.**

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION *(9:30 Online & 10am Drive-In)*

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.

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.

SENDING

BLESSING

May the God of all creation, in whose image we are made,
who claims us and calls us beloved, who strengthens us for service,
give you reason to rejoice and be glad!

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

**Today the Greater Milwaukee Synod is celebrating the 50th anniversary
of women's ordination in the ELCA with "For All the Faithful Women"**

SENDING SONG

"Soon and Very Soon"

ELW 439

SENDING

Go in peace,

as we share the Resurrection by:

Loving Jesus, Changing Lives, and Reaching Out to Serve. Thanks be to God!

O God beyond All Praising



1 O God be-yond all prais-ing, we wor-ship you to-day
2 The flow'r of earth-ly splen-dor in time must sure-ly die,
3 Then hear, O gra-cious Sav-ior, ac-cept the love we bring,



and sing the love a-maz-ing that songs can-not re-pay;
its frag-ile bloom sur-ren-der to you, the Lord most high;
that we who know your fa-vor may serve you as our King;



for we can on-ly won-der at ev-'ry gift you send,
but hid-den from all na-ture the e-ter-nal seed is sown-
and wheth-er our to-mor-rows be filled with good or ill,



at bless-ings with-out num-ber and mer-cies with-out end:
though small in mor-tal stat-ure, to heav-en's gar-den grown:
we'll tri-umph through our sor-rows and rise to bless you still:



we lift our hearts be-fore you and wait up-on your word,
for Christ, your gift from heav-en, from death has set us free,
to mar-vel at your beau-ty and glo-ry in your ways,



we hon-or and a-dore you, our great and might-y Lord.
and we through him are giv-en the fi-nal vic-to-ry,
and make a joy-ful du-ty our sac-ri-fice of praise.

Text: Michael Perry, 1942–1996

Music: THAXTED, Gustav Holst, 1874–1934

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Rejoice, for Christ Is King!



1 Re - joice, for Christ is king! Your Lord and king a - dore;
2 Our Sav - ior Je - sus reigns, the God of truth and love;
3 His king - dom can - not fail; he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
4 He sits at God's right hand till all his foes sub - mit



re - joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove:
the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus giv'n:
and bow to his com - mand and fall be - neath his feet:

Refrain



Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; re -



joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707–1788, alt.

Music: LAUS REGIS, William E. Fischer, 1849–1936

Soon and Very Soon



1 Soon and ver - y soon
2 No more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
3 No more dy - in' there,
4 Soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King,
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



soon and ver - y soon
no more cry - in' there, we are goin' to see the King.
no more dy - in' there,
soon and ver - y soon



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah, we're goin' to see the King!

Coda after stanza 4



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu -



jah, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah.

Text: Andraé Crouch, b. 1945

Music: VERY SOON, Andraé Crouch

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PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Longing for Christ's reign to come among us, we pray for the outpouring of God's power on the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Sovereign of all, train our ears to hear your cry in the needs of those around us. Bless all social ministries of the church through which we seek to serve others as we ourselves have been served. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy Creator, surprise and delight us with the beauty of the world you have made. Bless the work of doctors, nurses, Certified Nursing Assistants, healthcare workers, mental health professionals, social workers, nursing home workers, all those caring for those with COVID and so many more whose work invites us into harmonious living with your creation.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy Leader, calm us in this time of presidential transition for our government. Heal the sinful divisions we erect between our leaders, the nations and us. Release us from systems of oppression and prejudice and restore our capacity to see your image in those whose dignity we have stripped away. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy Companion, console those who feel lonely or abandoned. Be present with those who live and eat alone. Comfort those who have few friends or who struggle with their identity and place in this world. Send your healing spirit upon those we prayer for today; Bill & Carmen, Cathy, Barb, Betty, Joyce, Mark, Adele, Bill, Don, Sandy, Earl & Hazel, Sandy, Jim, Kit, Mel, Jacki, Julie and Shirley. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy Provider, be with the members of our congregation as they prayerfully consider their giving commitments towards our 2021 mission budget. We give thanks for all that God has provided and we are thankful for all the abundance the members of LCR have given to sustain our mission in Racine and beyond. May we be blessed in this coming year and into the future to share the Good News of Jesus and to continue to reach out to our neighbors.

Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Holy and Immortal One, we pray for the lives of all who have died and gone before us. Remind us of the frailty and shortness of our own lives and inspire us to use them for the building up of your kingdom. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

Receive our prayers in the name of Jesus Christ our Savior, until that day when you gather all creation around your throne where you will reign forever and ever.

Amen.