



Christ the King Sunday • November 26, 2023
Glorify God, Make Disciples of Jesus Christ, and Meet Human Needs

GATHERING

Almighty God, reveal to me the greatness of Your power, that I may see Your presence among the lowly and the lost and know the authority and sovereignty of Your love in Jesus Christ, our Lord, who is also our humble Brother. In Christ name I pray, Amen.

WORDS OF WELCOME

MOMENT FOR MISSION

Advent Workshop

PRELUDE

Meditation on All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name

T. Fields

* **CALL TO WORSHIP**

O come, let us sing to the Lord:

let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation!

For the Lord is a great God;

a great ruler over heaven and earth!

* **HYMN 268**

Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

CONFESSION AND PARDON

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Sovereign God, we confess that we are not ready for Your holy realm. You guide us toward right paths, but we refuse to follow where You lead. You love and feed and care for us, but we fail to love and serve others. Forgive us, merciful God, so that we may return to You and rejoice in Your presence; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the Lamb upon the throne in whose name we pray. Now, O Lord, transform us as we continue our confession in silence.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Friends, Believe the Good News of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

* **ACT OF PRAISE**

Gloria Patri

Hymn 581

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Nehemiah 9:5b-15 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

OT pg. 438

Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM (11 A.M.)

My Hope Is Built

Z. Highben

Chancel Choir; Emerson & Norah Barat, percussion

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' blood and righteousness; no merit of my own I claim, but wholly lean on Jesus' name. On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand. When darkness veils His lovely face, I rest on His unchanging grace; in ev'ry high and stormy gale my anchor holds within the veil. His oath, His covenant, His blood sustain me in the raging flood; when all supports are washed away, He then is all my hope and stay. When He shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in Him be found, clothed in His righteousness alone, redeemed to stand before the throne!

TIME FOR YOUNG DISCIPLES (11 A.M.)

Sarah Whitfield

(Afterward, children in kindergarten through 2nd grade will be dismissed to Kids-4-God.)

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 1:15-23 (NRSV)

This is the Word of the Lord.

NT pg. 192

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

Christ the King Sunday

Fred Lundy

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

RESPONDING

* AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

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; on 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

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation

D. Wood

Christ is made the sure foundation, Christ the Head and Cornerstone; Chosen of the Lord, and precious, binding all the Church in one; Holy Zion's help forever, and her confidence alone. To this temple, where we call Thee, come, O Lord of hosts, today; with Thy wonted loving-kindness hear Thy servants as they pray, and Thy fullest benediction shed within its walls alway. Laud and honor to the Father, laud and honor to the Son, laud and honor to the Spirit, ever Three and ever One, One in might, and One in glory, while unending ages run.

* DOXOLOGY

Hymn 606

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

* PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

* THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Gluten-Free Bread)

PRAYER

Crown Him with Many Crowns 268

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;
 2 Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,
 3 Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways
 4 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time;

hark, how the heaven-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own!
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise.
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
 no an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,
 His reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match - less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.
 but down - ward bends his burn - ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.
 fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra - grance ev - er sweet.
 thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through - out e - ter - ni - ty.

This text is so familiar that it is easy to miss all its paradox, mystery, suffering, and beauty; it rewards careful reading and meditation outside corporate worship. The tune's composer, chapel organist at Windsor Castle, had much experience in creating a royal sound.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Nehemiah 9:5b-15 (NRSV)

^{5b}Stand up and bless the LORD your God from everlasting to everlasting. Blessed be Your glorious name, which is exalted above all blessing and praise.' ⁶And Ezra said: 'You are the LORD, You alone; You have made heaven, the heaven of heavens, with all their host, the earth and all that is on it, the seas and all that is in them. To all of them You give life, and the host of heaven worships You. ⁷You are the LORD, the God who chose Abram and brought him out of Ur of the Chaldeans and gave him the name Abraham; ⁸and You found his heart faithful before You, and made with him a covenant to give to his descendants the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Jebusite, and the Girgashite; and You have fulfilled Your promise, for You are righteous. ⁹And You saw the distress of our ancestors in Egypt and heard their cry at the Red Sea. ¹⁰You performed signs and wonders against Pharaoh and all his servants and all the people of his land, for You knew that they acted insolently against our ancestors. You made a name for Yourself, which remains to this day. ¹¹And You divided the sea before them, so that they passed through the sea on dry land, but You threw their pursuers into the depths, like a stone into mighty waters. ¹²Moreover, You led them by day with a pillar of cloud, and by night with a pillar of fire, to give them light on the way in which they should go. ¹³You came down also upon Mount Sinai, and spoke with them from heaven, and gave them right ordinances and true laws, good statutes and commandments, ¹⁴and You made known Your holy sabbath to them and gave them commandments and statutes and a law through Your servant Moses. ¹⁵For their hunger You gave them bread from heaven, and for their thirst You brought water for them out of the rock, and You told them to go in to possess the land that You swore to give them.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

NEW TESTAMENT READING

Ephesians 1:15-23 (NRSV)

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I 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, ¹⁸so 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, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of His power for us who believe, according to the working of His great power. ²⁰God 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, ²¹far 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. ²²And He has put all things under His feet and has made Him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of Him who fills all in all.

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

THANKSGIVING

643 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,
 2 O may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in high - est heav - en,

who won-drous things hath done, in whom this world re - joic - es;
 with ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us;
 to Fa - ther and to Son and Spir - it now be giv - en:

who, from our moth-ers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when per-plexed,
 the one e - ter - nal God, whom heaven and earth a - dore,

with count - less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.
 the God who was, and is, and shall be ev - er - more.

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

TEXT: Martin Rinkart, c. 1636; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.
 MUSIC: Johann Crüger, 1647; harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT
 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6

Advent at First Presbyterian Church

Sunday Services



December 3, 10, 17, 24, and 31 at 11 a.m.

Worship with us in the sanctuary each Sunday for the lighting of the Advent wreath and music and scripture of the season.

The Advent Workshop



Sunday, December 3 at 9:30 a.m.

Advent crafts, graham cracker church decorating, a pancake breakfast, and fellowship with the church family. Please RSVP to the church office.

The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols



Sunday, December 10 at 11 a.m. & 5 p.m.

Scripture and music of Advent and Christmas showing the development of the loving purposes of God. In the evening, seasonal brass and handbells start at 4:30 p.m.

Advent Organ Concert



Tuesday, December 12 at 12:15 p.m.

The Gainesville chapter of the American Guild of Organists presents Music of the Seasons, three Tuesday mid day organ concerts. For more, visit www.agohq.org/gainesville.

Christmas Eve Worship



Evening Service at 6 p.m.

A traditional candlelight service with carols and communion to celebrate the birth of Jesus. The prelude begins at 5:30 p.m.

Join us for the Church-wide Advent Workshop on Sunday, December 3 at 9:30 a.m. in Gordon Hall. Everyone is invited to start off the season with us! Enjoy pancakes and a great selection of crafts ranging from some of our old favorites to brand new projects. RSVP to Bev Vloedman (dvloedman@aol.com) or Evelyn Lewis (citytr122@gmail.com) by Wednesday, November 29 to guarantee all activities for your family. Tear off this slip and place it in the offering plate.

I, _____, plan to attend the Advent Workshop on December 3 and would like to reserve _____ gingerbread churches & breakfasts.

Christmas Poinsettias: During the Christmas season our worship spaces will be decorated with poinsettias. The flowers are \$15 each and may be dedicated in honor or in memory of a loved one. Fill out the form below and place in the offering plate or mail it to the church office by Sunday, December 3. The poinsettias will be available to take home after the Christmas Eve service.

Poinsettias Given by: _____

In Honor of: _____

In Memory of: _____

Hope for the Holidays: Help Local Missions share the joy of the season with Family Promise families, including the mother and daughters we hosted this fall. Look for the Hope for the Holidays Christmas tree in Gordon Hall. Please choose one or more ornaments (tags), purchase and wrap the items, SECURELY ATTACH THE TAG, and return by Saturday, December 16. You may also donate gift cards or write a check to the church to help purchase gifts (write *Hope for the Holidays* in the memo). We appreciate everyone bringing the love of God to these families who are working with Family Promise to find the security of a stable home.

Price Change! Buy Church Yard Sign to spread the word about *The Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols* and *Christmas Eve Worship*. Sign options are displayed in Gordon Hall today or visit www.1stpcmusic.org/signs. If you live in a neighborhood with an HOA, please check your neighborhood rules regarding signs. A \$35 one-time purchase pays for the printing costs. The church will provide a sticker to change the date every November so that you can use the sign every year. Choose from one of the two designs: "Organ" or "Choir" (the back is the same for each design). Signs must be paid for before the order is placed. Visit www.1stpcmusic.org/signs to pay with Pushpay or contact the church office to pay by credit card at (352) 378-1527. Please mark your design choice in the memo line.

GLORIFY GOD

A Special "Thank You" to those who came to decorate the church for this Advent and Christmas season:

McKenzie Amos, Lorraine Barber, Kaylee Bleeker, Nancy Carswell, Tony Cogdill, Colene Cone, Maralyn Foote, Chloe Hebblethwaite, Carol Israel, Candy Kaswinkel, Fred, Kate, and Parker Lundy, Helen McIntosh, Jane Morris, Brenda Pickens, Bob, Kathryn, Sophia, & Cora Richardson, Sandra Roberts, Eleanor Samuels, Tim & Mary Lou Schubert, Katherine Skipper, Janice Stover, and the college students.

Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols: The choirs and congregation will celebrate the Advent season with a Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 10, 2023 at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m. Come sing and hear lessons and carols for Advent and Christmas showing the development of the loving purposes of God as seen through the windows and words of scripture. At 4:30 p.m. the Gainesville Brass Quintet and First Presbyterian Jubilate Ringers present seasonal music.

Prayer Meeting on Tuesday, November 28 at 6 p.m. in the church parlor.

MAKE DISCIPLES OF JESUS CHRIST

Nursery Care (6 weeks old through pre-kindergarten) is available on Sundays from 10:45 a.m. through the end of the 11 a.m. worship service. Email Jenna Mueller at jdmueller2009@gmail.com with questions or to sign up. Families, please find the sign-in cart upstairs in the Christian Education building by room 204. ***The nursery is seeking the donation of a pack 'n play.*

Children and Youth Sunday School for K-12th grade and meets in the Art Room on the second floor of the Christian Education building at 9:30 a.m. Come join us!

Time for Young Disciples: All children are invited to the front steps for a special lesson during 11 a.m. worship. Afterward, children in kindergarten through 2nd grade will be dismissed to Kids-4-God and all others will return to sit with their families.

Kids-4-God: Children (K-2) will gather in Room 217 after the Time for Young Disciples to engage with their faith through the end of the service. Families will reunite with their children in Gordon Hall following the worship service. Volunteers are needed to help with this and Sunday School. Please contact Evelyn Lewis at citytr122@gmail.com.

LOGOS: (Ages 3 through high school) Gather on Wednesday, November 29 from 3:30-6:45 p.m. for LEGO Night. LOGOS includes worship arts, Bible time, recreation, and fellowship for children and youth with \$5 family time dinner at 6 p.m. Questions? Contact Bev Vloedman, dvloedman@aol.com.

College Café: All college students are invited to lunch. Meet in the Serving Room across Gordon Hall following 11 a.m. worship. If you are interested in serving an upcoming meal to the students, please contact Scott Stuart.

Multiply will complete the study of Hebrews in January. We will meet in Room 201.

Gordon Hoover Sunday School: Meet in the Church Library at 9:30 a.m. on Sundays. All are welcome! Email Perry Foote at palbertfoote@gmail.com with questions.

| | | |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------|
| November 26 | 1 Corinthians 3 | Richard Palmer |
| December 3 | 1 Corinthians 4 | Tim Schubert |

MEET HUMAN NEEDS

Let Us Remember in Prayer and Correspondence: Marilyn Ast, Melda Bassett, Cecilia Caton, Jayne Fox, Kay Koons, Elizabeth Miller, and Marjorie Pedrick. Our men and women in the services: Ashley Dace, Matt Gowdy, Brian Hill, and Dan Williams; and first responders: Nick Gonzalez and Paul Samala. Essential worker: Bill Clark.


Online contributions can be made through your computer or smartphone. Go to 1stpc.org and click the red Pushpay icon. Give to the General Budget or specify the designated ministry in the memo section. Text contributions, bill pay through your bank, and electronic funds transfers are also options. Questions? Contact Trudy Bonerba.

Support our Veterans: In November, the Congregational Care committee is collecting twin & full sheet sets and blankets for Volunteers of America. VOA houses 12 veterans in 2 residences and administers the VA community program, which provides per diem housing payments for 30 veterans in Gainesville. The items can be dropped off in Gordon Hall.

Pies and More! Extra pecan, apple, pumpkin, chocolate, and key lime Sweetie pies and a few pecan, 2 x apple, 2 x pumpkin, and 3 x mince Cutie pies are still available. We also have fill your own empty pie crusts for sale. If interested, please stop by the Montreat table in Gordon Hall after worship. All of the pies are frozen and will keep for several months. Buy some for Christmas!

Speaking of Christmas, stop by the Montreat table and do some Christmas shopping. We have handmade candles, cookbooks, notecards, Cat's Meow churches, ornaments, and table runners. All proceeds help offset transportation and housing expenses for those going to Montreat, NC in June.

Free wooden chairs (4) and a table (1) in the preschool hallway. First come, first serve to anyone who can transport them.

Tune in to Cox Channel 11 **now from 9-10 a.m.**
for our televised broadcast 
or MyTV 28.2 for over the air broadcasts



Current Worship video and audio
as well as archives at 1stpc.org

CCLI License #2742913
CCLI Streaming License #CSPL091568



Is there something you would like to announce in the Bugle or Bulletin? Contact communications@1stpc.org