



**“Because I am King, I was born and entered the world so that I could witness to the truth.
Everyone who cares for truth, who has any feeling for the truth, recognizes my voice.”**

John 18:37b The Message

Grace Presbyterian Church

Fort Wayne, IN

November 24, 2024

Christ the King Sunday

Community Worship on Zoom – Live Stream/Replay on Facebook

Sunday Service – November 24, 2024

How can we pray for you? Let us know in the Zoom/Facebook Chat!

*We invite you to join in the liturgy by speaking the parts in ***BOLD*** with us from your homes!*

10:15 – Zoom Meeting Starts ~ ~ ~ 10:20 – Facebook Live Stream Starts

10:30 – Live Prelude Starts *We Gather Together* arr. by Thygerson

Welcome

Call to Worship –

We sing because God does marvelous things!

He opened salvation to all and revealed his righteousness to the world.

Make joyful noise the Lord, all the earth!

We join in joyous song and sing God’s praises!

It’s not only us, but the sea, the rivers, even the mountains rejoice out loud.

The whole cosmos sings because the Lord is coming to establish justice on earth!

Opening Hymn #268 “Crown Him with Many Crowns”

Call to Confession –

Friends, the invitation list to the Lord’s Table is larger than any of us could ever imagine. Let us confess the ways in which we sought to limit that invitation. Trusting in God’s grace, let us confess our sins.

Prayer of Confession –

God of Hospitality and Wonder, you welcome us to a table that invites those who are different than us. This invitation has made us uncomfortable, unsettled, and defensive. Our discomfort comes from an unwillingness to see other peoples’ perspectives. Our unsettledness comes from a dependence on the status quo. Our defensiveness comes from a belief that our image of you is the only one that matters. Help us to surrender ourselves to the abundance of your invitation. Inspire us to embrace the fact that diversity is strength, not

weakness. Gather us to welcome the stranger, care for the oppressed, and feed the hungry. Forgive us for our short-sightedness and open us to your Gospel that we might better embody the Beloved Community you call us to be. In the Wild and Wonderful name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.

Time for silent confession

Assurance of Pardon —

Friends, we are all invited to this table. I am here to announce to you that whatever you think disqualifies you from God's love has been washed away by the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus Christ! I announce to you that our sins have been forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven!

Amen

Song of Assurance #583 "Gloria, gloria"

Passing the Peace

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another. The Peace and Love of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

And also with you!

Please take a moment to greet your neighbor and others with the peace of Christ.

Children's Message

Time for Music & Meditation

Prayer for Illumination

Let us Pray: O God of wisdom, you delight in deep truth. Let these words of scripture teach our hearts, that we may hear your joy and gladness, for the sake of Christ, your wisdom for us. **Amen.**

Hebrew Bible Reading — 1 Samuel 8:9-18 (The Message)

see insert

7-9 God answered Samuel, “Go ahead and do what they’re asking. They are not rejecting you. They’ve rejected me as their King. From the day I brought them out of Egypt until this very day they’ve been behaving like this, leaving me for other gods. And now they’re doing it to you. So let them have their own way. But warn them of what they’re in for. Tell them the way kings operate, just what they’re likely to get from a king.”

10-18 So Samuel told them, delivered God’s warning to the people who were asking him to give them a king. He said, “This is the way the kind of king you’re talking about operates. He’ll take your sons and make soldiers of them—charity, cavalry, infantry, regimented in battalions and squadrons. He’ll put some to forced labor on his farms, plowing and harvesting, and others to making either weapons of war or chariots in which he can ride in luxury. He’ll put your daughters to work as beauticians and waitresses and cooks. He’ll conscript your best fields, vineyards, and orchards and hand them over to his special friends. He’ll tax your harvests and vintage to support his extensive bureaucracy. Your prize workers and best animals he’ll take for his own use. He’ll lay a tax on your flocks and you’ll end up no better than slaves. The day will come when you will cry in desperation because of this king you so much want for yourselves. But don’t expect God to answer.”

Choir Anthem

Gospel Reading – John 18:33-37 (The Message)

see insert

33 Pilate went back into the palace and called for Jesus. He said, “Are you the ‘King of the Jews?’”

34 Jesus answered, “Are you saying this on your own, or did others tell you this about me?”

35 Pilate said, “Do I look like a Jew? Your people and your high priests turned you over to me. What did you do?”

36 “My kingdom,” said Jesus, “doesn’t consist of what you see around you. If it did, my followers would fight so that I wouldn’t be handed over to the Jews. But I’m not that kind of king, not the world’s kind of king.”

37 Then Pilate said, “So, are you a king or not?”

Jesus answered, “You tell me. Because I am King, I was born and entered the world so that I could witness to the truth. Everyone who cares for truth, who has any feeling for the truth, recognizes my voice.”

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Sermon

The True King!

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.

Hymn of Response #269 “Lead On, O King Eternal”

Call to Offering

Collaborative Creator God, you call us to join in your work of love in the world, and you equip us with all we need to follow your lead. Now make us generous of hand, heart, and mind, as you are. As we return to you a portion of your gifts, we pray you would receive them as a sign of our gratitude for your unending love, and guide us as we offer our whole selves in your service, seeking your abundant life for all. Amen.

Offertory

Thanksgiving Hymn by Haydn

Doxology #606 “Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

Prayer of Dedication –

Let us pray. We give you thanks, O Lord, with all our heart. You have provided everything we need in your steadfast love. Receive these offerings as our response to your great faithfulness, for the praise of Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Sovereign God, gather all things and events together in your Love,
For the good of your beloved people and your sacred creation.
Guard and guide our future.

Remind us of the Kingdom we live in remind us of the King whose Love for us takes care of our worries, doubts, and fears fill the earth with the image of Christ, through whom and in whom all things were created, by whom all things are redeemed.

So knowing this, we, together as the Kingdom, pray...

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.

Announcements

A Moment to Decorate the Tree

Closing Hymn #643 “Now Thank We All Our God”

Charge and Benediction

Postlude

Come, Ye Thankful People, Come by Elvey

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Poinsettia Orders Due Today:

Thanks for Supporting Olivia and the Rescue Mission: Thanks to all who supported Olivia and her crafts last week. Rumor has it she raised over \$300 for the local charity.

Salvation Army Adopt-a-Family: This year, we are partnering with the Salvation Army to buy gifts for a family of four. Gifts should be delivered to the Narthex by December 1st with their tags. Gifts may be wrapped or unwrapped. Please provide the receipt (or a copy) so we can report the value of our gifts to the Salvation Army for their records. For more information, contact Holly Bothout. 260.452.5685.

East Wayne Street Thanksgiving Drive: Today, Sunday, November 24th, is the last day of our Thanksgiving drive. You can still make monetary donations for their turkeys. Thanks to everyone who has contributed.

Grace Hanging of the Greens: Our annual Hanging of the Greens will follow the service today, November 24th.

2nd Annual White Elephant Exchange: Grace will be celebrating our 2nd annual White Elephant gift exchange following the service on December 1st. The theme is 'tacky ornament or decoration.' If you purchase a gift for the exchange, please keep it under \$7. Those attending are encouraged to bring a snack to share. A present isn't required to attend.

Per Capita Reminder: Per Capita for 2024 is \$43.61 which helps support the Ministry of the Presbytery, Synod and General Assembly. We appreciate everyone's help in paying this cost.

Birthdays

Jim Wolfe – November 29

Anniversaries

ZOOM INSTRUCTIONS

To connect to our worship services on Zoom, follow these instructions to watch or listen. You can connect at 10:15 for fellowship; the service starts at 10:30.

Option 1: Automatically Join the Meeting

Follow the link in the email sent every week. This is by far the easiest way to connect to the live video.

Option 2: Manually Join the Meeting

You can download Zoom from <https://www.zoom.us>.

After you have installed the program/app, click on “Join” and enter this information:

Meeting ID: 9712063468 *Password:* 030414

Option 3: Call in to Listen (Audio Only)

On Sunday Morning, you can call to listen to the service. After you call, it will ask you to enter the Meeting ID and Password Below:

Phone Number: (301) 715-8592 *Meeting ID:* 9712063468 *Password:* 030414

Crown Him with Many Crowns 268

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2 Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,
 3 Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways
 4 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time;

hark, how the heaven-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own!
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 no an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 but down-ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
 thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

This text is so familiar that it is easy to miss all its paradox, mystery, suffering, and beauty; it rewards careful reading and meditation outside corporate worship. The tune's composer, chapel organist at Windsor Castle, had much experience in creating a royal sound.

TEXT: Matthew Bridges, 1851
 MUSIC: George Job Elvey, 1868

DIADEMATA
 SMD

Glory to God

583

Gloria, gloria

Capo 3: (Bm) (Em) (A) (D)
 Dm Gm C F (chords continue)

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, glo-ry in the high-est!
 Glo-ri-a, glo-ri-a, in ex-cel-sis De-o!

Glo-ry to God, glo-ry to God, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!
 Glo-ri-a, glo-ri-a, al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

*May be sung as a canon.

TEXT: Trad. liturgical text
 MUSIC: Jacques Berthier, 1979
 Music © 1979, 1981 Les Presses de Taizé (admin. GIA Publications, Inc.)

GLORIA (Taizé)

269 Lead On, O King Eternal!

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,

hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents shall be our home.
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
 for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears;

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong,
 for not with swords' loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums;
 your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light.

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.
 with deeds of love and mer - cy the heav - en - ly king - dom comes.
 The crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Not everything that looks like a battle ends up being one. This text, written for a seminary graduation, works well with its martial tune in the first stanza; but later stanzas turn from such imagery and focus on "deeds of love and mercy" and courage for life's journey.

TEXT: Ernest W. Shurtleff, 1888, alt.
 MUSIC: Henry Thomas Smart, c. 1835

LANCASHIRE
 7.6.7.6.D
 (this tune in a higher key, 233)

606 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

Doxology

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line in the treble clef and a piano accompaniment in the bass clef. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise *him, all creatures here be-low; praise *him a-bove, ye heaven-ly host; praise Fa-ther, Son, and Ho-ly Ghost. A-men." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

Praise God, from whom all bless-ings flow; praise *him, all crea-tures
here be - low; praise *him a - bove, ye heav-en-ly host; praise
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

*Or "God"

TEXT: Thomas Ken, 1695, 1709
MUSIC: Genevan Psalter, 1551

OLD HUNDREDTH
LM

643 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voice - es,
 2 O may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in high - est heav - en,

who won-drous things hath done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
 with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
 to Fa - ther and to Son and Spir - it now be giv - en:

who, from our moth-ers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when per-plexed,
 the one e - ter - nal God, whom heaven and earth a - dore,

with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 the God who was, and is, and shall be ev - er - more.

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

TEXT: Martin Rinkart, c. 1636; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.
 MUSIC: Johann Crüger, 1647; harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

NUN DANKET ALLE GOFT
 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6

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