Christ the King Sunday, November 24, 2024 GOD WELCOMES US

Welcome

Call to Worship

One: We claim Christ is King

All: Therefore God also highly exalted him and gave him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bend, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father. (Philippians 2:9-11)

One: But God gives us a different kind of king than we might expect. A king whose law is love and whose gospel is grace. We worship a different kind of King who lays down his life for his people!

All: Christ Jesus, who, though he existed in the form of God, did not regard equality with God as something to be exploited, but emptied himself, taking the form of a slave, being born in human likeness. And being found in human form, he humbled himself and became obedient to the point of death—even death on a cross. (Philippians 2:6-8)

One: Let's together find joy in worshipping King Jesus.

Rejoice the Lord is King (Lift Up Your Hearts, #224)

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore.
Rejoice, give thanks and sing and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice.
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven; the keys of death and hell to Christ the Lord are given.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice.

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

He sits at God's right hand till all his foes submit, bow down at his command, and fall beneath his feet.

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice.

Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Praise is Rising (Hosanna)

Praise is rising, Eyes are turning to You, We turn to You
Hope is stirring, Hearts are yearning for You, We long for You
'cause when we see You we find strength to face the day
In Your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away

Chorus

Hosanna! Hosanna! You are the God who saves us,
Worthy of all our praises Hosanna! Hosanna!
Come have Your way among us
We welcome You here Lord Jesus

Hear the sound of Hearts returning to You – we turn to You
In Your Kingdom broken lives are made new – you make us new,
'cause when we see You we find strength to face the day
In Your presence all our fears are washed away, washed away –
Chorus 2x

Across the Lands (LUYH, #775)

You're the Word of God the Father
from before the world began
Ev'ry star and ev'ry planet has been fashioned by Your hand
All creation holds together by the power of Your voice
Let the skies declare Your glory, let the land and seas rejoice

You're the author of creation, You're the Lord of ev'ry one and Your cry of love rings out across the lands

Yet You left the gaze of angels came to seek and save the lost and exchanged the joy of heaven for the anguish of a cross

With a prayer You fed the hungry,

with a word You stilled the sea

Yet how silently You suffered that the guilty may go free - Chorus

With a shout You rose victorious
wresting victory from the grave
and ascended into heaven leading captives in Your wake
Now You stand before the Father interceding for Your own
From each tribe and tongue and nation,
You are leading sinners home - Chorus

Prayer of Confession: Jesus, King and Lord of all, we know you are here. We've heard your cry of love and we know that love includes us in a way that is sometimes hard to understand, yet it is still true. Because of you, we see more clearly where we have chosen the way of the world rather than the way of Christ. We have compromised when we should have stood firm. We have judged others, been quick to anger and slow to love. We have not lived as people who know the kingdom of God is among us. We repent and ask your forgiveness. Loving God, You have given us confidence to turn back to You as forgiven people, through the life, teaching, death and resurrection of Your Son Jesus. In the stillness of Your presence, may we know ourselves in new ways, as loved and accepted and forgiven. . . . Amen.

Blessing on Children

GOD GIVES US HIS WORD

Scripture: Colossians 1:9-23 p. 954

Message: "Of Royal Worth"

Be Thou My Vision (LUYH, #859)

Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart; naught be all else to me, save that thou art—thou my best thought, by day or by night; waking or sleeping, thy presence my light.

Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty praise; thou mine inheritance, now and always: thou and thou only first in my heart, high King of heaven, my treasure thou art.

High King of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, Bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

GOD SENDS US OUT TO SERVE

Prayers of the People

Offering: St. James Food Basket

Benediction

Jesus is Our King (LUYH, #602 refrain, v 4, refrain)

Alleluia! Alleluia Opening our hearts to him, singing alleluia! Alleluia! Jesus is our King!

Pour out your Spirit on us, empowering us to live as one, to carry your redeeming love to a world enslaved by sin.

* Much of the material for Pastor Mark's sermon today is taken from *Bigger Gospel: Learning to speak, live and enjoy the good news in every area of life*by Caesar Kalinowski. Pastor Mark highly recommends this book to all.