



SERVICE FOR THE LORD'S DAY

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2020

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

Our hope in this season of COVID-19 is that all who worship virtually feel welcome and a sense of God's love through Jesus Christ.

FOR WORSHIP

Today we celebrate the eternal Kingship of Christ and the end of the church's liturgical year. In Matthew's Gospel, Jesus teaches of his second coming in glory, when he will come with majesty and judgment. Those who love Jesus will, as the psalmist sings, "worship the Lord with gladness" and "come into his presence with singing."

PRELUDE

*Sing to the Lord of Harvest
Hymn of Thanksgiving
Crown Him With Many Crowns
Janice Robison, Organist*

Dennis Eliot
George Frederick McKay
Jerry Westenkuehler

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Robert E. Martin

INTROIT

*What Wondrous Love is This
AFPC Bell Choir*

Joel Raney/arr. Arnold B. Sherman

CALL TO WORSHIP

*L: From mist and darkness, from restful waters,
P: **God gathers us.**
L: From health and sickness, from plenty and poverty,
P: **God gathers us.**
L: From highways and byways, from fields and cities,
P: **God gathers us.**
L: To a feast, a banquet, a life eternal,
P: **God gathers us safely home.**
L: Christ the Sovereign, King of justice,
P: **we belong to you.**
L: Today and tomorrow, in time and eternity,
P: **your kingdom come.**
All: **Let us worship God!***

HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

**1 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 love;
behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified:
no angel in the sky
can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends his burning eye
at mysteries so bright.**

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

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.

4 Crown him the Lord of years,
the potentate of time;
creator of the rolling spheres,
ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail!
For thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail
throughout eternity.

*In the presence of a holy God,
we become aware of the ways we
fall short of God's best hopes for
us, and the ways we have hurt
others. We turn to God in
prayer, asking for forgiveness.*

*We express gratitude that
through God's grace and
Christ's giving of himself on
the cross we are forgiven and
restored to God and one
another.*

*The sermon is a reflection on
the day's scriptures,
suggesting implications for
our faith and life.*

*On behalf of the congregation,
the Pastor expresses the
corporate prayers of the
congregation. These prayers
are for world, local and
personal concerns.*

*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.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One, we bow before you humbly and joyfully, for you are a gracious Sovereign – both powerful ruler and gentle shepherd of all. We depend upon your mercy, for we have sinned. We have neglected your call to seek the lost, bring back the strayed, bind up the injured, and strengthen the weak. We have failed to hope and to work for justice. We have ignored your face in the stranger. Forgive us, we pray. Gather and direct us, so that we may live as your faithful people, seeing as you see and loving as you love. Amen.

DECLARATION OF PARDON

L: Friends, believe the good news.

P. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Keith Morrow

ANTHEM

Harvest Hymn tune: DIX by F. Pierpoint/arr. Mary McDonald
AFPC Small Vocal Ensemble

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE Psalm 100

Ephesians 1: 15-23

L. This is the Word of the Lord!

P: Thanks be to God!

SERMON

The be all and end all

Rev. Robert E. Martin

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

ANNOUNCEMENTS, PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER

Rev. Martin

HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

1 Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done,
in whom this world rejoices;
who, from our mothers' arms,
hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
with ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us;
and keep us in God's grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
and free us from all ills
in this world and the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God,
who reigns in highest heaven,
to Father and to Son
and Spirit now be given:
the one eternal God,
whom heaven and earth adore,
the God who was, and is,
and shall be evermore.

CHARGE AND BLESSING

POSTLUDE

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name
Janice Robison, Organist

David Cherwien