



The Feast of Christ the King

Sunday, November 24th, 2024

10am

Prelude

Opening Hymn #291 ~ *We Plow the Fields*

We plow the fields and scatter, the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered by God's almighty hand;
he sends the snow in winter, the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine, and soft refreshing rain.

Refrain:

*All good gifts around us are sent from heaven above;
then thank the Lord, O thank the Lord for all his love.*

He only is the Maker of all things near and far;
he paints the wayside flower, he lights the evening star;
the winds and waves obey him, by him the birds are fed;
much more to us, his children, he gives our daily bread.

(Refrain)

We thank thee, then, O Father, for all things bright and good,
the seed-time and the harvest, our life, our health, our food:
the gifts we have to offer are what thy love imparts,
but chiefly thou desirest our humble thankful hearts.

(Refrain)

Leader: God established the world from of old.

People: God's reign shall never end.

Leader: God delivered us in freedom and truth.

People: God's love is everlasting.

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth,
Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God,
Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the Glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Collect

Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, the King of kings and Lord of lords: Mercifully grant that the peoples of the earth, divided and enslaved by sin, may be freed and brought together under his most gracious rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Old Testament

[2 Samuel 23:1-7](#)

These are the last words of David:

The oracle of David, son of Jesse,
the oracle of the man whom God exalted,
the anointed of the God of Jacob,
the favorite of the Strong One of Israel:
The spirit of the LORD speaks through me,
his word is upon my tongue.
The God of Israel has spoken,
the Rock of Israel has said to me:
One who rules over people justly,
ruling in the fear of God,
is like the light of morning,
like the sun rising on a cloudless morning,
gleaming from the rain on the grassy land.
Is not my house like this with God?
For he has made with me an everlasting covenant,
ordered in all things and secure.
Will he not cause to prosper
all my help and my desire?
But the godless are all like thorns that are thrown away;
for they cannot be picked up with the hand;

to touch them one uses an iron bar
or the shaft of a spear.
And they are entirely consumed in fire on the spot.

The Psalm *(Let us say it responsively)*

93:1-2, 5

Response: **The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.**

The Lord is king, in splendor robed; Robed is the Lord and gird about with strength.

Response: **The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.**

And he has made the world firm, Not to be moved.
Your throne stands firm from of old; From everlasting you are, O Lord.

Response: **The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.**

Your decrees are worthy of trust indeed;
Holiness befits your house, O Lord, for length of days.

Response: **The Lord is king; he is robed in majesty.**

Gospel Acclamation

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia (3x)**

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

Blessed is the kingdom of our father David that is to come!

Gospel Acclamation: **Alleluia (3x)**

The Gospel

John 18:33-37

Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

The Sermon

The Rev. John Beach

The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Prayers of the People

Walk in Love: Prayers of the People for Stewardship Season

Leader: As we prepare to bring our gifts to the altar, let us raise our voices in prayer and praise, thanking God for the opportunity to walk in love together.

Leader: I ask your prayers for our church: for Justin, the Archbishop of Canterbury, who has recently resigned, for Sean our Presiding Bishop, Julia and Carol, the Bishops of this Diocese, and John our priest. In our Diocesan cycle of prayer, we pray for churches of the Taunton River Deanery: Bristol Trinity, No. Easton; St. Thomas', Taunton; and Trinity Church, Wrentham. Help us to live faithfully as his body, continuing his mission in the world. We pray particularly for our church community at St. John's. As Christ loved us,

We walk in love.

Leader: I bid your prayers for our Country and for all nations; for all refugees, for an end to hostilities, for a spirit of Goodwill. We pray for those recently elected to public office, and for leaders who serve with compassion and justice. As Christ loved us,

We walk in love.

Leader: I ask your prayers for our neighbors, for the mission of our church and the ways we change the world with our gifts. We pray for all who enter this place seeking encouragement, love, and peace. As Christ loved us,

We walk in love.

Leader: I invite your prayers for those who are sick, who are isolated, or who are in despair. We pray for caregivers and healers who care for those we love. Please pray for those commended to us, and whom we now name either silently or aloud; Elin Babin, Ron, Paul Brophy, Maureen Burke, Norma Cahill, Francine Carroll, Marie Connors, Barbara Cox, Sue Croft, Don DiGiacomo, Beth (Manoogian) DuPlessie, Jim & Tim Eldridge, Joanne Felci, Paul Felci, Ruth Garrett, Peggy Gibbs, Allison Gray, Patti Greene-Botticeli, Jerica Hamre, Will Hare, Carolyn Hashem, Tom Hashem, Bruce Higgins, Louis Hoelzl, Larry Kamp & Family, Doris Kelly, Jeanne Kelly-Smith, Janet Lancaster, Rachel Lesch, Melissa McSheffery, Matt, Lori, Mary & Dante, Bobby Miller, Harriet Miraglia, Jonelle Moloney, Erica Moore, Gisela Moore, Jeanine Morris, Fran Muise, Sara Murray, Carol Patroli, Bill Pimentel, Kathy Pothier, Keelan Pothier, Shirley Raithel, Debbie Rossetti, Sandy St. Clair, David St. Clair, Nancy Scarry, Terrie Sevier, Ray Shaw, Malcolm Silva, Gail Smith, Dom Tello, Joanie Tello, Jill Vaccaro & Family, Kathy, Viviana, Kathy Webber, Nancy White, Walter, Lizzi, and Rachel. *Are there others...*

Silence

As Christ loved us,

We walk in love.

Leader: I ask your prayers for the dead and the dying, and for those who mourn. We pray for our departed loved ones and friends, and take comfort in knowing you have received them into your tranquil heaven: Kevin Lancaster; Holmes, Margaret, Julia C., and George Hurl; Lilla Moulton; Helen Chase, and Signe Weldon.

We name now with our lips or in our hearts.

Silence

As Christ loved us,

We walk in love.

Leader: I invite your celebrations, remembrances, and the naming of our many blessings, innumerable and filled with Grace. *silence* May we be inspired to share our wealth, works, and wisdom with our neighbors and our Church. As Christ loved us,

We walk in love.

The Peace

Officiant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And also with you.**

Invitation for Offering

The Lord has blessed us richly. Let us cheerfully give to lift and upkeep God's Kingdom.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

Doxology

1982 Hymnal #380 vs. 3 only

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 over the Gifts

Creator God, may these gifts honor the work you have given us to do here in this place. May we bless, break, and share these gifts of time, talent, and treasure with our neighbors, walking in love as you have walked with us. *Amen.*

Officiant The Lord be with you.
People *And also with you.*

Officiant Lift up your hearts.
People *We lift them to the Lord.*

Officiant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People *It is right to give him thanks and praise.*

Then, facing the Holy Table, the Officiant proceeds

God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.
Glory to you for ever and ever.

At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

Officiant and People

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Officiant And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Lord God of our Fathers: God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation. *AMEN.*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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,
for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Officiant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.
People Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

The Invitation to Holy Communion

A spiritual communion is a personal devotional that anyone can pray at any time to express their desire to receive Holy Communion at that moment, but in which circumstances impede them from actually receiving Holy Communion.

The Officiant invites the following prayer to be said by all.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.

Fraction Anthem

1982 Hymnal #S155 ~ *Christ, our Passover*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.
Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;
Therefore let us keep the feast.
Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Officiant The Gifts of God for the People of God. This is God's table, and everyone is welcome here.

Distribution of Communion

Communion Anthem

Post-communion Prayer

Almighty God, you have made us a royal priesthood in the kingdom of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ. Make known his victory through us, we pray, that the world may see his light. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the Lord.

Officiant Let us pray.

People **Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Blessing

As once the spirit of God dwelled bodily in Jesus of Nazareth, so now the spirit of God dwells in us, the body of Christ. Being therefore members of one another, let us care for one another: If any of us suffer, let all suffer together; if any of us rejoice, let all rejoice together.

Closing Hymn #433 ~ *We Gather Together*

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing:
sing praises to his Name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;
so from the beginning the fight we were winning;
thou, Lord, wast at our side: all glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.
Let thy congregation endure through tribulation:
thy Name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Dismissal

Officiant Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia.
People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia.**

Postlude

Announcements/Reminders

Prayer List

Help us keep the weekly prayer list current – please notify the church office of any changes. Thank you.

Christmas & Craft Fair

Kindly remind family and friends about our fair on **Saturday, December 7th**. Details are posted at our website - we look forward to a great turnout like last year! 😊

Christmas Altar Decorating

After worship on **Sunday December 22nd**, volunteers are invited to assist in decorating the altar for Christmas. Contact Steve White if you would like to help – thank you!

Participants in this Service:

The Rev. John Beach, Priest-in-Charge
Stephen Sikorski, Music Director
John Rogalski, Worship Leader ~ Kristina Palazzo, L.E.M.

St. John's Episcopal Church

8 Prospect Street, Saugus, MA 01906

Office: 781-233-1242 Email: StJohnsSaugus@gmail.com