



Christ the King / Reign of Christ Sunday

November 22, 2020

— Gathering —

PRELUDE Joshua Allen

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Michele R. Goff

LITANY FOR THE REIGN OF CHRIST

Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice!

Christ will reign forever and ever.

The Lord is robed in majesty and girded in strength.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

God has established the world, and God's realm will never be shaken.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

God will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

The kingdom of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

~~~ brief silence ~~~

Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Savior, you pour out your power for the powerless and your salvation for the lost. Remember us in your new creation, so that we may live in peace with you in the presence of the Holy One, to whom be all honor and glory, through you, in the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.** 

MUSIC Joshua Allen

PRAYER OF THE DAY

John Tieken

Eternal God, you set Jesus Christ to rule over all things, and made us servants in your kingdom. By your Spirit empower us to love the unloved, and to minister to all in need. Then at the last bring us to your eternal realm where we may worship and adore you and be welcomed into your everlasting joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.

**CONFESSION** John Tieken

In true repentance, let us confess the ways we have failed to walk in the ways of righteousness.

God of mercy, who has compassion for the lost and the least, in disbelief and denial, we ask: "When did we see you among us?" We should have seen you in the classmate on the playground whom we did not invite to join our game. Or in the stranger on the sidewalk whom we crossed the street to avoid. Or in the neighbor at the nursing home, whom we left to carry her pain alone. We should have seen you in the man begging for work or a warm meal, in the woman struggling to overcome addiction, in the child seeking refuge from the terrors of violence. But, instead, we turned away. Forgive us, Lord. Break our hearts for what breaks yours, and give us compassion and courage to respond to the suffering of this world.

### **ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Rev. Michele R. Goff

Even when we wander, our Shepherd chases after us, and guides us back with a tender hand. *We are forgiven. Alleluia!* 

\_ Word\_

## PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

John Tieken

# **HEBREW SCRIPTURE**

Rev. Michele R. Goff

Our first reading is from the Hebrew book of Psalms, chapter 95, verses 1 through 7. The Spirit of the Lord is speaking; God's word is on my lips. Hear the word of the Lord.

This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

# **GOSPEL SCRIPTURE**

Our gospel reading is from the gospel according to Matthew chapter 25 verses 31 through 46. The Lord is our God, the Lord alone. Listen to the word of the Lord.

God our Sovereign has spoken; the promise of the Lord endures forever. **Thanks be to God.** 

Immobilizing Fear or Infinite Opportunity? Rev. Michele R. Goff

#### **ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE**

To the Lord our God, Alpha and Omega, be all glory and honor forever. Amen.

— Response—

MUSIC Joshua Allen

#### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

John Tieken

Our shepherd satisfies our needs; in faith, let us pray to the Lord, saying: Let your will be done, *on earth as in heaven*.

O Lord, our God, we pray for the church . . . As you have made Christ the head of all, help us to live faithfully as his body, continuing his mission in the world. Let your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

O Lord, our God, we pray for the earth . . . Let all the earth make a joyful noise to you, a song of praise to the rock of our salvation, for you are coming to reveal a new creation. Let your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

O Lord, our God, we pray for all nations . . . Drive out those wolves in sheep's clothing who abuse the weak and scatter the flock. Come and save us; bring justice and peace. Let your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

O Lord, our God, we pray for this community . . . Help us to see Christ among our neighbors, serving those who are hungry and thirsty, naked and lonely, sick or in prison. Let your will be done, *on earth as in heaven*.

O Lord, our God, we pray for loved ones . . . Remember the people of your pasture: rescue the lost, bind up the broken, heal the sick, and feed those who hunger. Let your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Loving shepherd, lead and guide us—
in green pastures and by still waters, in right paths and through dark valleys,
until we feast with you in glory and dwell in your house forever; through Jesus
Christ our Savior. **Amen.** 

LORD'S PRAYER

John Tieken

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.

MUSIC Joshua Allen

## **INVITATION TO OFFERING**

Rev. Michele R. Goff

While we continue to worship in this adapted format, our mission inside and outside of the church building continues. Thank you for your consistent and generous gifts of time, talent and treasure!

I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God. Let us offer our lives to the Lord.

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

John Tieken

God of the harvest, you are continually planting the seeds of your love in our world and in our lives. As we bring our gifts to you, may they be seeds of your grace, peace, and hope, planted deeply in our community. **Amen.** 

— Sending —

#### **BLESSING AND CHARGE**

Rev. Michele R. Goff

The blessing of the holy, triune God, who was and is and is to come—first and last, beginning and end, Alpha and Omega—be with you now and always. *Alleluia!* 

Go in peace to love the Lord your God with heart and soul and mind and strength, and to love your neighbor as yourself. **Amen.** 

MUSIC Joshua Allen

# Serving God, Honoring Creation, Embracing Differences

