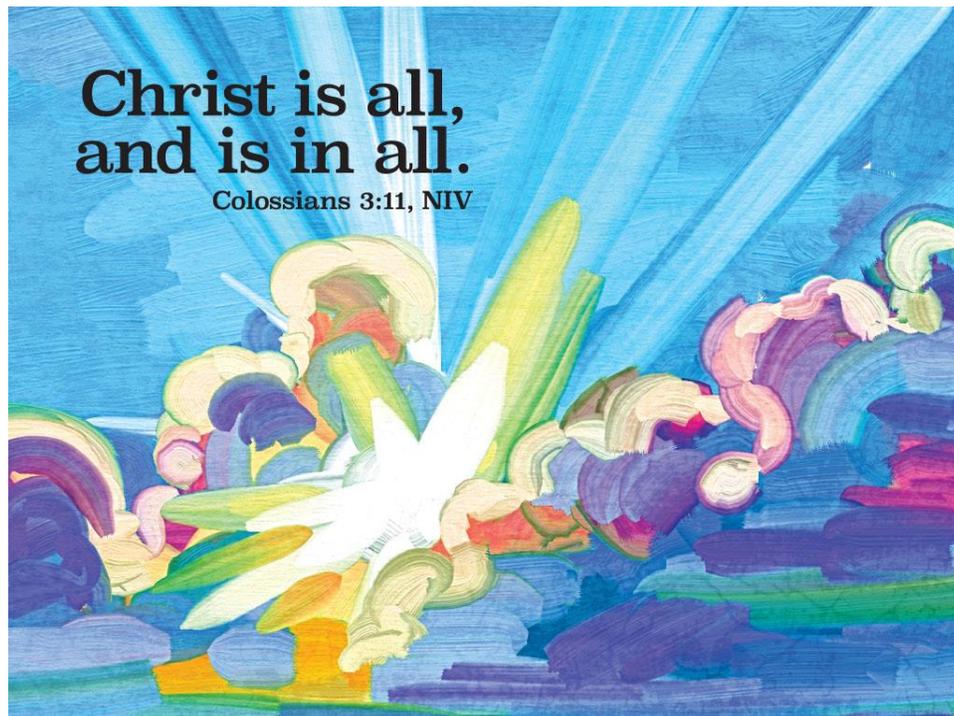




**Bethel**  
Lutheran Church WELS

**Final Sunday  
in End Times**



**Jesus Christ is the King of kings and Lord of lords**

Bethel Lutheran exists to serve all people with the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

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**www.bethelwels.org**  
N29280 Loesel Lane Arcadia  
N16303 Church Lane Galesville

**Pastor Jon Cox**  
608.582.9998  
jon.nathan.cox@gmail.com

**Karla Johnson – Admin. Asst.**  
608.863.2428  
johnson.karla.j@gmail.com

**Hymn                    216                    Saints, Behold! The Sight Is Glorious**

1 Saints, behold! The sight is glorious-See the man of sorrows now,  
From the fight returned victorious! Ev'ry knee to him shall bow.  
Crown him! Crown him! Crowns become the victor's brow.

2 Crown the Savior! Angels, crown him! Rich the trophies Jesus brings;  
On the seat of pow'r enthrone him While the vault of heaven rings.  
Crown him! Crown him! Crown the Savior King of kings!

**Psalm 47**

**Refrain: Let the people praise you, O God. Let all the people praise you.**

Clap your hands, all you nations;  
**shout to God with cries of joy.**  
How awesome is the LORD Most High,  
**the great King over all the earth!**  
God reigns over the nations;  
**God is seated on his holy throne.**

**Refrain: Let the people praise you, O God. Let all the people praise you.**

God has ascended amid shouts of joy,  
**the LORD amid the sounding of trumpets.**  
Sing praises to God, sing praises;  
**sing praises to our King, sing praises.**  
For God is the King of all the earth;  
**sing to him a psalm of praise.**

**Hymn                    373                    O Jesus, King Most Wonderful**

1 O Jesus, King most wonderful, O Majesty renowned,  
O Conqueror invincible, In whom all joys are found,

3 O Jesus, Light of all below, O Fount of life and fire,  
Surpassing all the joys we know, All that we can desire,

4 May ev'ry heart confess your name, Forever you adore,  
Enkindled with the Spirit's flame To love you more and more.

**The Gospel Lesson for Christ the King Sunday  
Matthew 27: 27-31**

Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole company of soldiers around him. 28 They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him, 29 and then twisted together a crown of thorns and set it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand.

Then they knelt in front of him and mocked him. "Hail, king of the Jews!" they said. 30 They spit on him, and took the staff and struck him on the head again and again. 31 After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

### **Confession and Absolution**

**P:** **Let us pray...** Almighty God, our Maker and Redeemer, we poor sinners confess to you that we are by nature sinful and unclean and that we have sinned against you by thought, word, and deed. For this reason, we flee for refuge to your infinite mercy, seeking and imploring your grace for the sake of our Lord Jesus Christ.

**ALL:** **O most merciful God, who has given your only-begotten Son to die for us, have mercy upon us and for his sake grant us remission of all our sins; and by your Holy Spirit increase in us true knowledge of you and of your will and true obedience to your Word, so that by your grace we may come to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

**P:** Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy on us and has given his only Son to die for us and for his sake forgives us all our sins. To those that believe on his name he gives power to become the children of God and has promised them his Holy Spirit. He that believes and is baptized shall be saved.

**ALL:** **Lord, grant this to us all. Amen.**

**C:** *(sung)* Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, his the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:  
"Jesus out of ev'ry nation Has redeemed us by his blood."

### **Prayer of the Day**

**P:** Lord Jesus Christ, by your victory you have broken the power of the evil one. Fill our hearts with joy and peace as we look with hope to that day when every creature in heaven and earth will acclaim you King of kings and Lord of lords to your unending praise and glory; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

### **First Lesson      1 Corinthians 15: 20-28**

But Christ has indeed been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. 21 For since death came through a man, the resurrection of the dead comes also through a man. 22 For as in Adam all die, so in Christ all will be made alive. 23 But each in turn: Christ, the firstfruits; then, when he comes, those who belong to him. 24 Then the end will come, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father after he has destroyed all dominion, authority and power. 25 For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. 26 The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

**Hymn****153****Alleluia! Jesus Lives**

1 Alleluia! Jesus lives! He is now the living one;  
From the gloomy house of death Forth the conqueror has gone,  
Bright forerunner to the skies  
Of his people, yet to rise.

3 Jesus lives! Why do you weep? Why that sad and frequent sigh?  
He who died our brother here Lives our brother still on high,  
Lives forever to bestow  
Blessings on his Church below.

4 Jesus lives! And thus, my soul, Life is yours eternally;  
Joined to him, your living head, Where he is, you too shall be;  
You with him at his right hand  
Victor over death shall stand.

**Second Lesson****Revelation 19: 5-9, 11-16**

Then a voice came from the throne, saying: "Praise our God, all you his servants, you who fear him, both great and small!" 6 Then I heard what sounded like a great multitude, like the roar of rushing waters and like loud peals of thunder, shouting: "Hallelujah! For our Lord God Almighty reigns. 7 Let us rejoice and be glad and give him glory! For the wedding of the Lamb has come, and his bride has made herself ready. 8 Fine linen, bright and clean, was given her to wear." (Fine linen stands for the righteous acts of God's holy people.) 9 Then the angel said to me, "Write this: Blessed are those who are invited to the wedding supper of the Lamb!" And he added, "These are the true words of God."

11 I saw heaven standing open and there before me was a white horse, whose rider is called Faithful and True. With justice he judges and wages war. 12 His eyes are like blazing fire, and on his head are many crowns. He has a name written on him that no one knows but he himself. 13 He is dressed in a robe dipped in blood, and his name is the Word of God. 14 The armies of heaven were following him, riding on white horses and dressed in fine linen, white and clean. 15 Coming out of his mouth is a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations. "He will rule them with an iron scepter." He treads the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God Almighty. 16 On his robe and on his thigh he has this name written: King of kings and Lord of lords.

**Hymn****577****Rise, O Light of Gentile Nations**

1 Rise, O Light of Gentile nations, Jesus, bright and Morning Star;  
Let your Word, the gladsome tidings, Ring out loudly near and far,  
Bringing freedom to the captives, Peace and comfort to the slave,  
That the heathen, free from bondage, May proclaim your pow'r to save.

4 Savior, shine in all your glory On the nations near and far;  
From the highways and the byways Call them forth, O Morning Star.  
Guide them whom your grace has chosen Out of Satan's dreadful thrall  
To the mansions of your Father-There is room for sinners all.

### **Confession of Faith** – Explanation to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Article of the Apostles' Creed

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.

### **Offering Prayer**

#### **The Prayer of the Church**

#### **The 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.

### **The Blessing**

**P:** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make his face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

**C:** *(spoken)* **AMEN!**

### **A Prayer for after Worship**

*Praise to you and adoration, Blessed Jesus, Son of God,  
Who, to serve your own creation, Came to share our flesh and blood.  
Guide me that I never may From your fold or pastures stray,  
But with zeal and joy exceeding Follow where your steps are leading.*

*Hold me ever in your keeping; Comfort me in pain and strife.  
In my laughter and my weeping Be with me throughout my life.  
Give me greater love for you, And my faith and hope renew  
In your birth, your life, and passion, In your death and resurrection.*

(CW: 470)