

November 20, 2022
Reign of Christ / Christ the King
We Gather In God's Presence

Prelude: "All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name with You Are My All in All"
Arranged by Carol Tornquist.

Lighting the Christ Candle

Moment of Silent Reflection

Birthdays, Celebrations, and Life and Work of the Congregation – see last page ...

Call to Worship (based on Colossians 1:13, 14, 12)

Blessed be the name of the Lord!

who has rescued us from the power of darkness,
and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,
in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Let us sing songs of thanksgiving to God,

**who has enabled us to share in the inheritance
of the saints in the light!**

Hymn VU 325 "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

Christ is made the sure foundation,
Christ the head and cornerstone,
chosen of the Lord, and precious,
binding all the church in one,
holy Zion's help for ever,
and its confidence alone.

To this temple where we call you,
come, O Lord of hosts, today;
with your faithful loving-kindness
hear your servants as they pray,
and your fullest benediction
shed within its walls always.

Here bestow on all your servants
what they ask of you to gain,
what they gain from you for ever
with the blessed to retain,
and hereafter in your glory
evermore with you to reign.

Laud and honour to the Father,
laud and honour to the Son,
laud and honour to the Spirit,
ever three and ever one,
one in might, and one in glory,
while unending ages run.

Opening Prayer (*unison*)

We gather on this your coronation day, Sovereign God, and we are befuddled. The sign says, 'King of the Jews,' yet your crown is of thorns. Instead of oil, you were anointed in blood, and now we see that your throne is a cross. You told us of a kingdom of justice and peace, and we are not ready for it. Instead, we stand by watching while those in need struggle to survive; we cast our lots with those who worship power and success; we offer insults rather than words of grace to those who care for us; we scoff at your words which call us to a different lifestyle; in other words, we continue to perpetrate injustice and violence, just as was done to you when you were nailed to that cross. Forgive us, God of Mercy, for not knowing what we do to you, to others, to ourselves. Speak to us through Jesus Christ, our King and our Savior, who bears words filled with your tender mercy and gracious hope. Amen.

We Are Blessed By God

Anthem: "I Will Lift Up Mine Eyes" Based on Psalm 121 By Michael Head
Soloist.: Nancy Quinn

Time for the Young and the Young @



Hymn VU 213 "Rejoice, The Lord is King"

Rejoice the Lord is King!

Your risen Lord adore!

Rejoice, give thanks and sing
and triumph evermore.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Jesus the Saviour reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our sins,
he took his seat above.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

God's kingdom cannot fail;
Christ rules o'er earth and heaven;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus given.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope,
for Christ, the judge, shall come
to glorify the saints
for their eternal home.

We soon shall hear the archangel's voice;
the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

Responsive Reading: Luke 1:68-79 The Song of Zechariah

Blessed be the God of Israel,

who has come to the people and set them free,

who has raised up for us a mighty saviour,

born of the house of the servant David.

Through the holy prophets of old

God promised to save us from our enemies,

from the hands of all who hate us,

to show the mercy promised to our ancestors,

to remember the holy covenant,

the oath God swore to our ancestors Abraham and Sarah,

to set us free from the hands of our enemies,

free to serve God without fear,

holy and righteous in God's presence,

all the days of our life.

And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High,

for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way,

to give the people knowledge of salvation

by the forgiveness of their sins.

In the tender compassion of our God,

the dawn from on high shall break upon us,

to shine on those who sit in darkness,

in the shadow of death,

and to guide our feet into the way of peace.

Scripture: Luke 23:33-43

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, "Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing." And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!" The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!" There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!" But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong." Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom." He replied, "Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise."

*The other readings for this week are: **Jeremiah23:1-6; Colossians 1:11-20***

Introduction of the Guest Speaker

Message

Thanking the Guest Speaker: Len Van Harten

Hymn VU 507 "Today We All Are Called to Be Disciples"

Today we all are called to be
disciples of the Lord,
to help to set the captive free,
make ploughshare out of sword,
to feed the hungry, quench their thirst,
make love and peace our fast,
to serve the poor and homeless first,
our ease and comfort last.

God made the world and at its birth
ordained our human race
to live as stewards of the earth,
responding to God's grace.
But we are vain and sadly proud,
we sow not peace but strife,
our discord spreads a deadly cloud
that threatens all of life.

Pray justice may come rolling down
as in a mighty stream,
with righteousness in field and town
to cleanse us and redeem.
For God is longing to restore
an earth where conflicts cease,
a world that was created for
a harmony of peace.

May we in service to our God
act out the living Word,
and walk the road the saints have trod
till all have seen and heard.
As stewards of the earth may we
give thanks in one accord
to God who calls us all to be
disciples of the Lord.

We Respond To God's Grace

Invitation to Invest in God's Mission

The call of Christ is clear; to be a people of faith who support one another with commitment and love. Our commitment is shown by the way we minister with and to others, our love is made real as we share the mission of Christ as a church community. Let us support that ministry and that mission through our tithes and offerings.

Offertory Hymn VU 218 vs 1 "We Praise You, O God"

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.

We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
we bless your holy name, glad praises we sing.

Prayer of Dedication

We are inspired, O God, by those who live their faith with integrity and enthusiasm. We are blessed with people who give, not out of their guilt, but out of their faith. We are blessed with people who serve, not out of their reluctance, but out of their exuberance. We present these gifts, pleased to be part of your mission, and excited to share with those around us. Use these gifts, and us, we pray, to make your eternal realm of justice and peace, a reality, on earth as in heaven. In Christ's name. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession & The Lord's Prayer

Mighty and tender God, voice of the voiceless, power of the powerless: we praise you for your vision of a community of wholeness, a realm of peace, in which all who hunger and thirst are filled, in which the stranger is welcomed, the hurting are healed, and those held captive are set free.

We pray for your church. May we remain true to your mission of living out and spreading your kingdom of justice and peace. This week we pray especially for Shiloh-Inwood Pastoral Charge and their minister, the Rev. Christine Jerrett.

We pray for the leaders of the nations. May they remember that they are subject to your truth and may they rule with righteousness. We pray for the peoples of your earth. Especially, this week, we pray for the people of East Timor, Indonesia, and the Philippines.

We pray for this earth, the temporal location of your throne. May we learn to treat it with respect and reverence.

We pray for all your people: those who live in far off lands, those who live in the midst of warfare and violence, those who are affected by natural disaster, those who are political prisoners, internally displaced people or refugees, those who are our close neighbours, yet have nowhere to call home, those afflicted with mental illness, those affected by addictions of all types, those who mourn the death of a loved one, like the friends and family of Brian Chanyi, and those who are ill or dying, awaiting medical intervention or recovering from treatment, especially the Rev. Grafton Antone, the Rev. Jim Evans, Mary Kaiser, Mac Toner, and their loved ones and caregivers and those known only in the silence of our own hearts.....

May they know the comforting presence of your Spirit in their lives. All this we pray in the name of your anointed one, our Servant-King, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever, and who taught us to pray, saying,

**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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever.
Amen.**

Hymn VU 211 "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

Crown him with many crowns,
the Lamb upon his throne:
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns
all music but its own!

Awake, my soul, and sing
of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless King
through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save.

His glories now we sing
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a sceptre sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
absorbed in prayer and praise.

His reign shall know no end;
and round his pierced feet
fair flowers of Paradise extend
their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.

All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

Commissioning and Benediction

God's calling is not for the faint of heart.

God's calling is not for the timid or the weak.

Go from here knowing that

the One who calls us

**also gives us the courage, the strength, and the wisdom
to be disciples in this time and place.**

Response: "Go Now In Peace"

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.

God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.

Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.

Know He will guide you in all you do.

Go now in love, and show you believe.

Reach out to others so all the world can see.

God will be there supporting us with love.

Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

Amen, amen, amen.

Postlude: "Crown Him With Many Crowns" George J. Elvey (1816-1893)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ALL:

Choir rehearsals are Thursdays at 7 p.m. All are welcome.

DORCHESTER:

Central Board meets on Wednesday, November 23 at 7 p.m.

UNION:

Next Sunday, November 27, is White Gift Sunday

November outreach is the Christmas shoppe....toys, clothing for new born to age 12, (size 16)

Lectionary Readings for next week: (November 27, 1st of Advent, Year A)

Isaiah 2:1-5; Psalm 122; Romans 13:11-44; Matthew 24:36-44