

First Presbyterian Church of Rolla
Worship Service on Christ the King Sunday

November 21, 2021

Pre-Service Music *Soliloquy* - Edward Broughton

Welcome and Announcements

Christmas for GRACE snack bags need to be returned on November 28.

Prelude: *Little Prelude in B Flat* - Colin Curtis

Introit: *God, You Rule with Royal Bearing (Psalm 93)*

Call to Worship

Come! Behold the reign of Christ,

**like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,
gleaming from the dew on the grassy land.**

Come! Behold the reign of Christ,

**a power that shall not pass away
and a love that will never be destroyed.**

We belong to the reign of Christ,

**the Alpha and Omega,
who was, and is, and is to come.**

Prayer of the Day

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your beloved Son to be priest and sovereign forever. Grant that all the people of the earth, now divided by the power of sin, may be united by the glorious and gentle rule of Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Opening Hymn #2 *Come, Thou Almighty King* (please stand)

Call to Confession

Atheists are not the only foolish people who act as if there is no God.

Even in the midst of the miracles of life, we often do not acknowledge God's presence. And yet the Spirit is with us as the source of life.

Therefore, let us confess our sins and receive Christ's mercy

Prayer of Confession

O Holy One, you showed us what it means
to live by your reign:

**Sharing food with the hungry, freedom with the imprisoned,
justice with the oppressed, and joy with the sorrowful.
We ask your forgiveness, O God, for all the ways we
fail to live as people who belong to your reign.
Show us once more what our belonging means,
for you are the beginning, you are the end, and,
in every time between, you fill our lives with grace.**

Declaration of Forgiveness

The river of God's mercy runs deeper and wider than our sin.

God removes our sins as far as the heavens are above the earth.

Beloved in the risen Christ,

We are forgiven. Amen.

The peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

Passing the Peace of Christ

Gloria #581: *Glory Be to the Father*

Anthem: *Sing to the Lord, Rejoice!*

Telemann arr. Hopson

Time for sharing of joys and concerns, and the prayer list.

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer (debts and debtors)

Worship leader will lead the prayers. Hear us, O God. **Your mercy is great.**

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

Hymn: #273 *He is King of Kings* vs 1 and 3 (remain seated)

Prayer for Illumination

Let us pray: **O Holy Spirit, creative power of God, strengthen us to the depths of our humanity. Feed us the bread of heaven so that we will share your love with the world. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, Son of God, Savior. Amen.**

Psalm 93:1-2, 5

Epistle Lesson: Revelation 1:4b – 8

Gospel Lesson: John 18: 33-37

The Word of the Lord: **Thanks be to God.**

Sermon: *Christ the King* Susan Murray

Affirmation of Faith The Apostles' Creed Interpreted (please stand)

What do you believe when you confess your faith in "God the Father Almighty"?

That God is a God of love, and that God's love is powerful beyond measure.

What do you affirm when you confess your faith in Jesus Christ as "our Lord"?

That having been raised from the dead he reigns with compassion and justice over all things in heaven and on earth, especially over those who confess him by faith; and that by loving and serving him above all else, we give glory and honor to God.

What do you believe when you confess your faith in the Holy Spirit?

**That apart from the Holy Spirit,
our Lord can neither be loved, nor known, nor served.
The Holy Spirit is the personal bond
by which Jesus Christ unites us to himself,
the teacher who opens our hearts to Christ,
and the comforter who leads us to repentance,
empowering us to live in Christ's service.**

What do you affirm when you speak of "the life everlasting"?

**That communion with Jesus Christ
is eternal life itself.
In him we were chosen
before the foundation of the world.
By him the eternal covenant with Israel
was taken up, embodied, and fulfilled.
To him we are joined by the Holy Spirit through faith,
and adopted as children,
the sons and daughters of God.
Through him we are raised from death to new life.
For him we shall live to all eternity. Amen.**

Sending Hymn#269 *Lead On, O King Eternal!* (remain standing)

Benediction: (remain standing)

The love of God who created you,
the mercy of Jesus Christ who died for you,
and the power of the Holy Spirit who strengthens you,
keep you at one with all the faithful, living and departed,
and remain with you now and forever. Amen.

Go in peace. Live in love. **Serve the Lord**

Postlude: *Sing and Rejoice* -Lani Smith (please be seated)

Scriptures are read from the NRSV translation. Music presented by Lorie Francis, and the Chancel Choir. Worship led by Britt Whitaker and sermon provided by Susan Murray.

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