*Prayer of Dedication *(shared in unison)*
Compassionate Shepherd, you have blessed us beyond measure. Receive now our 2027 financial commitments and morning offering that we may become people whose generosity flows not from obligation but from love. In prayer and obedience, use our offering to feed, welcome, comfort, and restore, so that others may glimpse your kingdom through our care. And when we serve our neighbors, awaken us to the holy mystery that we are serving you. Shape us into disciples whose greatest joy is to love as Christ first loved us. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer (Sharing of Joys and Concerns)

The Lord's Prayer *(shared in unison)*
Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name. Thy Kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive them that trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, The power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

*Closing Hymn "Crown Him with Many Crowns" No. 327

Benediction/Sending Forth
May God bless you with open heart, open arms, and open doors to welcome the neighbor—known and unknown—with compassion and care, that in serving one another, we might build the kingdom of God among us here and now, one act of love at a time. Amen.

*Response "Bless Us Now"
Bless us now as we depart, watch o'er us, God, while we're apart; Give strength to conquer daily strain, and bring us to Thy house again. Amen.

Postlude



Flowers on the altar are from the Hales in celebration of Bob's birthday.

Stewardship
a way of life

The United Methodist Church of Clinton
12 Commerce Street, Clinton, CT
www.clintonctumc.org

Order of Worship **November, 22 2026**

Stewardship Sunday
Reign of Christ / Christ the King Sunday

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Prelude

Welcome, Acknowledgements of first-time visitors and announcements

Words to Ponder: "*Everything belongs to God as Creator and King, and believers are called to faithfully manage His resources."*

Introit Chancel Choir

CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

*Please stand in body, and/or spirit

*Call to Worship (*Responsively*)
We gather for worship today to celebrate our gifts.
We are celebrating the gifts we give to this church, the pledges we are making for the upcoming year.
We gather for worship today to celebrate our community.
We are celebrating the love and support that we give to one another; the constant quest that we are on to be united by God's grace.
We gather for worship today to celebrate our future.
We are celebrating a future full of outreach, a future full of service, a future full of worship and a future full of growth. We are celebrating a future with hope.
We gather for worship today to celebrate our visions.
We are celebrating the visions of those who have come before us, the visions that brought us to where we are today and the visions that we see today for the future.
Let us gather in celebration!
Let us worship God! Amen!

*Opening Hymn "We Gather Together" No. 131

Opening Prayer *(shared in unison*)
Gracious God, as stewards of your heavenly kingdom, we come to you in gratitude as we celebrate the reign of Christ on this Stewardship and Christ the King Sunday. In thanksgiving for your bounty, you invite us to be faithful stewards of the blessings you have entrusted to us. So, may we worship the King of Glory not with our lips at this hour, but in word and deed all the days of our lives; through Jesus Christ or Savior. Amen.

1st Scripture Reading (Old Testament) Psalm 100
Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

2nd Scripture Reading (New Testament) 2Corinthians 9:6-8
Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem Chancel Choir

Children's Moment Pastor Rhonda R. Taylor

*3rd Scripture Reading (Gospel) Matthew 25:31-46
Leader: This is the word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD OF GOD

Sermon Pastor Rhonda R. Taylor
"Giving is a Commitment that Begins with the Heart"

A Litany for Stewardship Sunday
Creator of all, the earth is yours, the world and all who live in it.
You have entrusted us with gifts-time, talent, energy and money, and you have asked us to use them to build your Kingdom.
With thanks and praise we respond to your call.
We bring these gifts you have given, returning your generosity, paying it forward.
We offer ourselves, our lives, our hopes and fears, and our hours.
We commit ourselves to work for your world, to love and to serve wherever you call.
We ask your blessing on this, your church, as week seek to follow you with heart, mind and soul.
Bless these gifts, our investment in your future, that they may multiply in faith, hope and love. Amen.

Moment for silent personal reflection and prayer.

When ready, you are invited to come forward and place your 2027 commitment card into the offering plate as the congregation sing:
- ♥ "What Gift Can We Bring" No. 87
- ♥ "Lord, Be Glorified" No. 2150
  add "In our hearts…In our prayers….In our giving…In our serving"
- ♥ "He Is Exalted" No. 2070

Offertory
*Doxology No. 95