

ST. JOHN UNITED CHURCH
A UNITED METHODIST/PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA) COMMUNITY
WILDE LAKE INTERFAITH CENTER • COLUMBIA, MARYLAND
UNITED IN LOVE – UNITED FOR SERVICE

November 24, 2024

REIGN OF CHRIST SUNDAY // IN-PERSON & ONLINE SERVICE

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Liturgist: Pamila Brown

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WE GATHER IN GOD’S NAME

PRELUDE

Patricia Hammer
Accompanist

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING SONG

“Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

GTG #367

Come, ye thankful people, come;
raise the song of harvest home.

All is safely gathered in,
ere the winter storms begin.

God, our Maker, doth provide
for our wants to be supplied.

Come to God's own temple, come;
raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field,
fruit in thankful praise to yield,
wheat and tares together sown,
unto joy or sorrow grown.

First the blade, and then the ear,
then the full corn shall appear.

Lord of harvest, grant that we
wholesome grain and pure may be.

For the Lord our God shall come,
and shall take the harvest home;
from each field shall in that day

all offenses purge away;
give the angels charge at last
in the fire the tares to cast,
but the fruitful ears to store
in God's garner evermore.

Even so, Lord, quickly come
to thy final harvest home.

Gather thou thy people in,
free from sorrow, free from sin,
there forever purified,
in thy presence to abide:

come, with all thine angels come;
raise the glorious harvest home!

CALL TO WORSHIP

To you, O Lord, we lift up our souls;
O God, we put our trust in you.
Show us your ways, O Lord,
And teach us your paths.
Lead us in your truth, and teach us,
For you are the God of our salvation.

OPENING PRAYER

Heavenly God, you raised Jesus from death to life, to rule over all creation. Free the world to rejoice in his peace, to glory in his justice, and to live in his love. Unite all humankind in Jesus Christ who reigns forever and ever. Amen.

MOMENT OF REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SCRIPTURE READING #1 Psalm 56:3 – 4

ANTHEM “He Is Exalted” SJU Chancel Choir
(Twila Paris)

He is exalted, the King is exalted on high:
I will praise him!
He is exalted, forever exalted.
And I will praise his name.

He is the Lord, forever his truth shall reign.
Heaven and earth rejoice in his holy name.
He is exalted, the King is exalted on high!

SCRIPTURE READING #2 Psalm 146:1 – 10

TIME WITH “The King of Glory Comes” Pastor Steve Nofel
YOUNG DISCIPLES

MESSAGE “**THE LORD IS MY LIGHT AND MY SALVATION,
OF WHOM SHOULD I BE AFRAID?**” Pastor Steve Nofel

SHARING JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER The Lord’s Prayer

**Our God in heaven, hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen.**

OFFERTORY SONG
OF REFLECTION

“Give Thanks”

TFWS #2036

Give thanks with a grateful heart,
give thanks to the Holy One,
give thanks because he's given Jesus Christ his Son.
(Sing twice)

And now let the weak say, “I am strong”;
let the poor say, “I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us.”
(Sing twice)

PRAYER OF GENEROSITY

Almighty and everlasting God, as we once more dedicate ourselves to you, grant that these gifts may help people come together under Jesus' gentle and loving rule. We pray in his blessed name. Amen.

CLOSING SONG

“In Christ There Is No East or West”

GTG #317

In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
his service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.

Join hands, disciples of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.

In Christ now meet both east and west;
In him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are one in him
throughout the whole wide earth.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Patricia Hammer
Accompanist

Readings are NRSV unless otherwise noted. CEB=Common English Bible; CEV=Contemporary English Version; KJV=King James Version; MSG=The Message; NIV=New International Version; NLT=New Living Translation; TIB=The Inclusive Bible

Psalm 56:3 – 4

O Most High, ³ when I am afraid, I put my trust in you.

⁴ In God, whose word I praise, in God I trust; I am not afraid; what can flesh do to me?

Psalm 146:1 – 10

¹ Praise the Lord!
Praise the Lord, O my soul!
² I will praise the Lord as long as I live;
I will sing praises to my God all my life long.
³ Do not put your trust in princes,
in mortals, in whom there is no help.
⁴ When their breath departs, they return to the earth;
on that very day their plans perish.
⁵ Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the Lord their God,
⁶ who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith for ever;
⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.
The Lord sets the prisoners free;
⁸ the Lord opens the eyes of the blind.
The Lord lifts up those who are bowed down;
the Lord loves the righteous.
⁹ The Lord watches over the strangers;
he upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.
¹⁰ The Lord will reign for ever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the Lord!

