

AS WE GATHER

The Last Sunday of the Church Year is here as we prepare to celebrate the return of Christ our King. When will it be? How will we know so that we are ready? There are the signs in nature, the sight of the Son of Man, and the angels. For these things, we keep an eye on the sky while we watch and wait, living our lives under God's grace as His righteousness draws near.

Gathering Song You Are My King (Amazing Love)

I'm forgiven because you were forsaken
I'm accepted You were condemned
I'm alive and well Your Spirit is within me
Because You died and rose again

Amazing love how can it be
That You my King would die for me?
Amazing love I know it's true
And it's my joy to honor You
In all I do I honor You

I'm forgiven because you were forsaken
I'm accepted You were condemned
I'm alive and well Your Spirit is within me
Because You died and rose again

Amazing love how can it be
That You my King would die for me?
Amazing love I know it's true
And it's my joy to honor You
In all I do I honor You

You are my King You are my King
Jesus You are my King Jesus You are my King

Amazing love how can it be
That You my King would die for me?
Amazing love I know it's true
And it's my joy to honor You
In all I do I honor You

Amazing love how can it be
That You my King would die for me?
Amazing love I know it's true
And it's my joy to honor You
In all I do I honor You
In all I do Let me honor you

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Welcome & Invocation

Opening Song How Many Kings

Follow the star to a place unexpected
Would you believe after all we've projected
A child in a manger
Lowly and small, the weakest of all
Unlikeliest hero, wrapped in his mother's shawl
Just a child
Is this who we've waited for?

Chorus: How many kings, stepped down from their thrones?
How many lords have abandoned their homes?
How many greats have become the least for me?
How many Gods have poured out their hearts
To romance a world
that has torn all apart?
How many fathers
gave up their sons for me?

Bringing our gifts for the newborn savior
All that we have whether costly or meek
Because we believe
Gold for His honor and frankincense for
His pleasure And myrrh for the cross
He'll suffer
Do you believe,
is this who we've waited for? **Chorus**

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Confession and Forgiveness *Luke 23:42; Philippians 1:6*

Pastor: As we live in the last days, waiting for Jesus to return, we are called to remember His promises and that we are His people. Yet, sometimes we forget what He has asked us to do. As God's beloved, we are called to build ourselves up in our most holy faith.

People: **Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect being built up by Your Word and Spirit. Forgive us and remember us.**

Pastor: As God's beloved, we are urged to pray in the Holy Spirit.

People: **Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect to converse with You in prayer and to guide our prayer life according to Your Word and Your will. Forgive us and remember us.**

Pastor: As God's beloved, we are urged to keep ourselves in the love of God.

People: **Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect to remember our Baptism. Forgive us and remember us.**

Pastor: As God's beloved, we are urged to wait for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: **Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect to embrace the mercy that is ours in You as we look forward to Your return. Forgive us and remember us.**

Pastor: As God's beloved, we are urged to have mercy on those who doubt.

People: **Lord Jesus, we confess that we fail to love others as You have first loved us. Forgive us and remember us.**

Pastor: As God's beloved, we are urged to share our faith with others.

People: **Lord Jesus, we confess that we neglect opportunities to share Your saving grace with others. Forgive us and remember us.**

Silence for private confession

Pastor: As Jesus was on the cross, the thief next to Him asked, "Jesus, remember me when You come into Your kingdom." As Jesus remembered the thief, He remembers you are His beloved child, and He remembers your sin no more. As a called and ordained servant of Jesus the Christ, and by His authority, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: **Amen.**

Prayer of the Day

Pastor: Let us pray. Lord God,

People: **You reign, robed in majesty over all that was, is, and will be. You are the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. As we wait for Your triumphant return, keep us steadfast in the one true faith and lead us to live lives that reflect Your presence so that You may work through us as You save others by snatching them from the fire;**

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Announcement of the Day

Pastor: Today is the Last Sunday of the Church Year, as the long green season of the growth of the Church comes to its close. At many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fore-fathers by the prophets of old, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son. Today, we look forward to the Son's return, but take one more look back at another year where Jesus has been our King of Kings, Lord of All, and Lord over our life.

Reader

Chris Fecke

First Reading

Isaiah 51:4–6

(Keep your eyes open for Jesus—righteousness draws near.)

⁴"Give attention to me, my people,
and give ear to me, my nation;
for a law will go out from me,
and I will set my justice for a light to the peoples.

⁵My righteousness draws near,
my salvation has gone out,
and my arms will judge the peoples;
the coastlands hope for me,
and for my arm they wait.

⁶Lift up your eyes to the heavens,
and look at the earth beneath;
for the heavens vanish like smoke,
the earth will wear out like a garment,
and they who dwell in it will die in like manner;
but my salvation will be forever,
and my righteousness will never be dismayed."

Reader: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading

Jude 20–25

(Remember your identity in Christ.)

²⁰But you, beloved, build yourselves up in your most holy faith; pray in the Holy Spirit; ²¹keep yourselves in the love of God, waiting for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ that leads to eternal life. ²²And have mercy on those who doubt; ²³save others by snatching them out of the fire; to others show mercy with fear, hating even the garment stained by the flesh.

²⁴Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, ²⁵to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

Reader: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading

Mark 13:24–37

(The end is near.)

²⁴[Jesus said:] “In those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning— ³⁶lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Children’s Message / Kids Church

Song of the Day How Great Thou Art

Oh Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder
Consider all the worlds thy hand hath made,
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy pow’r throughout the universe displayed.

Chorus: Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
How great thou art, How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Savior God, to thee,
How great thou art, How great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander,
I hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur

And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze; **(Chorus)**

And when I think that God, His Son not sparing,
Sent Him to die, I scarce can take it in,
That on the cross my burden gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin; **(Chorus)**

When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation
And take me home, what joy shall fill my heart!
Then I shall bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim: "My God, how great thou art!" **(Chorus)**

Sermon

Return of the King

Pastor Aaron Boerst

Creed – APOSTLE'S 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 Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was
buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He
ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From
thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life † everlasting. Amen.**

Prayers of the Church

Pastor: Lord Jesus, You reign, robed in majesty. Keep us awake, alert, and blameless as we wait for Your return so we may join You in Your kingdom. Your salvation will be forever,
People: and Your righteousness will never be dismayed.

Pastor: As we make our pilgrimage through this world, we are attacked in heart, soul, strength, and mind. We remember those among us who are struggling, and we place them in Your healing hands. Your salvation will be forever,
People: and Your righteousness will never be dismayed.

Pastor: You are the Lord of all and the ruler above all rulers. Give wisdom to those who govern our country. Guide and protect those who serve as first responders in our communities. Your salvation will be forever,
People: and Your righteousness will never be dismayed.

Pastor: As You have saved us and brought us to faith in You, work Your saving work through us and all of Your missionary people around the globe so others experience Your mercy. Your salvation will be forever,
People: and Your righteousness will never be dismayed.

Pastor: Hear us on behalf of those in our congregation and all who stand in need:
Local concerns are added by congregational elder here.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend ourselves and all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy, through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
People: Amen.

Sharing the Peace

Offering **November Prayer** (*Instrumental*)

Presentation of Gifts

Pastor: Heavenly Father, You are the giver of all good things, and Your Word makes clear that every

good and perfect gift comes from You. We ask that You accept these gifts back unto Yourself and use them to Your glory. *[Psalm 145:15, James 1:17]*

People: **Amen.**

Holy Communion

Preface

Pastor: The Lord be with you. *[2 Timothy 4:22]*

People: **And also with you.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts. *[Colossians 3:1]*

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. *[Psalm 136]*

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

The Words of Our Lord *[Matthew 26:26–28; Mark 14:22–24; Luke 22:19–20; 1 Corinthians 11:23–25]*

Proclamation of Christ

Pastor: As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord's death until He comes. *[1 Cor.11:26]*

People: **Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.** *[Revelation 22:20]*

Lord's Prayer *[Matthew 6:9–13]*

Pastor: Lord Jesus Christ, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:

People: **Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven; give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Distribution

He Reigns

It's the song of the redeemed Rising from the African plain
It's the song of the forgiven Drowning out the Amazon rain
The song of Asian believers Filled with Gods holy fire
Its every tribe, every tongue, every nation a love song born of a grateful choir

It's all Gods' children singing
Glory, glory, hallelujah He reigns, He reigns
It's all Gods' children singing
Glory, glory, hallelujah He reigns, He reigns

And all the powers of darkness Tremble at what they've just heard
Cause all the powers of darkness Can't drown out a single word

It's all Gods' children singing
Glory, glory, hallelujah He reigns, He reigns
It's all Gods' children singing
Glory, glory, hallelujah He reigns, He reigns

It's all Gods' children singing
Glory, glory, hallelujah He reigns, He reigns
It's all Gods' children singing
Glory, glory, hallelujah He reigns

King of Kings, Majesty

King of Kings, Majesty
God of heaven living in me
Gentle Saviour closest friend
Strong Deliv'rer, beginning and end
All within me falls at Your throne

Chorus: Your majesty, I can but bow
 I lay my all, before You now
 In royal robes, I don't deserve
 I live to serve Your majesty

Earth and heav'n, worship You
Love eternal, faithful and true
Who bought the nations, ransomed souls
Brought this sinner near to Your throne
All within me cries out in praise **Chorus**

I live to serve Your majesty

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Open Our Eyes Lord / Open the Eyes of My Heart Lord

Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus
To reach out and touch Him
And say that we love Him
Open our ears Lord
And help us to listen
Open our eyes Lord
We want to see Jesus **(Repeat)**

Open the eyes of my heart Lord, Open the eyes of my heart.
I want to see You, I want to see You **(Repeat)**

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Benediction [Numbers 6:24-26]

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you.
 The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
 The LORD look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

People: Amen.

Announcements

Sending Song The Trees of the Field

"For you shall go out in joy and be led forth in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall break forth into singing, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands." Isaiah 55:12 (ESV)

You shall go out with joy and be led forth in peace.
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you,
There'll be shouts of joy and all the trees of the field
Will clap, will clap their hands.

And all the trees of the field will clap their hands.
Trees of the field will clap their hands.

Trees of the field will clap their hands, as you go out with joy. **(Repeat 2 times)**

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