

REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 23 , 2025 ~ 10:30 AM

Prelude

Lord Christ Jesus, Our Salvation

R. Morrow

Invitation To Worship

Liturgy

Reign Of Christ
Second Coming
(Standing)

pgs. 109—114

Great is the Lord,
And greatly to be praised!

Let the people of the Lord praise the holy and righteous One. On the Day of the Lord, justice will roll on like a river, and righteousness like a never-failing stream.

Almighty God, we lift our hearts to you; and our eyes are fixed upon your unchanging glory. We rejoice in the promise of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power and majesty.

TUNE: LIFT UP YOUR HEADS

Lift up your heads to the coming King.
Bow before him and adore him, sing.
To his majesty, let your praises be,
Pure and holy, giving glory to the King of Kings.

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We give thanks to you, Redeemer God, for our Lord Jesus Christ, who came in quietness and humility, but who will come again with power and for all to see. Our Lord Jesus' coming again is a two-edged sword. It comforts us, convinces us anew that your grace is beyond measure. Yet it also confronts us, compels us to recognize our own unrighteousness. Let us put aside our false pride, confess our sins, and receive your affirming love.

(Kneeling or sitting)

Gracious Father, we confess that all too often we do not think of our coming King. We do not live our lives in the expectant and obedient waiting to which your Word summons us. Too often we do not live with the sense of urgency for the task you have set before your church. We put off bringing the gospel to the world and living out your kingdom's values of justice and righteousness. Forgive us, loving Lord. Cleanse us and fill us with your Spirit and with power, so that at Christ's triumphant return we may be counted worthy to stand before you with people of all tongues and nations. Amen.

Thanks be to God, who has loved us from the beginning, and who promises that if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and will purify us from all unrighteousness.

Our Sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from the earth. In that day we will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. Let us rejoice in his salvation."

(Sitting)

TUNE: ELLESDIE

Lord, we look for your returning;
teach us so to walk your ways,
hearts and minds your will discerning,
lives alight with joy and praise.
In your love and care enfold us,
by your constancy uphold us.
may your mercy, Lord and Father,
keep us now and all our days.

Text: Timothy Dudley Smith. © Hope Publishing Company.

We believe that our Lord Jesus, who ascended into heaven after his resurrection, will come again in the same way.

The Lord himself will come from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God; and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive will be caught up together with them to meet the Lord. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

When Christ returns, he will establish justice and righteousness in the earth. He will bring to fulfillment the kingdom of God, and he will reign as King of kings and Lord of lords.

In that day, at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

We believe the day of Christ's return will be one of rejoicing and vindication for God's people, but will also be a day of judgment for those who have rejected Christ's reign. We believe our loving God desires that none should perish, and so we ask to be empowered with zeal and humility to proclaim the word of truth in a world too often unaware of coming judgment.

We join with the saints throughout the ages in declaring: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

O STORE GUD

When Christ shall come with shout 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!

Refrain: 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!

(Standing)

Since we are surrounded by such a great cloud of witnesses, indeed by all the saints who have gone before us, let us throw off everything that hinders and the sin that so easily entangles, and let us run with perseverance the race marked out for us. Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith.

Christ, Bringer of justice, we ask for courage and boldness to stand by the poor and oppressed: to work for justice in this present world as we anticipate your perfect justice to come.

Christ, Hope of the world, we ask that your Holy Spirit move among those who have yet to hear, that their hearts may be softened and prepared for the message of the gospel.

Christ, Lord of the church, we ask for help for your church to live as we truly are--a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people belonging to you; a people live to declare your praises, for you who called us out of darkness into your wonderful light.

BECHLER (159 D)

Sing hallelujah, praise the Lord!
sing with a cheerful voice;
exalt our God with one accord,
and in his name rejoice.
Ne'er cease to sing, O ransomed host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
until in realms of endless light
your praises shall unite.

There we to all eternity
shall join the angelic lays,
and sing in perfect harmony
to God our Savior's praise;
he has redeemed us by his blood,
and made us kings and priests to God;
for us, for us, the Lamb was slain!
Praise ye the Lord! Amen.

Sharing A Sign of Peace

Announcements

Pam Stampf, Elder

Children's Message

Cares of the Congregation

Intercessory Prayer

Presentation of Our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory

Before the Ancient One Christ Stands
Senior Choir

R. B. Farlee

***Hymn of Dedication**

O Jesus Christ, Our Gracious King

#820

O Jesus Christ, our gracious King,
our praise and thanks to you we bring.
Look with favor on our offering,
in your mercy. Amen.

***Hymn**

Fairest Lord Jesus

#470

Fairest Lord Jesus!
King of creation!
Son of God and Son of man!
Truly I'd love thee,
truly I'd serve thee,
light of my soul, my joy, my crown.

Fair are the meadows,
fair are the woodlands,
robed in flow'rs of blooming spring;
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer;
he makes our sorr'wing spirit sing.

Fair is the sunshine,
fair is the moonlight,
bright the sparkling stars on high;
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines purer
than all the angels in the sky.

Beautiful Savior!
Lord of the nations!
Son of God and Son of man!
Glory and honor,
praise, adoration,
now and forevermore be thine!

Scripture

Luke 23:33-43

Sermon

Rev. Ian Edwards

***Closing Hymn**

Lift High the Cross

#623

Refrain:	Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim till all the world adore his sacred name.	Refrain
	Come, Christians, follow where our Savior led, our King victorious, Jesus Christ, our Head.	Refrain
	From north and south, from east and west we raise in growing unison our song of praise.	Refrain
	O Lord, once lifted on the tree of pain, draw all the world to seek you once again.	Refrain
	Let ev'ry race and ev'ry language tell of him who saves our lives from death and hell.	Refrain
	So shall our song of triumph ever be: praise to the Crucified for victory!	Refrain

***Benediction**

Postlude

Toccata on "Gaudeamus Pariter"

J. Biery

Anthem Text:

Before the Ancient One Christ Stands

Before the Ancient One, Christ stands,
enrobed in cloud and bright as snow,
five wounds imprint his side, feet, hands,
and thorns, the garland on his brow.
Yet thrones and pow'rs fall to the knee
and weave a song of majesty,
for what the world admires as gain
is not the essence of Christ's reign,
and strength is his, and name and might,
because he pitied humans' plight.

Who was, who is, and is to come
as servant lived in human sphere;
compassion was his diadem;
his glory was the gentle tear;
humility, his purple garb;
the healing hand, his royal orb.
Such love drew ire and ire drew death,
but God has proved the truer strength,
and through all space the host proclaims
the name above all other names.

Now in the latter days you call, O Christ,
and plead the premise clear,
that power grasped is none at all,
and serving shows your Spirit near.
As nations clash and wisdom wanes,
as glories tempt and greed sustains,
you bid us choose in ev'ry hour
the pow'r of love, the greatest pow'r,
that love may herald God's domain
and you, at last, may come to reign.

2025 Watchword Text for the Schoeneck Congregation

Jesus said, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you.
I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be
troubled, and do not let them be afraid." John 14:27

** Please stand if you are able.*