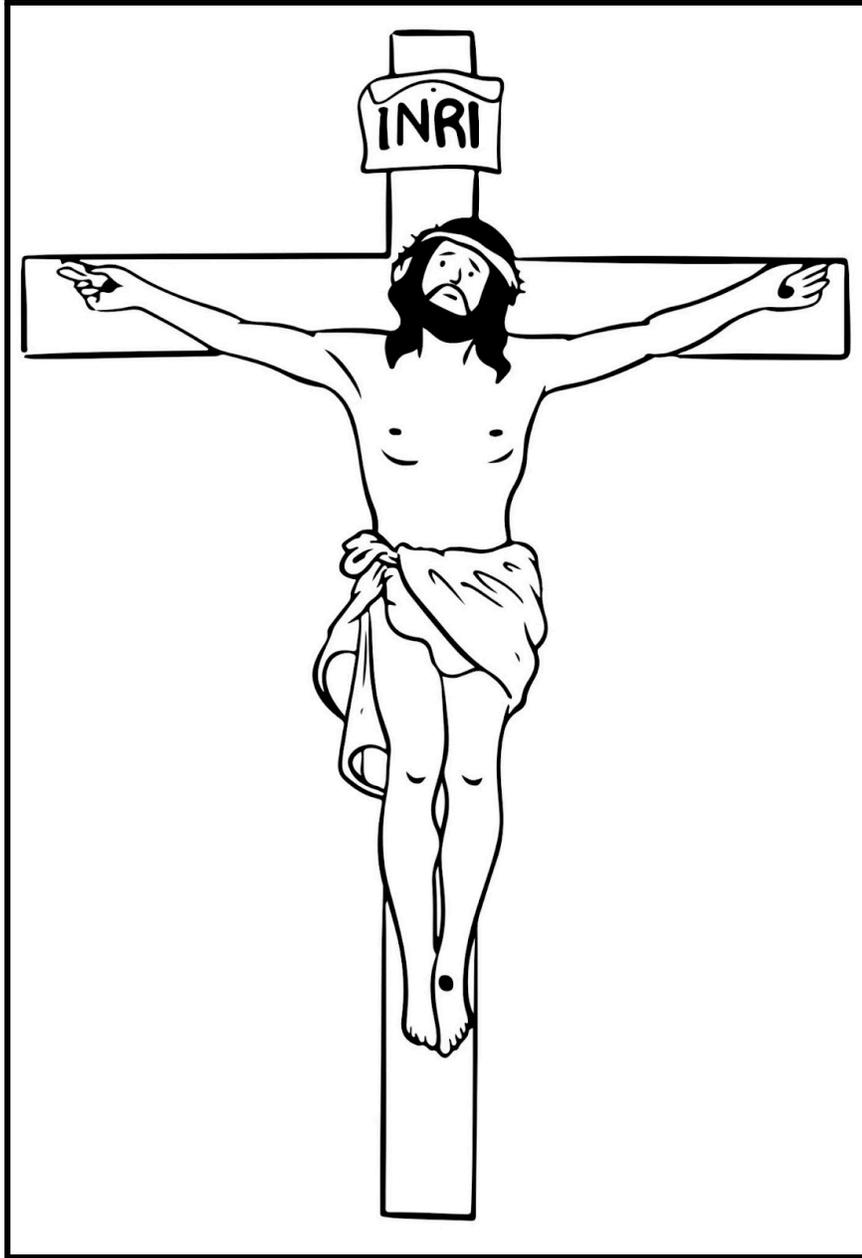




# TREE OF LIFE

Christian Fellowship

**“for Healing, Obedience, & Peace on Earth” (H.O.P.E.)**



**Christ the King | 23 Nov 2025**

**“The Gospel”**

**Mark 1—16**

# ✠ The Way of Jesus Liturgy ✠

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## Invocation

Father, Creator of Heaven and Earth, ♦ **you created us to serve and protect your creation.** ♦ But we selfishly destroyed the balance of your creation ♦ **by choosing our own “good” and making Civilization.** ♦ So you sent your Son Jesus to embody the Way of the Lamb, ♦ **so we will die with him to Civilization’s Way of arrogance, fear, and violence.** ♦ And also be reborn with him through your Holy Spirit ♦ **to care for all of your creation by following Jesus’s Way of faith, hope, and love.**

## Processional Song — GC2 656 “*Whatever You Do*”

*REFRAIN:* ♪ *Whatever you do to the least of his people, you have done for Jesus.*

♪ *When I was hungry, you gave me your food. When I was thirsty, you gave me a drink. Now enter into the home of my Father.* ♪ (REFRAIN)

♪ *When I was homeless, you opened your door. When I was naked, you gave me your coat. Now enter into the home of my Father.* ♪ (REFRAIN)

♪ *When I was hated, you visited me. When I was sickly, you cared for my needs. Now enter into the home of my Father.* ♪ (REFRAIN)

♪ *When I was weary, you helped me find rest. When I was anxious, you calmed all my fears. Now enter into the home of my Father.* ♪ (REFRAIN)

♪ *When I was abused, you stood by my side. When I was lonely, you gave me your love. Now enter into the home of my Father.* ♪ (REFRAIN)

## Christ the King Litany

O Jesus, king of all heaven and earth, ♦ **rule in our hearts and lives.**

O Jesus, king over all nations, ♦ **we are here to serve you alone.**

O Jesus, servant of all, ♦ **we thank you for your care and provision.**

## Prayer of the Day

Jesus says, “Where two or three are gathered in my name, I am there with them.”

(the Christ candle is lit to remind us that Jesus is coming among us)

♪ *We are filled with the Spirit, and we follow the Lord, We are filled with the Spirit, and we follow the Lord, And we pray that all creation may one day be restored. And they’ll know we are Christians by our love, by our love, Yes, they’ll know we are Christians by our love.* ♪ (GC2 728)

The Lord Jesus be with you. ♦ **And also with you.** ♦ Let us pray. Heavenly Father, help us to listen to the Gospel and submit to Jesus as the only Lord of all creation. In the name of Jesus, your Son, our Lord. † **Amen.**

## † Baptism — The Way of Faith †

## Surrendering to the Creator

Jesus says, “If you hold onto your life, ♦ **you will destroy it.** ♦ But if you let go of your life, ♦ **you will save it.** ♦ You must be born again through water and the Spirit ♦ **to enter the Creator’s Kingdom.”** ♦ Father, Son, & Holy Spirit ♦ **I surrender to you all of my † mind, all of my † heart, and all of my † body and † soul.**

(we make the sign of the cross—touching forehead, heart, and shoulders)

Father, into your hands ♦ **I commit my spirit.** ♦ Father, not my will, ♦ **but your will be done.** ♪ *Take my life and all my heart, take my whole soul ev'ry part. Take my mouth and let it be, filled with your truth and mercy.* ♪ *Take my hands and let them love, with compassion from above. Take my feet and let them go, on the Way that Jesus showed.* ♪ *Take my money and fam'ly, give me faith and set me free. Take my life and teach me how to love all creation now.* ♪ (LSB 783)

### Listening to the Creator

Jesus says, “Come to me, all of you who are tired and burdened. Learn from me and practice my teachings and you will find rest for your souls. Those who listen will live.”

♪ *Listen to what Jesus teaches, listen to him every day. Listen as you walk and follow, listen also as you pray. Listen to him every moment, listen with an open mind. Listen to find peace and patience, listen so you will be kind.* ♪ (LSB 770)

† Holy Gospel † Mark 1:1—3:6

The holy Gospel comes from Mark. ♦ **Blessed are those who listen to Jesus.**

If you have ears to hear, then listen! ♦ **Lord Jesus, help us to practice your Word.**

### Remembering the Saints & Martyrs — Andrew the Apostle

Father, we give you thanks for the great cloud of saints and witnesses who have gone before us and have embodied the Way of Jesus. Today we remember Andrew who, along with his brother Peter, listened to the call to leave everything behind to follow Jesus and become one of the Twelve Apostles. After being with Jesus throughout his ministry, Andrew went to Greece to preach the Gospel before being crucified there. As he hung on the cross for two days dying he continued to preach the good news of Jesus. Help us learn from his faith and example, † **Amen.**

† Holy Gospel † Mark 3:7—5:20

The holy Gospel comes from Mark. ♦ **Blessed are those who listen to Jesus.**

If you have ears to hear, then listen! ♦ **Lord Jesus, help us to practice your Word.**

### Chanted Psalm — *Psalm 150*



♪ *Praise the Lord in | all the earth!*

\* *Praise the Lord who is | Lord of all!*

*Praise the Lord for his | mighty acts!*

\* *Praise the Lord for all | his greatness!*

*Praise the Lord with song | and music*

\* *Praise the Lord with | drum and dance!*

*Let every living thing | praise the Lord!*

\* *Praise the Lord in | all the earth!* ♪

† Holy Gospel † Mark 5:21—8:26

The holy Gospel comes from Mark. ♦ **Blessed are those who listen to Jesus.**

If you have ears to hear, then listen! ♦ **Lord Jesus, help us to practice your Word.**

## † Repentance — The Way of Hope †

### Confronting Our Past

Jesus says, “I know everything you do. Pay attention and remove the log from your own eye. I have called you out of Civilization. Repent, the Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!”

(silence for reflection)

For not loving you with our whole hearts and instead placing our self, family, and nation above you, ♦ **Father, forgive us.** ♦ For not loving our neighbors and enemies as ourselves, ♦ **Father, forgive us.** ♦ Father, turn us back to walking in your Spirit. ♪ ***Lord Father we have wandered and hidden from your face. Rescue your whole creation with your almighty grace. From trust in wealth and weapons and blindness to your Way, save us and all creation with your own hands, we pray.*** ♪ (LSB 449)

Jesus says, “I discipline those I love. If you love your self, family, or nation more than me, you cannot be my disciple. Come out of Civilization, my people, so you will not share in its sicknesses. Not one stone will be left standing, it will all be torn down.” Will you turn away from Civilization’s Way of arrogance, fear, and violence and reaffirm your Baptism into Jesus’s Way of faith, hope, and love? ♦ **Yes, I renounce Civilization’s Way and pledge to follow Jesus.** ♦ Jesus says, “Put your sword away. If you live by the sword, you will die by the sword. But if you forgive others, your heavenly Father will forgive you.” Will you release all debts and grudges that you hold against anyone—including every member of this church? ♦ **Yes, I forgive all those who have hurt me, frustrated me, or owe me anything.** ♦ Jesus says, “Your sins are forgiven. Get up and walk. Go and sin no more.” † **Amen.**

† Holy Gospel † Mark 8:27—10:52

The holy Gospel comes from Mark. ♦ **Blessed are those who listen to Jesus.**

If you have ears to hear, then listen! ♦ **Lord Jesus, help us to practice your Word.**

### Song of the Day — *LSB 512 “At the Name of Jesus”*

♪ *At the name of Jesus ev’ry knee will bow, ev’ry tongue confess him King of earth right now. It’s the Father’s desire we should call him Lord, who from the beginning was the mighty Word.* ♪

♪ *At this voice creation sprang at once into sight. All the seas and forests, all the stars of light, all plants and animals, rivers on their way, creatures all big and small, in their great array.* ♪

♪ *In your hearts enthrone him, there let him subdue, all that is not holy, all that is not true. Look to him your Savior, in temptations’ hour, let his will embrace you, in its light and power.* ♪

♪ *Christians this Lord Jesus has not come in vain, through his Father’s Spirit he does truly reign. For all wreaths of empire meet upon his brow, and our hearts confess him King of mercy now.* ♪

† Holy Gospel † Mark 11:1—13:37

The holy Gospel comes from Mark. ♦ **Blessed are those who listen to Jesus.**

If you have ears to hear, then listen! ♦ **Lord Jesus, help us to practice your Word.**

## Waiting on the Creator

♫ ***Our Father, bring your Rule and will to earth. Give what we need for worry-free rebirth. Bring peace among us and forgive us too, as we forgive and love in all we do.***  
♫ ***Protect us from all things that will mislead. Keep us from selfishness, violence, and greed. We place our lives into your hands this day. Teach us to listen and to walk your Way. Amen.*** ♫ (LSB 637)

(incense is lit to symbolize our prayers ascending to God and as its smell fills this space we are reminded of his presence among us)

Jesus says, “Learn from the birds. They do not store up for tomorrow and yet your heavenly Father feeds them. Do not fear or worry about tomorrow. Seek only your Father’s Kingdom and he will give you everything you need.” *In peace, let us pray to the Lord, ♫ Lord have mercy. ♫*

**Our Father in Heaven, may your name be holy, may your Kingdom come, and may your will be done—on Earth as in Heaven. Give us this day what we need for today. Forgive us in the same way that we forgive others. Do not abandon us when we are tempted, but pull us away from what is evil. For the Kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours—now and forever. † Amen. ♦** Father, provide for us, protect us, and heal our brokenness. Especially this day we remember Charlene Sargent, John Espino, Bill Mellott, Cebra Sims, and those we name in our hearts... Father, give us exactly what we need this day and teach us to be content with that. Help us to trust that you are working all things for our good. *In peace, let us pray to the Lord, ♫ Lord have mercy. ♫*

† Holy Gospel † Mark 14:1—16:8

The holy Gospel comes from Mark. ♦ **Blessed are those who listen to Jesus.**

If you have ears to hear, then listen! ♦ **Lord Jesus, help us to practice your Word.**

## † Communion — The Way of Love †

### Sharing the Lord’s Peace

Jesus says, “Make peace with each other ♦ **before you come to the Lord’s altar.** By this all people will know that you are my disciples: ♦ **if you love each other.**”

### Offering & Musical Offering

Jesus says, “Do not store up things on earth. To be my disciple you must give up everything you own. Sell your possessions and give to the poor.” We offer all we have to the Lord, while also offering gifts to support this communion.

### Pledge of Allegiance

♫ ***We come before you, Lord, to bow. We lay our lives at your feet now. All things are yours, we own nothing! Our lives are in your hands this day. Give what we need, O Lord, we pray. Please protect us, provide for us! Watch over us, ever with us, always love us!*** ♫ (LSB 816) Jesus says, “If you pledge your allegiance to me before others, then I will pledge my allegiance to you before my heavenly Father.”

♦ **I pledge allegiance to one God, the all-powerful Father, who is the Creator of Heaven and Earth, of all things visible and invisible.**

♦ **I pledge allegiance to one Lord, Jesus Christ, who is God’s only Son. For us**

and for our salvation he came down from heaven. He was conceived by the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary. He loved and he suffered. Under Pontius Pilate, he was crucified, died, and was buried. On the third day he was raised from the dead. He ascended to heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. He is coming to judge the living and the dead. His Kingdom will not end.

◆ I pledge allegiance to the Holy Spirit, who is the giver of life, the holy universal Church, the communion of saints, the baptism for forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life in the age to come. † Amen.

### Thanksgiving — Εὐχαριστία

Let us give thanks to our Creator! ◆ **It is right to give him thanks and praise!**

Father, we praise and thank you, ◆ **for you provide, protect, love, and renew us and all creation!** ◆ We are grateful for all that you give, especially for... Father, we thank you for marrying yourself to us and uniting Heaven and Earth, Spirit and Flesh, and Christ and the Church through your Son Jesus! ♪ *Joyful, joyful we adore you, Creator of all that lives! Earth and heaven praise and thank you, for your love and all you give! Fields and forests, fruit trees and birds, thunderstorms and starry skies, seas and mountains, and grazing herds, praising you who never dies!* ♪ (LSB 803)

### † Words of Our Lord Jesus †

On the night before our Lord Jesus was crucified, he revealed his Way of rescuing all creation from the Way of Civilization. Before supper, Jesus humbly washed the feet of his students and enemies. Jesus said, ◆ **“Follow my example. Love each other, even your enemies, in the same way I have loved you.”** ◆ During supper, Jesus then took the bread and broke it. He gave it to them, saying, “This is my body which is being given for you. Do the same for each other in my memory.” After supper, Jesus then took the cup and gave thanks. He said, “This is my blood of the covenant which is being shed for you, for the forgiveness of your sin. Do the same for each other in my memory.” ♪ *Oh come Lord Jesus come and dine and give yourself through bread and wine. Feed us so we may have new birth, and bring your rule ov'r all the earth. Come now, come now! Our Lord Jesus and bring your healing love to us!* ♪ (LSB 357)

### Sharing the Bread & Wine

Jesus says, “I am the bread of life. Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood is united with me and will be raised from the dead.” As we feed on the Bread of Heaven ◆ **we are made members of Christ’s Body.** ◆ We no longer live for ourselves ◆ **but Christ lives within us.** ◆ We invite all Baptized members of the holy universal Church, who give their undivided allegiance to Jesus and are at peace with their brothers and sisters in Christ, to join us ◆ **as the Creator’s Lamb mysteriously gives himself to us in, with, and under this bread, wine, and communion.** ♪ *We fall down now before you, Jesus you are the Lord. We lay our crowns before you, and put down all our swords. We give you all of our lives, we will hold nothing back. For you gave us everything, there is nothing we lack. You are the true Lamb of God, you gave your life for all. Teach us now to live like lambs, to trust you as we fall.* ♪ (LSB 941)

Recessional Song — LSB 549 “All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

- ♪ *All hail the power of Jesus’ name! Let all before him fall. Lay down to him all pow’r and fame, and crown him Lord of all. Lay down to him all pow’r and fame, and crown him Lord of all!* ♪
- ♪ *All people who had lost your place, now rescued from your fall, hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all. Hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!* ♪
- ♪ *Let ev’ry tribe and ev’ry throne, respond now to his call, let go of ev’rything you own, and crown him Lord of all. Let go of ev’rything you own, and crown him Lord of all!* ♪
- ♪ *Oh that with all his foll’wers strong, we at his feet may fall! We’ll join the everlasting son, and crown him Lord of all. We’ll join the everlasting song, and crown him Lord of all!* ♪

Sent to “Do the Same in My Memory”

Christ Jesus, you are the Lamb, who has laid down your body and blood for us, ♦ **help us to be lambs who do the same for each other in your memory.** † Amen.

Jesus says, “Go and live this truth: ♦ **The Kingdom of Heaven is at hand!** ♦ Heal the sick, raise the dead, ♦ **cleanse the unclean, and cast out evil spirits.** ♦ Freely you have received from the Creator, ♦ **now freely you must give.** ♦ I am sending you like lambs among wolves, ♦ **but do not fear, take up your cross and follow me.**”

♪ *Give us mouths to sing your glory, hearts your teachings to obey, hands that live your love that fills us, feet to walk your holy Way. Holy Spirit, light-creator, may the truth which you do send, fill our lives with loving mercy and trusting peace without end!* ♪ (LSB 578)

Blessing

Jesus says, “Blessed are you in your poverty and suffering, for you are in the Creator’s Kingdom. Blessed are you in your humility, for you will inherit the earth. Blessed are you when you are merciful and peaceful, for you will find mercy and peace.” † Amen.

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- \* Faith & Film: “Adolescence” (Nov 24, Dec 1) | “Seven” (Dec 8, 15) | “Signs” (Jan 5, 12)
- \* Growing in H.O.P.E.: Wednesdays @ DG (5:30 pm food/fellowship, 6:00 pm study)

**Questions & Conversations:**

Dec 3 (potluck) — “Predestination & Free Will”

Dec 10 — “The Holy Spirit”

Dec 17 — “Spiritual Disciplines”

- \* Game Night: First Fridays @ DG (6 pm, BYOB), Dec 5, Jan 2, Feb 6
- \* Christ the King: Join us for our 2.5 hr service on Nov 23 as we listen to all Mark’s Gospel.
- \* 2026 Annual Budget Approval: Dec 7 following liturgy.

**Weekly Calendar | November 23 - 30, 2025**

<b>Sun, Nov 23</b>	9:30 am	Liturgy & Αγάπη Feast   Gospel of Mark
<b>Mon, Nov 24</b>	6:00 pm	Faith & Film
<b>Wed, Nov 26</b>		
<b>Sat, Nov 29</b>	7-9 am	Breakfast & Devotion
<b>Sun, Nov 30</b>	9:30 am	Liturgy & Αγάπη Feast   Isaiah 1:1-20, 2:1-22

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