

First Congregational United Church of Christ
“Where No One Is A Stranger”
Twenty-Seventh Sunday after Pentecost
Reign of Christ Sunday
November 24, 2024

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE BELL

GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: Jesus comes to be our one and only sovereign.

Many: **We are here to be his people.**

One: Clothed in righteousness, Jesus comes to save us.

Many: **Let the faithful shout for joy.**

One: Adorned with the glory of the rising sun,

Many: **Jesus disperses our gloom with holy light.**

One: Let all God's people proclaim the Prince of Peace.

*Opening Song:

“Rejoice the Lord Is King”

#342

*OPENING PRAYER

(prayed together)

Sovereign God, the wind blows, the water flows, and the sun shines. All creation declares your majesty. In you, we move, live, and have our being. Be glorified in our worship. Be known by our testimony. We proclaim your goodness from the east and the west, from the north and the south. On countrysides and city blocks, you reign. In deep valleys and skyscrapers, we declare that your realm extends from everlasting to everlasting. We worship you, Holy One, in spirit and in truth. Amen.

TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The choices we make, Mighty God, reveal who we are. Choosing the lies of the world, your Word has not been on our lips. Choosing independent and isolated lives, we do not reflect your Spirit in our actions towards others. Choosing to exalt the powerful of our day, we are unable to follow the One whose weakness gives us life.

Forgive us, God who became weak for our sake. Do not turn your face from us, but help

us to face ourselves honestly. Free us from our captivity, so we may faithfully follow Jesus, our Sovereign Savior.

A TIME FOR SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

One: Shout for joy, children of God! The God who was and is and is to come loves you, forgives you, and renews you.

Many: God's Spirit rests upon us, grace and peace are the gifts of our loving God. Amen.

SHARING THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING:

Revelation 1:4b-8

*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH:

(read together)

As followers of Jesus, living in this world—which some seek to control, but which others view with despair—we declare with joy and trust: **Our world belongs to God! From the beginning, through all the crises of our times, until God's realm fully comes, God keeps covenant forever. Our world belongs to God! God Reigns! Let the earth be glad! Jesus is Victor; his rule has begun. Hallelujah! The Spirit is at work, renewing creation. Praise God! We rejoice in the goodness of God, renounce the works of darkness, and dedicate ourselves to holy living. As covenant partners, called to faithful obedience, and set free for joyful praise, we offer our hearts and lives to do God's work in God's world. With tempered impatience, eager to see injustice ended, we expect the Day of the Lord. And we are confident that the light which shines in the present darkness will fill the earth. Come, Lord Jesus! Our world belongs to you.**

* GLORIA PATRI:

“Glory Be to the Father”

#734

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 with-out end. A-men, A-men.

FOCUS SCRIPTURE:

John 18:33-37

read from the *Common English Bible*

MESSAGE:

“Out of This World”

Pastor Chris

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/THE LORD'S PRAYER (with debts/debtors)

PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

* DOXOLOGY:

“Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow”

#34

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

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Generous God, we give you thanks for the opportunity to give our offering, to participate in ministry through our material resources, and to show our trust in your provision. Help us be good stewards and generous givers in your name and for your glory. Amen.

*** CLOSING SONG:** "Christ the Eternal Lord" #335

***Going Forth with the Peace of Christ**

POSTLUDE

***Indicates all who are able please stand**

Other Lectionary Scripture Readings: 2 Sam. 23:1-7, Psalm 132:1-12

The Call to Worship (adapted) is by B.J. Beu from *The Abingdon Worship Annual-2024* edited by Mary Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Opening Prayer, and Offering Prayer of Dedication are by the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay who serves as Minister for Worship and Theology for the United Church of Christ. The Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession (adapted), and Words of Assurance are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Affirmation of Faith (adapted) is from the [Calvin Institute for Christian Worship](http://www.calvininstitute.org) website.

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Organist:	Antonia Rupert
Worship Leader:	David Burrow
Pastor:	Rev. Chris Burtnett
November Radio Sponsor:	Scott and Sandy Buchanan

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Birthdays: November: 30-Ann Stillman

Sunday, November 24: 10:30am. – Worship
Sunday School
Coffee

Thanksgiving Potluck: Turkey, ham, potatoes and gravy will be furnished

Tuesday, November 26: 9:30am- Pastor at Feed Mill
1pm.- Mission & Memorial Meeting at VBT
2pm.-Good Sam Bible Study
Newsletter Deadline

Thursday, November 28-Happy Thanksgiving

Sunday, December 1:10:30am – Worship with Communion
Sunday School
Coffee
Food Pantry
Decorate for Advent and Christmas after worship

2pm.: Piano and Voice Recital by students of Antonia Rupert

Poinsettias will be \$13. Thank you to everyone for getting their orders into the Church Office.

Mon., Dec. 2: Tri-Conference Zoom Meeting to vote on candidate for our Conference Minister



*First Congregational
United Church of Christ*

166 Years

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