

+ Reign of Christ Sunday November 21, 2021



St. Andrew Lutheran Church 304 Morewood Ave. Pittsburgh, PA 15213

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+ Reign of Christ Sunday Order for Worship

Even though Israel had experienced the vagaries of kings, the people still longed for a true king to set things right: One would have the king's title of Anointed One (Messiah); who would be the "one like a human being" (Son of Humanity) given dominion in Daniel's vision.

Jesus is given these titles, even though he is nothing like an earthly king.

Jesus' authority comes from the truth to which he bears witness, and those who recognize the truth voluntarily listen to him. We look forward to the day his dominion comes in its fullness, knowing his victory will be the nonviolent victory of love.

A few notes on precautions and protocols, which apply to everyone regardless of vaccination status, as St. Andrew returns to worship in the sanctuary:

- Face masks that fully cover both your mouth and nose are required at all times for everyone over the age of two (2) the only exception being the brief moment of moving mask aside to partake in Holy Communion.
- Outside food and drink are thus not permissible during worship.
- Physical distancing of at least six (6) feet will be observed at all times for people not from your household.
- We invite the congregation to voice responses and prayers during worship. A cantor will sing the hymns with a mask on, and the rest of the congregation is encouraged to follow along silently.
- We ask that everyone use hand sanitizer, either your own or from the bottles throughout the sanctuary, especially prior to Holy Communion.

Worship Services are live streamed to multiple online platforms. By attending worship, you agree that your image and voice may be broadcast.

Welcome

Prelude

Gathering

Please rise as you are able.

Confession and Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, the one who made us, the one who heals us, the one who reforms us again and again.

C: Amen.

P: Let us confess our sins in the presence of God and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

P: Have mercy on us, O God.
C: We confess that we have sinned against you and against our neighbor.
We have built walls instead of tables and have turned away the stranger.
We have sought glory for ourselves and have treasured that which does not satisfy. Help us to love as you love, to welcome those you send, and to treasure mercy and justice.
Turn us from our ways to your ways, and free us to serve those in need. Amen.

P: God, who makes all things new, forgives your sins for + Jesus' sake and remembers them no more.

Lift up your heads and your hearts.

Yours is the kin-dom of God.

We ask that those present in the church sanctuary refrain from singing the hymns aloud.

The assembly gathered from afar is encouraged to sing!

- 1 Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne; hark, how the heav'nly 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.
- 3 Crown him the Lord of love-behold his hands and side, rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
 No angels in the sky can fully bear that sight, but downward bend their burning eyes at mysteries so bright.
- 4 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.

Text: Matthew Bridges, 1800-1894, sts. 1-3; Godfrey Thring, 1823-1903, st. 4. Music: DIADEMATA George J. Elvey, 1816-1893.

Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. C: And also with you.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Almighty and ever-living God, you anointed your 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. **C: Amen.**

Please be seated.

Word

First Reading – Daniel 7: 9-10, 13-14

⁹As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne, his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. ¹⁰A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened. ¹³As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. ¹⁴To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading – Revelation 1: 4b-8

^{4b}Grace to you and peace from the one who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before God's throne, ⁵ and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To the one who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, ⁶and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

⁷Look! He is coming with the clouds;

every eye will see him,

even those who pierced him;

and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

So it is to be. Amen.

⁸"I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

L: Word of God, word of life.

C: Thanks be to God.

Please rise as you are able.

Gospel Acclamation (Spoken)

C: Alleluia. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Blessed is the coming kingdom of our ancestor David. Alleluia.

Gospel – John 18: 33-37

P: The holy Gospel according to St. John.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

³³Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" ³⁴Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" ³⁵Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" ³⁶Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." ³⁷Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

P: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Please be seated.

Sermon

Please rise as you are able.

- 1 O Christ, what can it mean for us to claim you as our king?
 What royal face have you revealed whose praise the church would sing?
 Aspiring not to glory's height, to power, wealth, and fame, you walked a diff'rent, lowly way, another's will your aim.
- 2 You came, the image of our God, to heal and to forgive, to shed your blood for sinners' sake that we might rise and live. To break the law of death you came, the law of love to bring: a diff'rent rule of righteousness, a diff'rent kind of king.
- 3 Though some would make their greatness felt and lord it over all, you said the first must be the last and service be our call.

 O Christ in workplace, church, and home, let none to power cling; for still, through us, you come to serve, a diff'rent kind of king.
- 4 You chose a humble human form and shunned the world's renown; you died for us upon a cross with thorns your only crown.
 But still, beyond the span of years, our glad hosannas ring, for now at God's right hand you reign, a diff'rent kind of king!

Prayers of the People

P: Freed by God in Christ Jesus to love and serve, we pray for the church, those in need, and all of God's beloved creation.

After each petition

P: God of mercy,

C: Receive our prayer.

P: God our hope and strength, we entrust to your care all for whom we pray, confident in your abundant mercy, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Please be seated while the table is being prepared. We offer ourselves, our gifts, and our faithful service to God.

An offering plate is available at the back of the sanctuary for those who would like to offer gifts as you leave worship today.

Meal

Please rise as you are able.

Offertory Prayer

P: Let us pray. God of life, you give us these gifts of the earth, these resources of our life and labor.

Take them, offered in great thanksgiving, and use them to set a table that will heal your whole creation, through Jesus Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

Dialogue

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

P: It is indeed right, our duty and our joy and join their unending hymn.

Sanctus

C: Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might:
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Eucharistic Prayer

P: You are indeed holy, almighty and merciful God For as often as we eat of this bread and drink from this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

C: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

P: Remembering, therefore To you, O Triune God, be all honor and glory in your holy church, now and forever. C: Amen.

Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered as one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us. C: Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

Forgive us our sins

as we forgive those who sin against us.

Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

Fraction and Invitation

Agnus Dei / Lamb of God

C: Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Please be seated.

Holy Communion

- Please use hand sanitizer prior to receiving Communion.
- We will not be kneeling at the altar rail due to the need for physical distancing.
- Worshipers from the pulpit side will proceed forward first, followed by the center section, and then the lectern side.
- The Communion wafers (regular and gluten-free) have been thoughtfully prepared using the gifts of the congregation by a member of St. Andrew's altar care team, with a drop of wine or grape juice on each. The presiding minister will distribute one to each communicant from the ciborium using sanitary tongs.
- When you reach the presiding minister, please indicate if you would like grape juice or a gluten-free wafer.
- A blessing will be provided for anyone who does not yet receive the sacrament, following physical distancing guidelines.
- Everyone is asked to wait until you return to your place to consume the elements, and then promptly replace your mask.

Hymn during Holy Communion

Jesus, Remember Me

ELW 616

Jesus, Remember Me comes from the hymnody of the Taizé community, characterized by a simple verse sung multiple times to aid in meditation.

Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.

Text: Luke 23: 42; Taizé Community. Music: REMEMBER ME, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994. Text and Music © 1981, Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Reprinted under OneLicense.net # A-722139.

When all have returned to their places, please rise as you are able.

Blessing

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace. **C: Amen.**

Prayer

P: Let us pray.
Blessed Jesus,
at this table, you have been for us both host and meal.
Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet.
C: Amen.

Sending

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.
The Lord look upon you with favor and + give you peace.
C: Amen.

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: Thanks be to God!

Abbreviations

P: Pastor/Presiding Minister

L: Lector

C: Congregation

ELW: Evangelical Lutheran Worship hymnal

Those serving in worship today

Piano Lily Cai
Cantor Richard Krug
Lector Lester Prince
Audiovisual Ministers Linnea Asplin
Angie McComb
Director of Faith Formation Christopher Atwood
Presiding Minister Pastor Ross Carmichael

Liturgy and Hymnody Acknowledgements

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