

*Growing Together through Faith, Love, and Fellowship.*

**Christ the King Sunday**

**November 26, 2023**

*The asterisk (\*) indicates to please rise in body or spirit.*

## **Silent Prayer of Preparation**

*Gracious and all-powerful God, we come into your presence, acknowledging you as King, and in so doing, we acknowledge ourselves as your people. Through the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, you showed yourself to be a servant king, a king for whom love and mercy, humility and grace, faith and faithfulness were a way of life, and you call us to the same. Remind us that it is in self-sacrifice, not in self-promotion, that we will find joy; that it is in our weaknesses that we will receive your Spirit and be made strong; that it is in giving up our delusions of control and trusting in you that we will find the peace and security that we so desperately seek. Our hope is in you, O Lord, in hearing the voice of our Good Shepherd and in following where you lead. Grant us the wisdom and the courage to listen and obey. Amen.*

## **Gathering Music**

### **The Gathering of God's People**

#### **Prelude - a time to prayerfully prepare oneself for worship**

"Fanfare on "Deo Gracias"

arr. Charles Callahan

## **Welcome and Announcements**

### **Introit**

“King of Glory”

Joseph David Jones, 1868

King of glory, King of peace, I will love thee;  
Seven whole days, not one in seven, I will praise thee;  
Though my sins against me cried, thou didst clear me;  
Wherefore with my utmost art I will sing thee.

### **\*Call to Worship**

Leader: The Lord God is our shepherd.

**People:** We are the people of God's pasture, the sheep of God's hand.

**Leader:** God will seek the lost, feed the hungry, and strengthen the weak.

**People:** But the proud and power-hungry will be fed with justice.

**\*Hymn**

“Open the Eyes of My Heart”

#452

## **The Confession of Sin and Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Call to Confession**

**\*Prayer of Confession** (*in unison*)

Sovereign God, we confess that we are not ready for your holy realm. You guide us toward right paths, but we refuse to follow where you lead. You love and feed and care for us, but we fail to love and serve others. Forgive us, merciful God, so that we may return to your fold and rejoice in your presence. Through Jesus Christ our Lord, the Lamb upon the throne, we pray. Amen. (Silent prayer of confession.)

**\*Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Response Hymn**

“Gloria Patri”

#581

## **Ministry of the Word**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Children's Sermon**

**First Scripture Reading**

Matthew 25:31-46

**Choir Anthem** “To God Be the Glory” arr. George Bayley, 2008

To God be the glory, all glory in the highest

And peace to his people who dwell here below.

Our heavenly Father, our Lord and Sovereign,

To you, the Almighty, our praises bestow.

We worship and adore you, we bow before you

With grateful thanksgiving, our song let us raise.

All glory and honor and glad adoration

To God in the highest: hosanna and praise.

Lord Jesus, the only-begotten of the Father,

We praise and we bless you, the Son and the Lamb.

The sin of the world you have taken upon you,  
Have mercy upon us, the Great I Am.  
For holy you meet us, yet lowly you greet us,  
The Lord in the highest, the Holy One.  
All glory to the Father, the Son, and the Spirit,  
From ages everlasting, the Three in One.

## **Second Scripture Reading**

Ephesians 1:15-23

**Pastor:** This is the Word of the Lord.

**People:** Thanks be to God.

## **Sermon**

“Holder of God’s Power”

Rev. Désirée Youngblood

### **The Response to the Word**

#### **\*Affirmation of Faith**

Confession of Belhar (10.3)

**We believe that this unity of the people of God must be manifested and be active in a variety of ways: in that we love one another; that we experience, practice and pursue community with one another; that we are obligated to give ourselves willingly and joyfully to be of benefit and blessing to one another; that we share one faith, have one calling, are of one soul and one mind; have one God and Father, are filled with one Spirit, are baptized with one baptism, eat of one bread and drink of one cup, confess one name, are obedient to one Lord, work for one cause, and share one hope; together come to know the height and the breadth and the depth of the love of Christ; together are built up to the stature of Christ, to the new humanity; together know and bear one another’s burdens, thereby fulfilling the law of Christ; that we need one another and upbuild one another, admonishing and comforting one another; that we suffer with one another for the sake of righteousness; pray together; together serve God in this world; and together fight against all which may threaten or hinder this unity.**

#### **\*Hymn**

“We Are One in the Spirit”

#300

#### **Prayers of the People and 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 debts as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

## Invitation to Offering

\***Response** “We Give Thee but Thine Own” (v. 1) #708

## \*Prayer of Dedication

### The Sending of God’s People

\***Closing Hymn** “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me” #700

## \*Charge and Blessing

## \*Congregational Response

“We Are the Church”

I am the church! You are the church! We are the church to - geth-er!

All who follow Jesus, all around the world! Yes, we're the church to - gether!

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and common time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of lyrics, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are printed below the notes.

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\***Postlude** “Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord” Justin H. Knecht (1752-1817)

**Pastors:** Rev. Désirée Youngblood  
Dr. Mark A. Johnson

**Music Director:** Thomas Lloyd  
**Organist:** Carol Welk

**Liturgist:** Paul Oswalt

**Flowers:** Given by Pastors Désirée and Mark in celebration of Devin’s birthday.

*Paul Oswalt is an Elder and Deacon and member of the Chancel Choir. He also facilitates the Flock of Ages adult Sunday School class. Originally from Centerburg, Ohio, he married into town and joined First Presbyterian Church of London in 1997. He has two daughters ... Leila is pursuing a Master's degree at Case Western Reserve and Kyla is a freshman at Bowling Green. Paul participates in Madison County Arts Council summer productions and organizes the Music Men & Jen barbershop quartet. He works fulltime for the Madison County Auditor.*