

# Chronicles of the King

## Our Last Hope: Josiah



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Midweek of Lent 5

March 29, 2023

Vespers

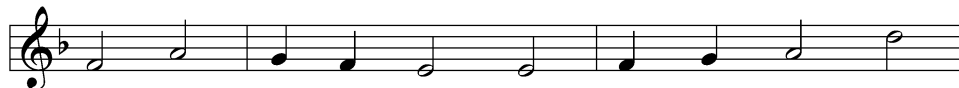
### As We Gather

Though we call Jesus King of kings, we often do not focus much on the nature of His kingdom. Today we continue our 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. Each of the kings in Chronicles points us to Christ, who fulfills all the kingly promises which the kings of Judah were unable to realize in themselves. Today we consider Josiah, quite literally the last good king to reign over Judah until the Lord Jesus. He came to the throne after two of the worst kings Judah had ever known. The temple was in disrepair and the people worshiped Baal and Asheroth. Even as a boy, Josiah walked in the ways of David, his ancestor. The renewal of the faith provided a time of great blessing, but the hope of God's people was and remains not in an earthly ruler, but a heavenly King, strong enough to save and redeem us from sin and death.

### 429 We Sing the Praise of Him Who Died



1 We sing the praise of Him who died, Of Him who  
2 In - scribed up - on the cross we see In shin - ing  
3 The cross! It takes our guilt a - way; It holds the  
4 It makes the cow - ard spir - it brave And nerves the



died up - on the cross. The sin - ner's hope let  
let - ters, "God is love." He bears our sins up -  
faint - ing spir - it up; It cheers with hope the  
fee - ble arm for fight; It takes the ter - ror



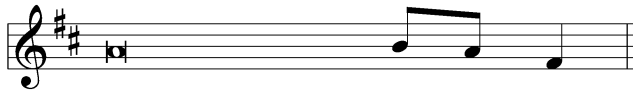
all de - ride; For this we count the world but loss.  
on the tree; He brings us mer - cy from a - bove.  
gloom - y day And sweet - ens ev - 'ry bit - ter  
from the grave And gilds the bed of death with light;

5 The balm of life, the cure of woe,  
The measure and the pledge of love,  
The sinner's refuge here below,  
The angels' theme in heav'n above.

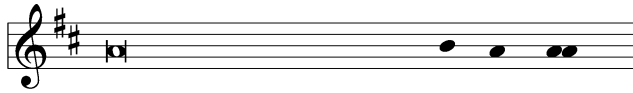
6 To Christ, who won for sinners grace  
By bitter grief and anguish sore,  
Be praise from all the ransomed race  
Forever and forevermore.



**L** O Lord, o - pen my lips,



**C** and my mouth will de - clare Your praise.



**L** Make haste, O God, to de - liv - er me;



**C** make haste to help me, O Lord.



**C** Glo-ry be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spir - it;



as it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for-ev-er. A - men.



Praise to You, O Christ, Lamb of our sal - va - tion.

## Psalmody

### Psalm

*Psalm 30; antiphon: v. 5*

**P** <sup>5</sup>For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a | lifetime.\*  
Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the | morning.

**C** <sup>1</sup>I will extol you, O LORD, for you have | drawn me up\*  
and have not let my foes rejoice | over me.

**P** <sup>2</sup>O LORD my God, I cried to | you for help,\*  
and you have | healed me.

**C** <sup>3</sup>O LORD, you have brought up my soul | from Sheol;\*  
you restored me to life from among those who go down | to the pit.

**P** <sup>4</sup>Sing praises to the LORD, O | you his saints,\*  
and give thanks to his | holy name.

**C** <sup>5</sup>For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a | lifetime.\*  
Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the | morning.

**P** <sup>6</sup>As for me, I said in my pros- | perity,\*  
“I shall nev- | er be moved.”

**C** <sup>7</sup>By your favor, O LORD, you made my mountain | stand strong;\*  
you hid your face; I | was dismayed.

**P** <sup>8</sup>To you, O | LORD, I cry,\*  
and to the Lord I plead for | mercy:

**C** <sup>9</sup>“What profit is there in my death, if I go down | to the pit?\*

Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your | faithfulness?

**P** <sup>10</sup>Hear, O LORD, and be merci- | ful to me!\*

O LORD, be my | helper!”

**C** <sup>11</sup>You have turned for me my mourning into | dancing;\*

you have loosed my sackcloth and clothed me with | gladness,

**P** <sup>12</sup>that my glory may sing your praise and not be | silent.\*

O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you for- | ever!

**P** <sup>5</sup>For his anger is but for a moment, and his favor is for a | lifetime.\*

Weeping may tarry for the night, but joy comes with the | morning.

Sit

### 532 The Head That Once Was Crowned with Thorns



1 The Head that once was crowned with thorns Is  
2 The high - est place that heav'n af - fords Is  
3 The Joy of all who dwell a - bove, The  
4 To them the cross, with all its shame, With



crowned with glo - ry now; A roy - al di - a -  
His, is His by right, The King of kings and  
Joy of all be - low To whom He man - i -  
all its grace, is giv'n; Their name an ev - er -



dem a - dorns The might - y Vic - tor's brow.  
Lord of lords, And heav'n's e - ter - nal Light;  
fests His love And grants His name to know.  
last - ing name, Their joy the joy of heav'n.

5 They suffer with their Lord below,  
They reign with Him above,  
Their profit and their joy to know  
The myst'ry of His love.

6 The cross He bore is life and health,  
Though shame and death to Him:  
His people's hope, His people's wealth,  
Their everlasting theme.

Text: Thomas Kelly, 1769–1855  
Tune: Jeremiah Clarke, c. 1674–1707  
Text and tune: Public domain

## Readings

### Reading

*2 Chronicles 34:1–3; 35:20–27*

**L** A reading from 2 Chronicles, chapter 34 and 35.

<sup>1</sup>Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup>And he did what was right in the eyes of the LORD, and walked in the ways of David his father; and he did not turn aside to the right hand or to the left. <sup>3</sup>For in the eighth year of his reign, while he was yet a boy, he

began to seek the God of David his father, and in the twelfth year he began to purge Judah and Jerusalem of the high places, the Asherim, and the carved and the metal images.

<sup>20</sup>After all this, when Josiah had prepared the temple, Neco king of Egypt went up to fight at Carchemish on the Euphrates and Josiah went out to meet him. <sup>21</sup>But he sent envoys to him, saying, “What have we to do with each other, king of Judah? I am not coming against you this day, but against the house with which I am at war. And God has commanded me to hurry. Cease opposing God, who is with me, lest he destroy you.” <sup>22</sup>Nevertheless, Josiah did not turn away from him, but disguised himself in order to fight with him. He did not listen to the words of Neco from the mouth of God, but came to fight in the plain of Megiddo. <sup>23</sup>And the archers shot King Josiah. And the king said to his servants, “Take me away, for I am badly wounded.” <sup>24</sup>So his servants took him out of the chariot and carried him in his second chariot and brought him to Jerusalem. And he died and was buried in the tombs of his fathers. All Judah and Jerusalem mourned for Josiah. <sup>25</sup>Jeremiah also uttered a lament for Josiah; and all the singing men and singing women have spoken of Josiah in their laments to this day. They made these a rule in Israel; behold, they are written in the Laments. <sup>26</sup>Now the rest of the acts of Josiah, and his good deeds according to what is written in the Law of the LORD, <sup>27</sup>and his acts, first and last, behold, they are written in the Book of the Kings of Israel and Judah.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Reading

*Revelation 21:1–6*

**L** A reading from Revelation, chapter 21.

<sup>1</sup>Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. <sup>2</sup>And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. <sup>3</sup>And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. <sup>4</sup>He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away.”

<sup>5</sup>And he who was seated on the throne said, “Behold, I am making all things new.” Also he said, “Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true.” <sup>6</sup>And he said to me, “It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment.

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Reading

*Luke 23:26–31*

**L** A reading from Luke, chapter 23.

<sup>26</sup>And as they led him away, they seized one Simon of Cyrene, who was coming in from the country, and laid on him the cross, to carry it behind Jesus. <sup>27</sup>And there followed him a great multitude of the people and of women who were mourning and lamenting for him. <sup>28</sup>But turning to them Jesus said, “Daughters of Jerusalem, do not weep for me, but weep for yourselves and for your children. <sup>29</sup>For behold, the days are coming when they will say, ‘Blessed are the barren and the wombs that never bore and the breasts that never nursed!’ <sup>30</sup>Then they will begin to say to the mountains, ‘Fall on us,’ and to the hills, ‘Cover us.’ <sup>31</sup>For if they do these things when the wood is green, what will happen when it is dry?”

**L** O Lord, have mercy on us.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Responsory (Lent)

LSB 231



**L** 1 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are  
the God of my sal - va - tion.  
2 In You, O Lord, do I put my trust, leave me not, O Lord, my God.  
3 Deliver me, O Lord, my God, for You are  
the God of my sal - va - tion.



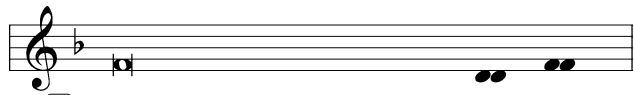
**C** Rescue me from my en - e - mies, protect me  
from those who rise a - gainst me.

## Sermon

*Our Last Hope: Josiah*

## Canticle

*Stand*



**L** Let my prayer rise before You as in - cense,



**C** and the lifting up of my hands as the eve - ning sac - ri - fice.

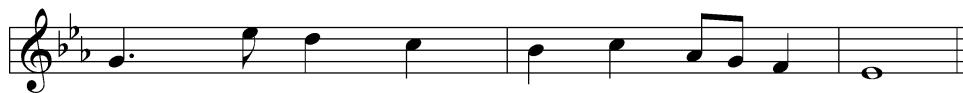
## 934 My Soul Now Magnifies the Lord



1 My soul now mag - ni - fies the Lord; My spir - it  
2 For He a - lone who shows such might Has done a -  
3 His arm is strong; His strength is great. He scat - ters  
4 He feeds the hun - gry as His own; The wealth - y



leaps for joy in Him. He keeps me in His kind re -  
maz - ing things to me. His mer - cy flows; His name like  
those of proud in - tent And casts them down from high es -  
leave with emp - ty hands. He gives His help to Is - ra -



gard, And I am blest for time to come.  
light Re - mains in time per - pet - ual - ly.  
tate, Then gives the low His nour - ish - ment.  
el; His gra - cious prom - ise al - ways stands.

Text: Luke 1:46-55; adapt. Stephanie K. Frey, 1952  
Tune: Geistliche Lieder aufs new gebessert, 1535, Wittenberg, ed. Joseph Klug  
Text: © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110017219  
Tune: Public domain

*Sit*

## Offering

732 All Depends on Our Possessing sts. 1-2

# Prayer

Stand

## Kyrie

LSB 233



**C** Lord, have mer-cy; Christ, have mer-cy; Lord, have mer-cy.

## 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.

## Collects



**L** O Lord, hear my prayer.



**C** And let my cry come to You.

## Collect of the Day

**P** Almighty God, by Your great goodness mercifully look upon Your people that we may be governed and preserved evermore in body and soul; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

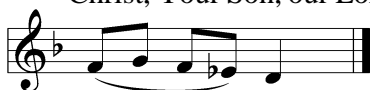
## Collect

**P** Abide with us, Lord, for it is toward evening, and the day is far spent. Abide with us and with Your whole Church. Abide with us at the end of the day, at the end of our life, at the end of the world. Abide with us with Your grace and goodness, with Your holy Word and Sacraments, with Your strength and blessing. Abide with us when the night of affliction and temptation comes upon us, the night of fear and despair, the night when death draws near. Abide with us and with all the faithful, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Collect for Peace

**P** O God, from whom come all holy desires, all good counsels, and all just works, give to us, Your servants, that peace which the world cannot give, that our hearts may be set to obey Your commandments and also that we, being defended from the fear of our enemies, may live in peace and quietness; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



**C** A - men.

**Benedicamus**



**L** Let us bless the Lord.

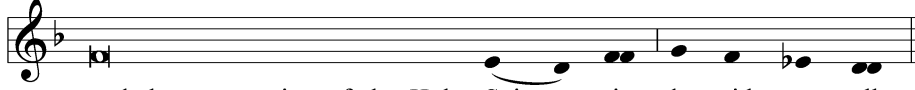


**C** Thanks be to God.

**Benediction**



**P** The grace of our Lord † Je - sus Christ and the love of God



and the communion of the Holy Spir - it be with you all.



**C** A - - men.

**436 Go to Dark Gethsemane**



1 Go to dark Geth - sem - a - ne, All who feel the  
 2 Fol - low to the judg - ment hall, View the Lord of  
 3 Cal - v'ry's mourn - ful moun - tain climb; There, a - dor - ing  
 4 Ear - ly has - ten to the tomb Where they laid His



tempt - er's pow'r; Your Re - deem - er's con - flict see,  
 life ar - rained; Oh, the worm - wood and the gall!  
 at His feet, Mark that mir - a - cle of time,  
 breath - less clay; All is sol - i - tude and gloom.



Watch with Him one bit - ter hour; Turn not from His  
 Oh, the pangs His soul sus - tained! Shun not suf - f'ring,  
 God's own sac - ri - fice com - plete. "It is fin - ished!"  
 Who has tak - en Him a - way? Christ is ris'n! He



griefs a - way; Learn from Je - sus Christ to pray.  
 shame, or loss; Learn from Him to bear the cross.  
 hear Him cry; Learn from Je - sus Christ to die.  
 meets our eyes. Sav - ior, teach us so to rise.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854  
 Tune: Richard Redhead, 1820-1901  
 Text and tune: Public domain

## **Announcements**

**Adult Sunday School** is studying Exodus at **9am** on Sunday mornings.

The **Ladies Bible Study** meets Wednesdays at **10am**. They are studying the book of Joshua.

**Church Council** next meeting is **Apr 16** at **8am**.

**Lenten Vespers** service is **Mar 29**. A light meal will be at **6:30pm** with service at **7pm**.

**Maundy Thursday/Good Friday** combined service is **April 6** at **6pm**.

**Easter Breakfast** is on **Apr 9** at **8:30am** before our **10am Divine Service**. We will not have Sunday School that day.

## **Acknowledgments**

Vespers from Lutheran Service Book

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