



November 26, 2023  
Christ the King Sunday

## GATHERING AND PRAISE

### Welcome

Pastor Larry

### Prelude

*We, Your People, Praise You*

*The prelude signals the beginning of our sacred time together. During the prelude, you are invited to prepare your heart for worship by focusing your attention upon God.*

### \*Call to Worship

Brenda Krens

L: Come! Let us give thanks to God!

**All: We give thanks for the gift of warm bread, the smell of dinner cooking in the oven, and the joy of gathering around a table together.**

L: Come! Let us give thanks to God!

**All: We give thanks for all the times God has made a way out of no way, providing for us in body and spirit just when we need it.**

L: Come! Let us give thanks to God!

**All: We give thanks for the ways God weaves us together as a community of love and care, supporting one another in the ebbs and flows of daily life.**

L: Let us come into God's presence with grateful praise!

**All: Come! Let us worship God together. Amen.**

### \*Opening Prayer

Brenda Krens

God of Healing and Transformation,  
we hunger and thirst for your abundant life.

We bring you our sorrow and ask for the bread of joy;

we bring you our despair and ask for the bread of hope;  
we bring you our weariness and ask for the bread of inspiration.

Meet us here.

We need the bread of heaven to sustain us  
as we journey to find our way,  
that we may be one with you.  
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

**\* Hymn**                      *All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*  
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UMH 154

**\*Passing the Peace of Christ**  
Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.

Brenda Krens

**Children's Time**

Pastor Larry

**Ministry of Music**                      *We're Gonna Worship Christ the King*

Choplin

## PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

**Prayer for Understanding**                      *All Praying*                      Brenda Krens  
**O Lord, your Word is a lamp to our feet and a light to our path. Give us grace to receive your truth in faith and love, and strength to follow on the path you set before us; through Jesus Christ. Amen**

**Scripture Readings**  
**John 18:33-37**

<sup>33</sup> Pilate then went back inside the palace, summoned Jesus and asked him, "Are you the king of the Jews?"

<sup>34</sup> "Is that your own idea," Jesus asked, "or did others talk to you about me?"

<sup>35</sup> "Am I a Jew?" Pilate replied. "Your own people and chief priests handed you over to me. What is it you have done?"

<sup>36</sup> Jesus said, "My kingdom is not of this world. If it were, my servants would fight to prevent my arrest by the Jewish leaders. But now my kingdom is from another place."

<sup>37</sup> “You are a king, then!” said Pilate.

Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. In fact, the reason I was born and came into the world is to testify to the truth. Everyone on the side of truth listens to me.”

### **Revelation 1:4-8**

<sup>4</sup> John,

To the seven churches in the province of Asia:

Grace and peace to you from him who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from the seven spirits<sup>[a]</sup> before his throne, <sup>5</sup> and from Jesus Christ, who is the faithful witness, the firstborn from the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood, <sup>6</sup> and has made us to be a kingdom and priests to serve his God and Father—to him be glory and power for ever and ever! Amen.

<sup>7</sup> “Look, he is coming with the clouds,”<sup>[b]</sup>

and “every eye will see him,  
even those who pierced him”;

and all peoples on earth “will mourn because of him.”<sup>[c]</sup>  
So shall it be! Amen.

<sup>8</sup> “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, “who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.”

### **RESPONSE TO THE WORD**

The Word of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God!**

#### **Hymn**

*He is Exalted*

TFWS 2070

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#### **Sermon**

“Follow the Leader”

Pastor Larry

#### **Affirmation of Faith**

**As followers of Jesus Christ,  
living in this world—  
which some seek to control,  
but which others view with despair—  
we declare with joy and trust:  
Our world belongs to God!**

**From the beginning,  
through all the crises of our times,  
until his kingdom fully comes,  
God keeps covenant forever.  
Our world belongs to him!  
God is King! Let the earth be glad!  
Christ is Victor; his rule has begun. Hallelujah!  
The Spirit is at work, renewing creation. Praise the Lord!**

**We rejoice in the goodness of God,  
renounce the works of darkness,  
and dedicate ourselves to holy living.  
As covenant partners,  
called to faithful obedience,  
and set free for joyful praise,  
we offer our hearts and lives  
to do God's work in his world.  
With tempered impatience, eager to see injustice ended,  
we expect the Day of the Lord.  
And we are confident  
that the light which shines in the present darkness  
will fill the earth when Christ appears.**

**Come, Lord Jesus!  
Our world belongs to you.**

**Morning Prayer**

Pastor Larry

**Offertory Invitation**

Brenda Krens

**Worship with Our Tithes and Offerings**

*Offertory* *He Leadeth Me*

Bradbury

*\*Doxology* *Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow*

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;***

***Praise God, all creatures here below:***

***Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts!***

***Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!***

***Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!***

*\*Prayer of Dedication*

Brenda Krens

**God of Creation, we come this morning, bringing our humble gifts, celebrating the reign of Christ, our King – not just in the kingdom that is to come, but in his reign in our hearts. What could we withhold from him, who is our life, our light, and our redemption? More than our money in the plate, help us to give our whole selves, all in for Christ’s ongoing work of compassion and healing. Help us to make our loyalty to his reign known in our giving and in our living. In the name of Jesus, we pray. Amen.**

## **GOING FORTH TO SERVE**

**\* Closing Hymn**

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

UMH 327

**Benediction**

Pastor Larry

**Choral Benediction**

*Benediction Hymn*

**Now may the Lord bless you and keep you  
and make his face to shine upon you;  
and may God lift his countenance upon you  
and give you blessed peace for now and evermore**

**Postlude**

*We Will Glorify*

Paris

## ***ALL HAIL THE POWER OF JESUS' NAME***

*All hail the power of Jesus' name!*

*Let angels prostrate fall;  
bring forth the royal diadem,  
and crown him Lord of all.  
Bring forth the royal diadem,  
and crown him Lord of all.*

*2. Ye chosen seed of Israel's race,  
ye ransomed from the fall,  
hail him who saves you by his grace,  
and crown him Lord of all.  
Hail him who saves you by his grace,  
and crown him Lord of all.*

*3. Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget  
the wormwood and the gall,  
go spread your trophies at his feet,  
and crown him Lord of all.  
Go spread your trophies at his feet,  
and crown him Lord of all.*

*4. Let every kindred, every tribe  
on this terrestrial ball,  
to him all majesty ascribe,  
and crown him Lord of all.  
To him all majesty ascribe,  
and crown him Lord of all.*

*5. Crown him, ye martyrs of your God,  
who from his altar call;  
extol the Stem of Jesse's Rod,  
and crown him Lord of all.  
Extol the Stem of Jesse's Rod,  
and crown him Lord of all.*

*6. O that with yonder sacred throng  
we at his feet may fall!  
We'll join the everlasting song,  
and crown him Lord of all.*

*We'll join the everlasting song,  
and crown him Lord of all.*

### **HE IS EXALTED**

*He is exalted, the King is exalted on high;  
I will praise him.  
He is exalted, forever exalted  
And I will praise his name!  
He is the Lord,  
Forever his truth shall reign;  
Heaven and earth rejoice in his holy name.  
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.*

*He is exalted, the King is exalted on high;  
I will praise him.  
He is exalted, forever exalted  
And I will praise his name!  
He is the Lord,  
Forever his truth shall reign;  
Heaven and earth rejoice in his holy name.  
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high.*

### **CROWN HIM WITH MANY CROWNS**

*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.*

*2. 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.*

*3. Crown him the Lord of peace,  
whose power a scepter sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,  
and all be prayer and praise.  
His reign shall know no end,  
and round his pierced feet  
fair flowers of paradise extend  
their fragrance ever sweet.*

*4. Crown him the Lord of love;  
behold his hands and side,  
those wounds, yet visible above,  
in beauty glorified.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
For thou hast died for me;  
thy praise and glory shall not fail  
throughout eternity.*