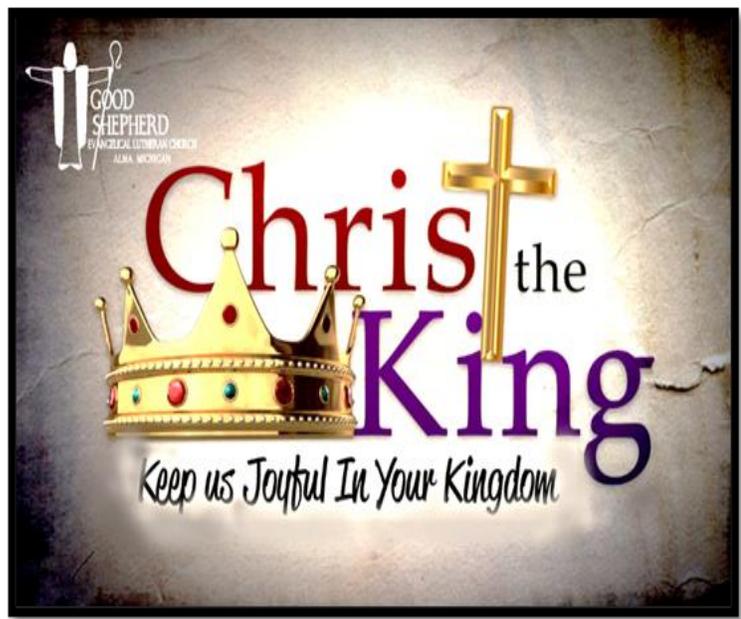


Worship Guide for November 22, 2020

Christ the King Sunday is a coming-together of many levels of experience, calendar, and consciousness. It's the ridicule of Jesus with His ultimate victory over sin and death and His rule over all creation. At the same time, our nation is still living in the wake of terrorism, war, and economic uncertainty. All this invites each person to find the joy of His kingdom.



P: We begin our worship in the name of the Father and of the Son † and of the Holy Spirit. Rejoice greatly, for Christ is your King.

C: Blessing and honor and glory belong to him.

P: Blessed are you, O Lord, King of the universe; you have delivered us from sin and death.

C. By your blood, you have brought your people into your kingdom.

P: Therefore God has highly exalted him;

C: And given him a name which is above every name;

P: That at the name of Jesus, every knee shall bow;

C: And every tongue confess him the King of glory.

HYMN

Crown Him With Many Crowns

CW 341

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 heav'n, enthroned in worlds above;
Crown him the King to whom is giv'n the wondrous name of Love.
Crown him with many crowns as thrones before him fall;
Crown him, ye kings with many crown for he is King of all.



PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Responsively)

P: Holy God, we know that you have been present to us throughout all of history, and even throughout our own histories. We know you will be with us in our future. Yet often we don't live as if we know that!

C: Too often we exchange the gift of your grace for things that do not endure.

P: We speak of Jesus Christ with reverence,

C: but spend our days in service to selfish ends.

P: We sing of our Savior's reign but occupy trivial thrones of self-importance.

C: Forgive us. Make us joyful and strong so that we live faithfully in your kingdom.

Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

P: Our hope is in God whose steadfast love surrounds us and in whom "is great power to redeem". (Psalm 130: 7) This power is revealed in Jesus Christ who promises us life where there is death, and forgiveness where there is sin. The good news therefore is this: there is forgiveness. In the name and by the command of Jesus I forgive you all your sins, in the name of the Father and of the Son (†) and of the Holy Spirit. Amen

PRAYER OF THE DAY:

P: Let us pray. Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things to your beloved Son, whom you anointed priest forever and king of all creation: Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united under the glorious and gentle rule of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: Amen



FIRST LESSON: Ezekiel 34:11-16, 23-24

¹¹For this is what the LORD God says: I myself will seek the welfare of my flock and examine them carefully. ¹²As a shepherd examines his flock when he is with his sheep that have been scattered, so I will examine my flock and rescue them from all the places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. ¹³I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them to their own land. I will shepherd them on the mountains of Israel, in the valleys, and in all the settlements of the land. ¹⁴I will pasture them in good pasture, and their grazing land will be on the high mountains of Israel. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and they will pasture on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. ¹⁵I myself will shepherd my flock, and I myself will let them lie down, declares the LORD God. ¹⁶I will seek the lost. I will bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured. I will strengthen the weak. I will destroy the fat and the strong, and I will shepherd them in justice. ²⁰Therefore, this is what the LORD God says to them. I myself am going to judge between the fat sheep and the skinny sheep. ²¹Because you have shoved them with your side and shoulder and knocked down all the weak with your horns until you had scattered them abroad, ²²I will save my flock so that they will

not become plunder any more. I will judge between one sheep and another. ²³Then I will raise up over them one Shepherd, and he will tend them, my servant David. He will tend them, and he will be their Shepherd. ²⁴I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David will be the Prince among them. I, the LORD, have spoken.

PSALM: 46

P: All you peoples, clap your hands! Shout to God! Sing a loud song!

C: Yes, the Lord Most High is awesome. He is the great King over all the earth!

P: He subdues peoples under us and nations under our feet.

C: He chooses our inheritance for us. It is the pride of Jacob, whom he loves.

P: God reigns as king over the nations. God is seated on his holy throne.

C: The nobles of the peoples come together as the people of the God of Abraham.

P: Yes, the shields of the earth belong to God.

C: He is greatly exalted.

SECOND LESSON: 1 Corinthians 15:20–28

²⁰But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹For since death came by a man, the resurrection of the dead also is going to come by a man. ²²For as in Adam they all die, so also in Christ they all will be made alive. ²³But each in his own order: Christ as the firstfruits and then Christ's people, at his coming. ²⁴Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has done away with every other ruler and every other authority and power. ²⁵For he must reign "until he has put all his enemies under his feet." ²⁶Death is the last enemy to be done away with. ²⁷Certainly, "he has put all things in subjection under his feet." Now when it says that all things have been put in subjection, obviously that does not include the one who subjected all things to him. ²⁸But when all things have been subjected to him, then the Son himself will also be subjected to the one who subjected all things to him, in order that God may be all in all.

P: Alleluia. I am the Alpha and Omega, the First and the Last, the Beginning and the End. Alleluia. (Revelation 22:13)

C: Alleluia! Praise the Lord!

LESSON: Matthew 27:27–31

²⁷Then the governor's soldiers took Jesus into the Praetorium and gathered the whole cohort of soldiers around him. ²⁸They stripped him and put a scarlet robe on him. ²⁹They twisted together a crown of thorns and put it on his head. They put a staff in his right hand, knelt in front of him, and mocked him by saying, "Hail, King of the Jews!" ³⁰They spit on him, took the staff, and hit him repeatedly on his head. ³¹After they had mocked him, they took off the robe and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him away to crucify him.

SERMON "CHRIST THE KING: KEEP US JOYFUL IN YOUR KINGDOM"



CONFESSION OF FAITH: The 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.

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, and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN:

Lord, When Your Glory I Shall See

CW 219

Lord, when your glory I shall see and taste your kingdom's pleasure,
Your blood my royal robe shall be my joy beyond all measure!
When I appear before your throne, your righteousness shall be my crown;
With these I need not hide me.
And there, in garments richly wrought, as your own bride I shall be brought
To stand in joy beside you.

SPECIAL PRAYERS