

*Please stand in body and/or spirit

WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

Words to Ponder: "All human leaders will one day disappoint and fail us. Divine kingship alone is faithful."

Prelude

Welcome, Acknowledgment of first-time visitors and Announcements

Introit "My Tribute" Chancel Choir

*Call to Worship (Responsively)

Leader: Children of God, whom do you follow?

People: We follow Christ, Ruler of us all.

Leader: Children of God, what kind of Ruler is Christ?

People: Christ reigns with love and truth, justice and mercy, compassion and peace.

Leader: Children of God, how will you live in the reign of Christ?

People: We will join Christ in choosing love, truth, justice, mercy, compassion, and peace even when our world tells us not to.

Leader: Children of God, come, let us worship God whose Love reigns over us, exemplified in Jesus Christ!

People: Come, let us worship! Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Opening Hymn "We Gather Together" #131

Opening Prayer (*Unison*)

Sovereign God, you clothe your people in the garments of salvation, and you bless them with grace and peace. Open our eyes to the glory of your Son, who comes to rule with justice and reign with righteousness. Open our ears to the sound of his voice, and open our hearts to love as he loves, that we might shine like dew on the grass. and dwell in Christ's peace. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (*Unison*)

Hide your truth in our hearts, dear God, for we are a people who are attracted to the error of our ways. We make bad choices, O Lord. We find ourselves in predicaments that make us sigh and groan. We have brought upon ourselves many of the disasters that have come our way. We were not honest and truthful in all situations. We even try to hide from our- selves when we realize that we are responsible for our own mistakes. O Lord, do not remove yourself from us. Forgive us, we pray,

for the many sins, wrongdoings, shortcomings, and lies. Fill us with your grace and blot out our transgressions. Give us genuine love for each other, we pray. Moment of silent confession. Amen.

Silent prayer of confession

Words of Assurance

Holy God, we thank you for the assurance of your forgiveness through your Son, Jesus Christ. Hear us, we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Anthem "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" Chancel Choir
(Joseph Martin)

Scripture Reading: Revelation 1:4b-8
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Children's Moment
(*Children go to Junior Church*)

*Hymn "Blessed Assurance" #369

Gospel Reading: John 18:33-37
Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon "To Testify to the Truth" Bob Hale

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory

*Doxology #95

*Prayer of Dedication (*Unison*)

Strong One of Israel, you bless our lives with splendor: sunlight sparkling on the water, dew on the grass, trees etched against the night sky. May our gifts and offerings reflect our gratitude for the wonder you bring to our lives. And may those who receive these gifts come to know your bounty and the glory of your kingdom. Amen.

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

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 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. Amen.

*Closing Hymn "Rejoice, the Lord is King" #715

*Benediction

Beloved, may God bless you with the wisdom to discern the truth as you follow Christ, who testifies to the truth by embodying Love in all times and in all places. Amen.

*Response "Bless Us Now" Frank Milnes
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 today are from the Hale family in honor of Bob's 70th Birthday on 11/28.

Christ the King / Reign of Christ Sunday

Worship Resources

Call to Worship, Benediction - Written by Dr. Lisa Hancock, Discipleship

Ministries, August 2024. Opening Prayer -

<https://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/11714/november-24-2024-christ-the-king> Prayer of Confession & Words of Assurance - Written by T. Anne Daniel

in The Africana Worship Book, Year B (Nashville: Discipleship Resources, 2007), 164.

***The United Methodist Church
12 Commerce St.
Clinton, Connecticut
27th Sunday after Pentecost***



***Morning Worship
November 24, 2024
10:00 am***