Sunday November 22, 2026

Reign of Christ Sunday

We Gather In God's Presence

Acknowledgement of the Land (not in unison)

This land is our Creators. For thousands of years, Indigenous people have walked on and cared for this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. As we come into worship, we recognize that Dorchester United Church is located on the traditional territory of the Anishnaabeg, the Attawandaronk, and the Mississauga. The community of Dorchester is represented by the London Township Treaty of 1796.
As treaty people, we commit to listen, learn, and work toward justice and reconciliation as together we care for God's creation and for one another.

Birthdays, Celebrations, and Life and Work of the Congregation:

Preparing Our Hearts for Worship

Prelude: "The Lord is my Shepherd"

In a setting of G. F. Handel's Largo from XERXES
Jesse Semour Irvine. Arr by Cindy Berry.

Lighting the Christ Candle:

One: Jesus Christ, the Light of the World.
All: We walk in the Light of Christ.

Gathering Hymn "All Creatures of Our God and King" (vs. 1,3,5) VU 217

English Translation: Boosey and Hawkes. French translation:
Public Domain. Music: Public Domain. Harmony: Oxford University Press.
CCLI, LicenSing

1 All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing:
hallelujah, hallelujah!
Bright burning sun with golden beam,
soft shining moon with silver gleam,
sing praises, sing praises,
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

3 Earth, ever fertile, day by day
brings forth rich blessings on our way:
sing praises, hallelujah!
The flowers and fruits that verdant grow,
let them God's glory also show:
sing praises, hallelujah!
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

5 Let all things their Creator bless,
and worship God in humbleness:
sing praises, hallelujah!
Praise God eternal, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, three in one:
sing praises, hallelujah!
hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

Call to Worship

One: Lift up your hearts. Lift up your voices. Today is a day that we celebrate Jesus.

All: We rejoice that Jesus comes to us in many ways;

One: Teacher, healer, redeemer and friend.

All: Prophet, peace-maker, servant- king.

One: On this Reign of Christ Sunday, we give thanks for Christ who is with us and for us.

All: May we follow where He leads.

Gathering Prayer

Anthem: "Walk a Little Slower My Friend"

Don Besig and Nancy Price

A New Creed VU 918

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.
In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.Thanks be to God.
Thanks be to God.

Learning With All God's Children

Hymn "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky" VU 509

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1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

We Listen for God's Word

Responsive Psalm Psalm 100 VU 824 (refrain 2)

Shout to God, all the earth:
worship with gladness and joy.
Come before God with laughter,
our maker to whom we belong.
To the Shepherd who tends us like sheep,
let us raise our voices in song.

Come to God's gates with thanks;
come to God's courts with praise.
Praise and bless God's name.
'Truly you are good:
you are always gracious,
and faithful age after age.'

Refrain:
Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

Scripture: Matthew 25:31-46

Response to the Word

One: The Living Word of God in scripture.
All: May the Word live among us and within us.

Sermon: "Learning to See"

Hymn "When I Needed a Neighbour" VU 600

Public Domain.
N/A

1 When I needed a neighbour, were you there,
were you there?
When I needed a neighbour, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there?

2 I was hungry and thirsty, were you there,
were you there?
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there?

3 I was cold, I was naked, were you there,
were you there?
I was cold, I was naked, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there?

4 When I needed a healer, were you there,
were you there?
When I needed a healer, were you there?
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
were you there?

5 Wherever you travel I'll be there,
I'll be there,
wherever you travel I'll be there.
And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,
I'll be there.

<u>We Respond To God's Grace</u>

Invitation to Invest in God's Mission

Offertory Hymn: "There's Enough For All" TLUS 60

There's enough for all
if we would learn to share it,
there's enough for all,
oh, help us to believe.
There's enough for all.
Let's bring our loaves and fishes,
and offer them to Jesus.
There's more than enough for you and me.

Prayer of Dedication

Prayers of God's People & 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,
the power, and the glory,
for ever and ever. Amen.

Closing Hymn "Hope Shines as the Solitary Star" MV 220

Words: Catherine Faith MacLean.
Music: Janet Bauman Tissander

Hope shines as the solitary star.
Faith is the inner light.
You and I together mirror the Light of Lights,
And illumine the pathway home.

Commissioning and Benediction

Sung Response: **Go now in peace, never be afraid,**
God will go with you each hour of everyday.
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 watching from above,
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen, amen, amen.

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Postlude: "Lord of Hosts Extolled by High"
Lane Smith