

Reign of Christ Sunday

November 21, 2021



Plymouth United Church of Christ Rev. David Huber, Pastor

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PlymouthUnitedChurchOfChrist

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November 21, 2021

10:30 A.M.

The Family of God Gathers

Gathering Music

Please let the prelude be a signal to prepare for worship.

“Give Thanks”

Henry Smith

Greetings

Call to Worship †§

L: Grace to you and peace from the one who is and who was and who is to come, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

P: **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts. The whole earth is full of God’s glory.**

L: God delivers into freedom and truth.

P: **God’s love is everlasting.**

Opening Hymn 303 Bulletin page 6

“Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing”

Prayer of Confession †

Holy One, we dare to call you Lord, but yield to you only fragments of our lives. You had nowhere to lay your head; we surround ourselves with comfort. We expect to serve you with what remains after we have indulged our desires. Forgive our greed, our lack of trust, our desire to pick the times and places we will respond to our call. In your abundant mercy teach us what it means to follow, even at the cost of our lives. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon §

L: Be at peace, people of God: in Jesus’ name, you are forgiven!

P: **You are forgiven!**

L: May the peace of Christ be with you!

P: **And also with you!**

The Sign of Peace

Now please take a moment and share the peace with those in your household and/or offer a moment to send prayers of peace to those you love who are not with you.

Centering Music Verse 4

“Nearer, My God, to You”

**Then, waking from the night to morning air by Bethel’s stone,
I’ll know you heard my prayer, and how my yearning grew:
Nearer my God, to you, nearer my God, to you, nearer to you.**

The Service of the Word

New Testament Lesson

Revelation 1:4b–8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.

To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

“I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.”

Psalm 93

L: The Lord is king, he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed, he is girded with strength.

P: **He has established the world; it shall never be moved; your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.**

L: The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring.

P: **More majestic than the thunders of mighty waters, more majestic than the waves of the sea, majestic on high is the Lord!**

L: Your decrees are very sure;

P: **holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore.**

Gospel

John 18:33–37

Then 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.”

Sermon

Offering

“You Are Great, You Are Good”
written and sung by Lorin Divine

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication of Gifts and Self †§

Holy God, you call us from every tribe, language, people, and nation to share in your everlasting realm as your disciples and your ministers. Bless these gifts that we offer that we may extend your blessing to others. Amen.

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

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.

Closing Hymn Bulletin page 7

“King of Kings”

Benediction †§

L: God has made us to be priests, to serve God's world.

P: Let the same mind be in us that was in Christ Jesus, who emptied himself, taking the form of a servant.

L: Go in peace to love and serve.

All: Amen!

Postlude

“Go Out with Joy”

Leila Huerta and Joe Huerta

† *Feasting on the Word* Worship Companion, Year B, Vol. 2 ©2014 Westminster John Knox Press. Used with permission.

§ Modified/written by Rev. David Huber

Worship Leaders

Pastor: Rev. David Huber • Ministers: All the people of Plymouth • Pianist: Lynn McFadyen • Liturgist: Linda Oliver

We of Plymouth extend to you our hand of fellowship and an invitation to become a member. If you are interested, or have any questions, please speak with or send a note to Pastor David or our Moderator, Barb Kleist. Our table always has room for more.

Cross illumination for November is sponsored by Mimi Pederson in loving memory of her sister Trudy Brewer.

This Week at Plymouth

Sunday, November 21

OCWM offering

10:00 A.M. Coffee

10:30 A.M. Worship

November 24

7:00 P.M. Thanksgiving Eve Worship
First Cong. UCC

November 25–26

Office closed

Sunday, November 28

10:00 A.M. Coffee

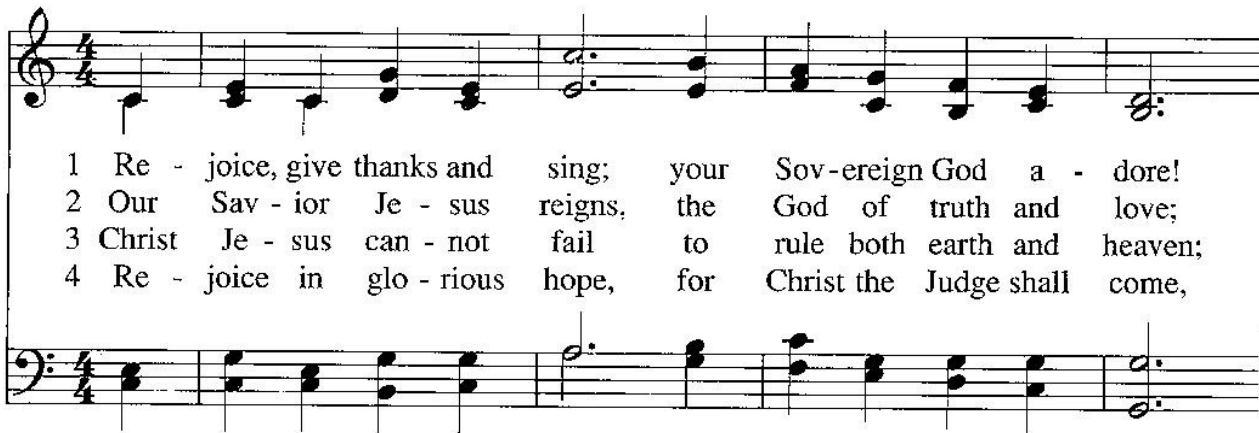
10:30 A.M. Worship

We pray for:

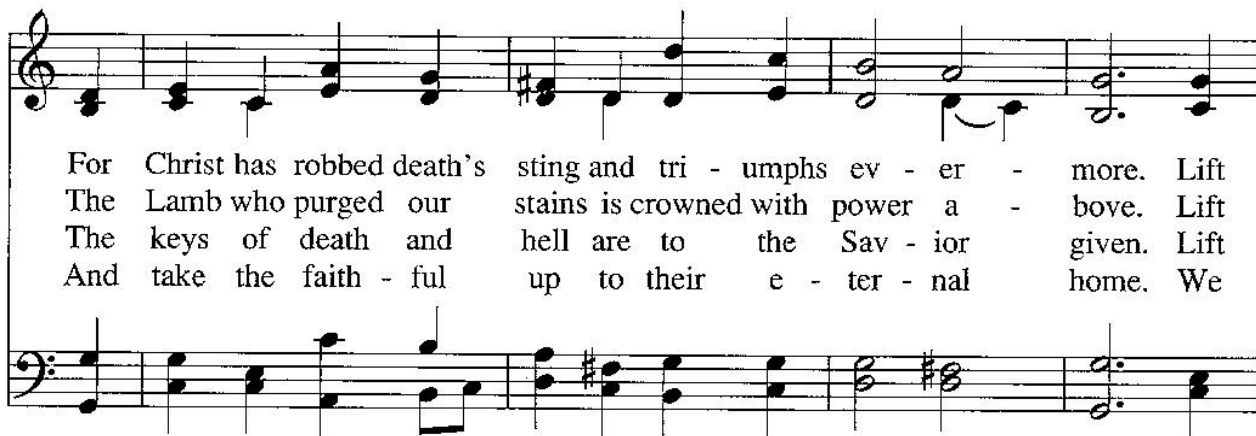
- All UCC missionaries and ordained and licensed ministers; the ministry and mission of the UCC and the Church universal

Please note: The Quilters will not meet on Tuesday, November 23.

Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing

*Phil. 4:4; Rev. 3:7; 19:6-7**Charles Wesley, 1746; alt.*


1 Re - joice, give thanks and sing; your Sov-ereign God a - dore!
 2 Our Sav - ior Je - sus reigns, the God of truth and love;
 3 Christ Je - sus can - not fail to rule both earth and heaven;
 4 Re - joice in glo - rious hope, for Christ the Judge shall come,



For Christ has robbed death's sting and tri - umphs ev - er - more. Lift
 The Lamb who purged our stains is crowned with power a - bove. Lift
 The keys of death and hell are to the Sav - ior given. Lift
 And take the faith - ful up to their e - ter - nal home. We



up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice.
 up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice.
 up your heart, lift up your voice! Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice.
 soon shall hear a heaven-ly voice a - bove the trum-pet's sound, "Re - joice!"

This Ascension text, one of the festival hymns by Charles Wesley, was published originally in John Wesley's Moral and Sacred Poems (1744). Somewhat altered, it appeared in this familiar version in Charles' 1746 collection, Hymns for Our Lord's Resurrection.

Tune: DARWALL'S 148th 6.6.6.6.8.8.
John Darwall, 1770

King of kings

1* Em B⁷ Em

King of kings and Lord of lords: glo-ry, hal - le - lu - jah.

B⁷ Em

King of kings and Lord of lords: glo-ry, hal - le - lu - jah.

2 B⁷ Em

Je - sus, Prince of Peace: glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah.

B⁷ Em

Je - sus, Prince of Peace: glo - ry, hal - le - lu - jah.

**may be sung in canon*

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Who we are...

Plymouth UCC is an Open and Affirming congregation, embracing diversity and affirming the dignity and worth of every person, since we are all created in God's image. We welcome into full membership and participation in the Body of Christ persons of every race, ethnic background, age, gender identity and expression, sexual orientation, physical or mental ability, socio-economic background, marital status and background. We welcome all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, humor, and blessings of participation in our congregation.

Spiritual Care Package

Questions for Reflection

Jesus is exalted over the whole of creation through his loving allegiance to God alone. His life, death, and resurrection reveal that true power is found through loving service, and it is this that makes him King. If his life and death give a radically new meaning to the words "king" and "kingship" and how justice is enacted in love, how does this change your understanding of power? How does it change the way you live?

Household Prayer: Morning

Loving God, it is a new day. Awaken my desire to delight in you by more faithfully serving your world. Keep me alert to the earthly powers and privileges at play in this world as I seek to foster justice and serve your reign. Amen.

Household Prayer: Evening

Brother Jesus, I have done my best to love and serve your realm this day. Where I have succeeded, I give you thanks. Where I have failed, I ask your guidance and forgiveness. I release all my cares and fears to you this night as you watch over your wondrous and wounded world. Amen.

God is still speaking,