Bay Pines Lutheran

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If you'd like to connect with one of our ministers, please don't hesitate to contact them at your convenience; they'd consider it a blessing to connect with you. Thanks!

Proclaiming Christ in Pinellas County

The Fourth Weekend in End Time ~ Christ the King ~

November 19 & 20, 2022

In the name of Jesus, our Savior & Lord, welcome! Whether it's your first time with us or Bay Pines is your church home, we're glad you're here. If you:



- . . . have questions, please ask we'll do our best to answer;
- ... need the restrooms, they're in the hallway just off the north-east corner of our sanctuary (facing altar up front, look left and back);
- . . . can stick around after worship, we'd love to get to know you;
- . . . would like a call from our staff, please fill out our *connect card* in the pew and leave it in the offering plate. We'll be in touch!

If you brought young children today, thank you! Please know:

- . . . we love to hear them sing, pray, and speak along, and this is a great setting to help them respond to church, to God, and to one another;
- . . . their wiggles don't bother us (wiggles don't bother Jesus, either);
- . . . you can sit up front where little eyes and ears can see and hear;
- . . . both the men's and women's restrooms have diaper-changing stations, and there's a cry-it-out room adjacent the restrooms as well;
- . . . we love that each of you is here, and we'd be blessed to serve you!

Today's path of worship is printed this booklet. Today, hearts bow before our Jesus, the King eternal, who assures, "I am the Alpha and the Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End" (Revelation 22:13). Blessed by his victory, his verdict, and the vision of his glory, we consider the worship theme:

Eternal Live the King!

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Opening Song: For All the Saints (RED HYMNAL, 551, VV. 1, 6-8)

Last week we celebrated a stunning truth: with victory and verdict, God sees us as saints-triumphant. Sung again, this song visualizes our heaven & thrills in our King's grace.



For all the saints who from their labors rest,
All who their faith before the world confessed,
Your name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon, to faithful warriors comes their rest.
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

But then there breaks a yet more glorious day:

The saints triumphant rise in bright array;

The King of glory passes on his way. Alleluia! Alleluia!

From earth's wide bounds to ocean's farthest coast

Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,

Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Alleluia! Alleluia!

GOD GATHERS US

The Invocation

Jesus promises that when we gather in his name, he's here to bless and be with us.

Minister: In the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit.

All: **Amen!**

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

And also with you!

A Responsive Reading from: Colossians 1:13-20

The book of Colossians displays and delights in the supremacy of Christ – our Savior King. This section adores the light of grace that shines brightly from the King who reigns!

[God the Father] has rescued us from the dominion of darkness and brought us into the kingdom of the Son he loves,

in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins!

He [God the Son] is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation.

For by him all things were created:

Things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created by him and for him.

He is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the

supremacy. For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him,

And through him to reconcile to himself all things,

Whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

This is God's Word!

GOD UNITES US

Statement of Faith: The 2nd Article of the Apostles' Creed & Explanation

This statement of faith ("creed") summarizes what the Bible teaches concerning God's Son, Jesus Christ; as well as celebrates what it means to live in his kingdom & reign.

Christian, concerning Jesus Christ, the King of kings who lives and reigns eternally, what do you believe?

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.

What does this mean?

I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord.

He has redeemed me, a lost and condemned creature, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil, not with gold or silver but with his holy, precious blood and with his innocent suffering and death.

All this he did that I should be his own, and live under him in his kingdom, and serve him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as he has risen from death and lives and rules eternally.

This is most certainly true.

The Prayer of the Day

This petition appreciates Jesus' full forgiveness and asks for his guidance and blessing.

Victorious Lord, you have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to the day every creature in heaven and earth acclaims you King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory. Lord Jesus, you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever; we pray through faith in your name.

Amen!

Sung Response: Psalm 98 (FROM PAGE 98 IN THE FRONT PART OF THE BLUE HYMNAL)

A new song?! Yes! In this 3000 year old anthem, Christians delight in the special deliverance God won for us in his Son – in whom all the earth sees the power of God.

Please note: Pastor will read each "first line;" the congregation, each "indented."

All together we'll join to sing the refrain(s) & speak the final doxology.

A Childlike Illustration: Don't Worry: Jesus Reigns!

This illustration & devotion are geared for the children & child-like with us today.

GOD SPEAKS TO US

A Reading from the Old Testament: Jeremiah 23:1-6

Sounds almost foolish: a king who cares about his sheep. Not their immense number. Not the wealth they could bring. The sheep, in individual ones. But it's not foolish. It's grace!

"Woe to the shepherds who are destroying and scattering the sheep of my pasture!" declares the LORD. ² Therefore this is what the LORD, the God of Israel, says to the shepherds who tend my people: "Because you have scattered my flock and driven them away and have not bestowed care on them, I will bestow punishment on you for the evil you have done," declares the LORD.

TAKE HOME TRUTH

Our God displays and proves himself as King-eternal.

Identify special aspects of our King on display in this section.

³ "I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them and will bring them back to their pasture, where they will be fruitful and increase in number. ⁴ I will place shepherds over them who will tend them, and they will no longer be afraid or terrified, nor will any be missing," declares the LORD.

⁵ "The days are coming," declares the LORD, "when I will raise up to David a righteous Branch, a King who will reign wisely and do what is

just and right in the land. ⁶ In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. This is the name by which he will be called: The LORD Our Righteousness.

A Reading & Sermon from the Gospels: Luke 23:35-43

The King like none other...in absolutely every way. So special is our Savior! As you see him here, ponder the special activity that suffers, dies, forgives, redeems & assures!

The people stood watching, and the rulers even sneered at him. They said, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Christ of God, the Chosen One."

³⁶ The soldiers also came up and mocked him. They offered him wine vinegar ³⁷ and said, "If you are the king of the Jews, save yourself."

38 There was a written notice above him, which read: THIS IS THE KING OF THE JEWS.

³⁹ One of the criminals who hung there hurled insults at him: "Aren't you the Christ? Save yourself and us!"

⁴⁰ But the other criminal rebuked him. "Don't you fear God," he said, "since you are under the same sentence? 41 We are punished justly, for we are getting what our deeds deserve. But this man has done nothing wrong."

⁴² Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom."

Our God displays **TAKE HOME TRUTH** and proves himself as King-eternal. **Identify** special aspects of our

King on display in this section.

⁴³ Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with me in paradise."

This is the gospel of our Lord.

Praise be to you, O Christ!

SEE YOUR KING CLEARLY!

Sermon Response: Crown Him with Many Crowns (RED HYMNAL, 341)

Only by God's undeserved love, we live every day "under God's sentence." And, only by that same love, is that such a special thing. In response to it, we crown him Lord of All!



Crown him with many crowns, The Lamb upon his throne;
Hark how the heav'nly anthem drowns, all music but its own.
Awake my soul, and sing – of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King – through all eternity!

Crown him the Lord of love – behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends his wond'ring eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave

And rose victorious in the strife – for those he came to save.

His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high,

Who died eternal life to bring and lives that death may die.



Crown him the Lord of heav'n, enthroned in worlds above;
Crown him the King to whom is giv'n the wondrous name of Love.
Crown him with many crowns as thrones before him fall;
Crown him, ye kings, with many crowns for he is King of all!

GOD ACCEPTS OUR GIFTS AND PRAYERS

The Offering (THANKS FOR USING THE AISLE-BASKET FOR PHYSICAL OFFERINGS, AND THE QR CODE FOR DIGITAL)

Concerning the offering, the Lord says "each one should give what he has decided in his heart to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver" (II Cor. 9:7); whether the Gospel moves your heart to support our ministry with a prayer, a help, an encouragement, or a gift of some sort – thank you; please know we appreciate you for it!



A note to worshippers about the practice of "Member Communion":



Rejoice: the world's sins are forgiven in the Gospel! God's Word announces that special truth to the entire world; and that's what the Bible means when it says this good news is "for everyone."

Realize: the same God says something different in his Supper. In it, instead of <u>every</u> heart, he invites the <u>examined</u> heart (I Cor. 11:27-32). Relate: the pill bottle. Every prescription lists these certain details:

physician, ingredients, recipients, directions for use, & warnings against misuse. In love, God lists the same in connection to his Supper – and that's what we'd love to examine together.

Respect: it's <u>his </u>**Supper**. Because it's his directive, and because we love him and you, let's study it together and learn to celebrate his Supper as he intends. Please contact Pastor Stern; he'd love study God's Prescription with you. Thanks!

GOD INVITES US

The Lord's Prayer and our Prayer

God lovingly invites us talk with him & lay our hearts before him in prayer. So, we do!

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.

A moment to offer today's prayer requests & a moment of silence to offer our own, private prayers.

Lord, we pray all these things in Jesus' name; hear us for his sake. Amen!

GOD INVITES US

The Sacrament

Happily, we celebrate God's grace, ponder his peace, receive his Supper with thanks.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good and right so to do.

It is truly good and right that we should at all times and in all places give you thanks, O Lord, holy Father, almighty and everlasting God, through Jesus Christ our Lord, who preserves his Church to the end of time when he will come again as king to judge all people and take his own to glory. Therefore, with all the saints on earth and hosts of heaven, we praise your holy name and join their glorious song:

Sung Response: The Sanctus (FROM PAGE 22 IN THE FRONT PART OF THE RED HYMNAL)

With ancient accolades (Is. 6 & Matt. 21) we glorify the Holy ("Sanctus") One: Jesus.



Holy, holy, holy Lord God of heavenly hosts:

Heav'n and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he, blessed is he, blessed is he

Who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest!

The Consecration, Distribution, and Reception of the Lord's Supper

The Words of Institution are not a magical formula. But they do serve as a "prayer that the Lord may do what he's promised . . . as a confession that the body and blood of Christ are present in the Sacrament, and as an invitation to the communicants to make Jesus' promise their own through faith" (God So Loved the World, pg. 505).

In Holy Communion God gives us a unique opportunity to publicly display our unity of faith. He also gives us a tangible reassurance that it was his body and blood – not ours – which paid the ransom price for the world's sins and sealed our salvation. With joy in our

hearts and with hearts prepared to receive him, we hear and remember the words our Savior spoke:

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!

Sung Response: The Agnus Dei (FROM PAGE 23 IN THE FRONT PART OF THE RED HYMNAL)

Jesus is the Lamb of God ("Agnus Dei"); so we plead to and praise him for his mercy.



- O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us.
- O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Have mercy on us.
- O Christ, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; Grant us your peace. Amen.

Distribution Hymn (Sun.): All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (RED HYMNAL, 370)

God, in his rich grace, has given us so, so much! Even as we hold those blessings and enjoy those blessings, we do so knowing that all is already his very own.

Sung Response: Nunc Dimittis (FROM PG. 24 IN THE FRONT PART OF THE RED HYMNAL)

Nunc Dimittis is Latin for <u>now let us depart</u>. Having been reassured of God's blessings and confident of his care, we, like Simeon of old (Luke 2:29), sing of our God's greatness.



Lord, now you let your servant depart in peace
According to your Word.

For my eyes have seen your salvation,
Which you have prepared before
The face of all people,
A light to lighten the Gentiles
And the glory of your people Israel.

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good!

And his mercy endures forever!

Almighty God, you have refreshed us with this holy supper. Thank you! We pray that through it you will strengthen our faith in you and increase our love for one another. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord; he lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen!

GOD ASSURES US

Concluding Benediction

Where the LORD's name is, there his blessing also is. Refreshed by his goodness, gifts, and grace, our service concludes with his promise to bless and be with us (Numbers 6).

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!

Final Song: There Is a Higher Throne (BLUE HYMNAL, 885)

Hearts, rejoice; lives, resound: our Jesus holds the eternal scepter and reigns on high forever and ever and ever-more. And, because of his eternal promise, we forever rejoice.



There is a higher throne, than all this world has known,
Where faithful ones from ev'ry tongue, will one day come.
Before the Son we'll stand, made faultless through the Lamb;
Believing hearts find promised grace; salvation comes.
Hear heaven's voices sing; their thund'rous anthem rings
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies; their praises rise.
All glory, wisdom, pow'r, strength thanks, and honor are
To God our King who reigns on high forever-more!

And there we'll find our home, our life before the throne;
We'll honor him in perfect song, where we belong.
He'll wipe each tear-stained eye, as thirst and hunger die;
The Lamb becomes our Shepherd-King; we'll reign with him!
Hear heaven's voices sing; their thund'rous anthem rings
Through em'rald courts and sapphire skies; their praises rise.
All glory, wisdom, pow'r, strength thanks, and honor are
To God our King who reigns on high forever-more!

Bay Pines' Ministry Announcements:

For our prayers (please remember the family of these dear friends, too):

- our ministry in life, school, & church as we go forth with the gospel!
- Peggy & John Mitton, as they deal with health hurdles
- Mary Meinke, as she rehabs & recovers from a fall
- Peace Lutheran in Trinity, as they dedicate their new sanctuary

in our gratitude:

- Sharon Mueller & Bonnie Meiggs for edifying our worship with music
- today's offering counters: Fass/Priebe [next week: Collins/VanAuken]

on our calendars (please email additional dates to office@baypineslutheran.com):

*to stay most current on ministry happenings and to receive our weekly updates, please email news@baypineslutheran.com

Spiritual growth opportunities :

- o worship: Saturdays at 6:00p & Sundays at 9:30a
 - next week's readings: Matthew 24:36-44 Isaiah 2:1-5

Romans 13:11-14 Psalm 18

- o Bible studies: Th (10a), Sun (8:30a; all ages), & Mon (6:30p; ladies)
- TG Eve service: November 23 at 6pm (no services on 11/24 or 11/26)
 100% of our TG offering will be dedicated to hurricane relief
- Midweek Advent service : Wednesday, December 7 at 6pm
- Christmas Caroling: December 18 (see Jon Kulhanek for more details)

to stay mindful of opportunities:

- Next congregational meeting: December 4
- sign-up opportunities (Angel tree & Poinsettias)

