



1 CHRONICLES 21:13, NIV

“LET ME FALL  
INTO THE HANDS  
OF THE LORD,  
FOR HIS MERCY  
IS VERY GREAT.”

**Immanuel Lutheran Church & School**

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## As We Gather

Though we call Jesus King of kings, we often do not focus much on the nature of His kingdom. Today, we begin a Lenten midweek series exploring how the kings of Judah are a shadow of Christ, the King of kings, who sits upon the throne of David, His father, forever. We will see how the kings in Chronicles point us to Christ, who fulfills all the kingly promises that the kings of Judah were unable to realize in themselves. We begin today with David, the greatest king of all Israel's history, of whose house and lineage Christ belongs.

### ✠ Preparation for Worship ✠

#### Hymn

TLH 279 – Today Thy Mercy Calls Us

#### Invocation

Matthew 28:19b

**P** In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

#### Confession and Absolution

Psalm 51:1-9

**P** Have mercy upon me, O God, According to Your lovingkindness;

**C** According to the multitude of Your tender mercies, Blot out my transgressions.

**P** Wash me thoroughly from my iniquity,

**C** And cleanse me from my sin.

**P** For I acknowledge my transgressions,

**C** And my sin is always before me.

**P** Against You, You only, have I sinned, And done this evil in Your sight—

**C** That You may be found just when You speak, And blameless when You judge.

**P** Behold, I was brought forth in iniquity,

**C** And in sin my mother conceived me.

**P** Behold, You desire truth in the inward parts,

**C** And in the hidden part You will make me to know wisdom.

**P** Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean;

**C** Wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow.

**P** Make me hear joy and gladness,

**C** That the bones You have broken may rejoice.

**P** Hide Your face from my sins,

**C** And blot out all my iniquities.

**P** On this Ash Wednesday, we reflect on our sin-filled lives and seek God's forgiveness. Let us confess our sins.

**C** **Most merciful Father in heaven, I am a sinner. I have no one to blame. The fault is my own. I deserve to be punished. I am truly sorry for my sins. Yet, for the sake of the loving sacrifice of Your only Son, Jesus Christ, I dare to beg for Your forgiveness. Remove from me the guilt of my sin and wash me that I may be whole again. Help me to be faithful today, tomorrow, and each day, by the power of Your Holy Spirit.**

**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. As a called servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** **Amen.**

## ✠ Service of the Word ✠

### Kyrie

Lord, Have Mercy

**P** O Lord,

**C** **have mercy.**

**P** O Christ,

**C** **have mercy.**

**P** O Lord,

**C** **have mercy.**

### Hymn of Praise

TLH 166 – Savior, When in Dust to Thee

### Salutation

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

### Prayer of the Day

**P** Let us pray...

... who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## Old Testament Reading

Joel 2:12-19

<sup>12</sup> “Now, therefore,” says the LORD, “Turn to Me with all your heart, With fasting, with weeping, and with mourning.” <sup>13</sup> So rend your heart, and not your garments; Return to the LORD your God, For He is gracious and merciful, Slow to anger, and of great kindness; And He relents from doing harm. <sup>14</sup> Who knows if He will turn and relent, And leave a blessing behind Him— A grain offering and a drink offering For the LORD your God? <sup>15</sup> Blow the trumpet in Zion, Consecrate a fast, Call a sacred assembly; <sup>16</sup> Gather the people, Sanctify the congregation, Assemble the elders, Gather the children and nursing babes; Let the bridegroom go out from his chamber, And the bride from her dressing room. <sup>17</sup> Let the priests, who minister to the LORD, Weep between the porch and the altar; Let them say, “Spare Your people, O LORD, And do not give Your heritage to reproach, That the nations should rule over them. Why should they say among the peoples, ‘Where is their God?’ ” <sup>18</sup> Then the LORD will be zealous for His land, And pity His people. <sup>19</sup> The LORD will answer and say to His people, “Behold, I will send you grain and new wine and oil, And you will be satisfied by them; I will no longer make you a reproach among the nations.

## Epistle Reading

2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10

<sup>20</sup> We implore you on Christ’s behalf, be reconciled to God. <sup>21</sup> For He made Him who knew no sin to be sin for us, that we might become the righteousness of God in Him. <sup>1</sup> We then, as workers together with Him also plead with you not to receive the grace of God in vain. <sup>2</sup> For He says: “In an acceptable time I have heard you, And in the day of salvation I have helped you.” Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation. <sup>3</sup> We give no offense in anything, that our ministry may not be blamed. <sup>4</sup> But in all things we commend ourselves as ministers of God: in much patience, in tribulations, in needs, in distresses, <sup>5</sup> in stripes, in imprisonments, in tumults, in labors, in sleeplessness, in fastings; <sup>6</sup> by purity, by knowledge, by longsuffering, by kindness, by the Holy Spirit, by sincere love, <sup>7</sup> by the word of truth, by the power of God, by the armor of righteousness on the right hand and on the left, <sup>8</sup> by honor and dishonor, by evil report and good report; as deceivers, and yet true; <sup>9</sup> as unknown, and yet well known; as dying, and behold we live; as chastened, and yet not killed; <sup>10</sup> as sorrowful, yet always rejoicing; as poor, yet making many rich; as having nothing, and yet possessing all things.

**P** Blessed are they who hear the Word of God and keep it.

**C** Amen.

## Confession of Faith

Apostles' Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

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.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

## Hymn

TLH 17 – Oh, Worship the King

## Sermon Text

1 Chronicles 21:1-2, 7-19, 26-27

<sup>1</sup> Now Satan stood up against Israel, and moved David to number Israel. <sup>2</sup> So David said to Joab and to the leaders of the people, “Go, number Israel from Beersheba to Dan, and bring the number of them to me that I may know it.” <sup>7</sup> And God was displeased with this thing; therefore He struck Israel. <sup>8</sup> So David said to God, “I have sinned greatly, because I have done this thing; but now, I pray, take away the iniquity of Your servant, for I have done very foolishly.” <sup>9</sup> Then the LORD spoke to Gad, David’s seer, saying, <sup>10</sup> “Go and tell David, saying, ‘Thus says the LORD: “I offer you three things; choose one of them for yourself, that I may do it to you.” ’ ” <sup>11</sup> So Gad came to David and said to him, “Thus says the LORD: ‘Choose for yourself, <sup>12</sup> either three years of famine, or three months to be defeated by your foes with the sword of your enemies overtaking you, or else for three days the sword of the LORD—the plague in the land, with the angel of the LORD destroying throughout all the territory of Israel.’ Now consider what answer I should take back to Him who sent me.” <sup>13</sup> And David said to Gad, “I am in great distress. Please let me fall into the hand of the LORD, for His mercies are very great; but do not let me fall into the hand of man.” <sup>14</sup> So the LORD sent a plague upon Israel, and seventy thousand men of Israel fell. <sup>15</sup> And God sent an angel to Jerusalem to destroy it. As he was destroying, the LORD looked and relented of the disaster, and said to the angel who was destroying, “It is enough; now restrain your hand.” And the angel of the LORD stood by the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. <sup>16</sup> Then David lifted his eyes and saw the angel of the LORD standing between earth and heaven, having in his hand a drawn sword stretched out over Jerusalem. So David and the elders, clothed in sackcloth, fell on their faces. <sup>17</sup> And David

said to God, “Was it not I who commanded the people to be numbered? I am the one who has sinned and done evil indeed; but these sheep, what have they done? Let Your hand, I pray, O LORD my God, be against me and my father’s house, but not against Your people that they should be plagued.”<sup>18</sup> Therefore, the angel of the LORD commanded Gad to say to David that David should go and erect an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite.<sup>19</sup> So David went up at the word of Gad, which he had spoken in the name of the LORD.<sup>26</sup> And David built there an altar to the LORD, and offered burnt offerings and peace offerings, and called on the LORD; and He answered him from heaven by fire on the altar of burnt offering.<sup>27</sup> So the LORD commanded the angel, and he returned his sword to its sheath.



*Sermon*

## Count on it: David

### Offertory

TLH 179 – On My Heart Imprint Thine Image

On my heart im - print Thine im - age, Bless-ed Je - sus,  
 King of Grace, That life's rich - es, cares, and plea-sures  
 Have no pow'r Thee to ef - face. This the su - per -  
 scrip-tion be: Je - sus, cru - ci - fied for me, Is my Life, my  
 hope's Foun - da - tion, And my Glo - ry and Sal - va - tion.

### Offering of Thankful Hearts

## Offering Hymn

TLH 442 st. 2

Grant us hearts, dear Lord, to yield Thee  
Gladly, freely, of Thine own;  
With the sunshine of Thy goodness  
Melt our thankless hearts of stone  
Till our cold and selfish natures,  
Warmed by Thee, at length believe  
That more happy and more blessed  
'Tis to give than to receive.

## General Prayer

### The Lord's Prayer

**C** 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.

## Benediction

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.  
The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious to you.  
The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## Hymn

TLH 361 – O Jesus, King Most Wonderful

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