

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Thanksgiving Service-Today

We are hosting the service later this afternoon (5:00 PM). We will also have a time of fellowship after the service and will have coffee, cookies and other dessert items. Please come to the service and stay for the fellowship time. If you need a ride, let Nalani know.

### Community Christmas Concert– December 7

We want to add our support for this event by providing cookies, brownies or other goodies to be served during the intermission. The concert is being held on Sunday, December 7, 4:00 PM at the Wilton Community Center.

### Caroling—December 10

We'll gather at 5:30 PM, have a quick meal, and then head off to carol to members of St. Paul's as well as folks here in the Village or nearby. All are welcome to participate.

### Live Nativity– December 13

We have reservations on Saturday, December 13, to attend the live nativity at English Lutheran Church in La Crosse. We added a couple extra slots to be safe. If you are interested in car pooling, please sign on the sheet in the narthex or let Nalani know. We will leave for La Crosse at 10:30 AM.



St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Wilton, WI

24th Sunday after Pentecost

Christ the King Sunday

November 23, 2025

10:15 AM

**Inviting People to  
Journey with Christ's Family**

*Jeremiah's promise of the execution of "justice and righteousness in the land" finds ironic fulfillment in the execution of Jesus of Nazareth, the King of the Jews. It appears utterly contradictory that a king should be crucified with a criminal. This victory appears for all the world as humiliating defeat. Yet through the gate of death Jesus opens the door to paradise.*

*\*(Indicates the people should stand as they are able.)*

Welcome and Announcements

### **Gathering**

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

### **\*PEACE**

The peace of Christ be with you always.

**And also with you.**

Let us greet one another with a sign of Christ's peace.

**\*Hymn "Jesus, Remember Me"**

**ELW#616 x3**

### **\*CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

Blessed be the holy Trinity, ☩ one God,  
our maker, our helper, and our keeper.

**Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God  
and of one another.

Faithful God,  
**you have shown us the ways of your heart,  
yet we stray from your paths.  
We are stuck in sinful systems of oppression  
and do not embrace the freedom  
of your faithful promises.  
We ignore our neighbors.  
We exploit the earth.  
We reject your abundance,  
trusting our impulses instead of your steadfast love.  
Repair our relationships,  
restore what we have broken,  
renew our hearts,  
and bring us to new life.  
Amen.**

Hear the good news:  
God the Faithful One loves you,  
✠ in Christ Jesus your sins are forgiven,  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit you are set free.  
**Amen.**

**Hymn                    “Crown Him With Many Crowns”                    “ELW#855**

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**

**CALENDAR**

Sun., Nov. 23	Decorating Thanksgiving Service	11:30 AM 5:00 PM
Sun., Nov 30	Sunday School Worship	9:00 AM 10:15 AM
Sun., Dec. 7	Sunday School Worship Council Meeting Community Christmas Concert Wilton Community Center	9:00 AM 10:15 AM 11:15 AM 4:00 PM
Wed., Dec. 10	Caroling	5:30 PM
Sat., Dec. 13	Live Nativity @ English Lutheran	10:30 AM
Sun., Dec. 14	Sunday School Worship (Baptism)	9:00 AM 10:15 AM
Sun., Dec. 21	Sunday School Worship Bishop Felix Malpica Council Meeting	9:00 AM 10:15 AM
Wed., Dec. 24	Christmas Sing Worship Service	6:00 PM 7:00 PM
Sun., Dec. 28	Worship Service	10:15 PM

Hymn                      “Lift High the Cross”                      ELW#660

## DISMISSAL

Go in peace. Share the harvest.

Thanks be to God.

## THOSE SERVING TODAY

Ministers: All God’s People; Synod Authorized Minister:

Karen Sparling; Organist: Nalani Bever; Reader: Leonard Arndt;

Acolytes: Linus Arndt, Mia Anderson

## IN OUR PRAYERS

Gloria Meltesen, Linda, Jeremy Munson, Kristy Gwin Solovey, Gordy O’Rourke, Marilyn O’Rourke, Larry Arndt, Nick Evans, Jack Arndt, Collin Niedfeldt, Mark Drews, Carol Lydon Fronk, Jeri Bauer Weger, Patty Von Haden, Ben Bender, Jeff Bruce, Pastor Bob Gerke, Brian, Jim Summerfield, Darlene Diekrager.

## IN THE MILITARY

Jacob Picha, Dylan Dougherty, Danelle Dougherty, Allen Roscovious, Robert Cale, Matthew Dutton

## \*Prayer of the Day

O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

## WORD

*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song.*

## FIRST READING

*Today’s reading builds on the common, ancient Near Eastern metaphor of the king as shepherd. Judah’s unjust rulers have caused their people, their “flock,” to be scattered. Nevertheless, God will raise up a new and righteous shepherd who will rule a restored Judah.*

### A reading from Jeremiah 23:1-6

<sup>1</sup> Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD. <sup>2</sup> Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD. <sup>3</sup> Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. <sup>4</sup> I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and

they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing,  
says the LORD.

<sup>5</sup> The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. <sup>6</sup> In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **Psalm 46**

<sup>1</sup> God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.

<sup>2</sup> **Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,  
and though the mountains shake in the depths of the  
sea;**

<sup>3</sup> though its waters rage and foam,  
and though the mountains tremble with its tumult.

<sup>4</sup> **There is a river whose streams make glad the city of  
God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.**

<sup>5</sup> God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be shaken;  
God shall help it at the break of day.

<sup>6</sup> **The nations rage, and the kingdoms shake;  
God speaks, and the earth melts away.**

<sup>7</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

<sup>8</sup> **Come now, regard the works of the LORD,  
what desolations God has brought upon the earth;**

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

There is a place for you at the table of God.  
Come, receive the food that does not perish,  
a taste of life eternal.

***Everyone who believes in Jesus is welcome at Christ's table.***

**"Lamb of God"**

**ELW p. 208**

Distribution

## **\*PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

**God of field and flower, wheat and grape,  
you have nourished us with the bread of heaven  
that gives life to the world.  
Strengthened by the body and blood of your Son,  
send us out to gather your good gifts for all who  
hunger and thirst, and embolden us to love  
and serve in Christ's name.**

**Amen.**

## **SENDING**

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

## **\*BLESSING**

The love of God the Sovereign strengthen you,  
God the Son save you,  
and God the Holy Spirit anoint you for the work ahead.  
The holy Trinity bless you ✠  
and grant you a faithful and courageous heart  
now and forever.

**Amen.**

## **\*OFFERING PRAYER**

God of healing and hope,  
you bless those who are hungry,  
promising to fill them with good things.  
Fulfill that promise through us and these your gifts.  
Nourish us with the abundance of your feast  
and unite us into the blessed body of Jesus Christ our  
Savior, now and forever.

Amen.

## **MEAL**

God feeds us with the presence of Jesus Christ

## **\*THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

### **\*GREAT THANKSGIVING**

Words of Institution

### **\*LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**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.**

<sup>9</sup> behold the one who makes war to cease in all the world;  
who breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns  
the shields with fire.

<sup>10</sup> **“Be still, then, and know that am God;  
I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in  
the earth.”**

<sup>11</sup> The LORD of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our stronghold.

## **SECOND READING**

*An early Christian hymn praises the mystery of the political, personal,  
and mystical Christ, the one who was present at creation and is  
eternally reigning with God.*

### **A reading from Colossians 1:11-20**

<sup>11</sup> May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his  
glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience,  
joyfully <sup>12</sup> giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in  
the inheritance of the saints in the light. <sup>13</sup> He has rescued us from the  
power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved  
Son, <sup>14</sup> in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

<sup>15</sup> He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation, <sup>16</sup>  
for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible  
and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all  
things have been created through him and for him. <sup>17</sup> He himself is  
before all things, and in him all things hold together. <sup>18</sup> He is the head of  
the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead,  
so that he might come to have first place in everything. <sup>19</sup> For in him all

the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,<sup>20</sup> and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**\*Gospel Acclamation** **ELW p.205**

**\*GOSPEL READING**

**The holy gospel according to John 23:33-43**

**Glory to you, O Lord.** The gospel of the Lord.

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?”<sup>34</sup> Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?”<sup>35</sup> Pilate 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?”<sup>36</sup> Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to 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.”<sup>37</sup> Pilate 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.**

Sermon Karen Sparling  
Synod Authorized Minister

Hymn **“All Hail The Power of Jesus’ Name”** **ELW #634**

**\*APOSTLE’S 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.**

**\*PRAYERS** **(Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.)**

Gathered with one voice, we offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

**OFFERING**

**\*OFFERING HYMN**

\*Hymn **“Lord Let My Heart Be Good Soil”** **ELW #512**