

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day

Christ the King Sunday

November 22, 2020

10:00 a.m.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Words of Welcome

Prelude

“Jesus Shall Reign”

arr. Lana Kelley

Call to Worship

from Psalm 47

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy.

For the Lord, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth.

God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises.

Hymn 367

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

1 Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.

All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.

God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.

Come to God's own temple, come; raise the song of harvest home.

2 All the world is God's own field, fruit in thankful praise to yield,

wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.

First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.

Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the harvest home;

from each field shall in that day all offenses purge away;

give the angels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,

but the fruitful ears to store in God's garner evermore.

4 Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.

Gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,

there forever purified, in thy presence to abide:

come, with all thine angels, come; raise the glorious harvest home!

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Righteous God,

you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all.

We confess that we have not bowed before him,

and are slow to acknowledge his rule.

We give allegiance to the powers of this world,

and fail to be governed by justice and love.

In your mercy, forgive us.

Raise us to acclaim him as ruler of all,

that we may be loyal ambassadors,

obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Silent Confession
Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

Epistle Lesson: Ephesians 1:15-23

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Psalter: Psalm 100 (Hymnal 385)

1 All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell. Come ye before him and rejoice.

2 Know that the Lord is God indeed; without our aid he did us make;
we are his folk; he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.

3 O enter then his gates with praise; approach with joy his courts unto;
praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.

4 For why? The Lord our God is good; his mercy is forever sure;
his truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.

A Moment with Our Children

Gospel Lesson: Matthew 25:31-46

“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you

did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

Sermon: "Love or Perish"

Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn 263

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

1 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 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!

4 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!

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.

Offering

Offertory

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

arr. Barbara Baltzer Kinyon

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

GO IN GOD'S NAME

Hymn 643

"Now Thank We All Our God"

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 Benediction

Postlude

“Lift High the Cross”

arr. John Leavitt

The flowers *have been given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Anna Marsh by her family.*

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PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William Carter
Liturgist	Alan Baker
Coordinator for Children and Youth Ministries	Jana Schillinger
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Director of Bells	Richard Cochrane
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Usher	Bill Farrell

Church Family Announcements

We welcome all to our worship today. **Please sign in at the Welcome Table.** (In the event of an infection, you will be contacted.)

Our congregation intends to worship God, equips God's people for ministry in the world, and serves God in ways that are faithful to the Gospel.

For those of us in the sanctuary today, there are some details to review in the hope that no virus will be spread due to this gathering.

- All are required to wear face masks, sit only in designated pews, and maintain six feet of distance from people of other households.
- You may participate in the spoken segments of the service, but please do not sing.
- If you would like to visit with other worshippers, do so after exiting the building.
- At present, seating is limited to 50 people in the sanctuary, including worship leaders. Notify the church office (office@fpccs.org or 570-586-6306) by Friday noon when you plan to attend.

Tell us your prayer concerns. Prayer Request Cards are available in the pews. They may be dropped in the offering plates as you enter or exit the sanctuary.

Christian Education for children and youth continues despite the pandemic. See below for offerings. Contact Jana Schillinger for additional information at ce@fpccs.org.

For kids and teens, we offer:

- **Grace & Faith:** children age 4 to grade 5 will have a weekly lesson from our *Growing in Grace & Gratitude* curriculum. We will post a short video, downloadable worksheets, and more at fpccsaway-grace.blogspot.com for you to enjoy whenever fits best in your schedule.
- **We Believe:** youth grade 6 and up can visit fpccsaway-believe.blogspot.com for a weekly post featuring a Bible passage, reflection, and questions to ponder.

For adults, **Rev. Carter will begin an Advent Bible on Wednesday, December 2, which will last 4 weeks.** (December 2, 9, 16, 23). Additional details will be forthcoming.

ALTERNATIVE GIFT MARKET – Concludes today

The Mission and Justice Committee in past years has sponsored the Alternative Gift Market, usually held on a Sunday in late November. The Alternative Gift Market provides the opportunity for the congregation and the greater community to purchase fair trade items produced internationally, and also to support efforts to assist disadvantaged people throughout the world.

Unfortunately, due to Covid-19, we are unable this year to have the market displays and personal interaction we have previously enjoyed. Nonetheless, we still intend to have the market using a somewhat diminished and different format. Products and services for SERRV International and Heifer International will still be offered for purchase. **From November 1 through November 22**, catalogs from these entities will be available in the church narthex. You will then be able to purchase your items directly. Please return the catalogs to the narthex upon completion of your order(s).

For those of you who do not plan to be in the church building, on-line catalogs are also available for your benefit as follows:

SERRV International – serrv.org

Heifer International – heifer.org

In addition, as has been done in the past to support more local projects, it will be possible to purchase candy (\$8.00 per 1 lb. box) supporting Appalachian Service Project (ASP). Forms, with ordering directions, will also be available in the church narthex during the above referenced dates, or you may contact Sue Whitman, ASP coordinator, at (570) 510-1356.

Thank you for your continued support of these important missions.

We are being offered two opportunities to share the love of Christ during this Advent.



Pajamas for
local children

The mission of the Angel Tree, providing pajamas to Scranton Head-Start programs, is in progress. You may sign up to purchase pajamas for a child by **going to our website**, fpccs.org, or **by calling the church office** on weekdays. When you sign up, you will be given the size and gender of a child that needs warm pajamas for winter.

The second opportunity is brand new! Our Christian Education Committee is offering Advent Boxes for our members and friends. Take time as a family to explore the meaning of Advent. We encourage our families to **sign up to receive an Advent Box** filled with an Advent calendar, devotions, activity suggestions, supplies for a craft, and more. All ages and everyone in the church is welcome and encouraged to participate, so boxes will be available both for families with children and for those without. Advent begins NEXT SUNDAY, so don't wait. Sign up today!



This Week at a Glance

Today	Christ the King	
10:00AM	* Morning Worship	Sanctuary
4:00PM	All-Church Recital – Being Broadcast on YouTube	
Monday, November 23		
Tuesday, November 24		
7:00PM	* Deacons	Fellowship Hall
Wednesday, November 25		
9:00AM	* Presbyter Mailing	Session Room
Thursday, November 26	THANKSGIVING	
	Church Office is closed.	
Friday, November 27		
	Church Office is closed.	
Saturday, November 28		
Sunday, November 29	First Sunday of Advent	
10:00AM	* Worship - Reserve your seat: office@fpccs.org or 570-586-6306	Sanctuary

* denotes gathering is face-to-face, with masks and socially-distant seating.

(Z) denotes gathering is online using ZOOM. Check our website or call the office for the link.

First Presbyterian Church
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570/586-6306 www.fpccs.org

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