

St John's Episcopal Church

Ross, CA



The Last Sunday after Pentecost: Christ the King

November 22, 2020 10AM

Come hydrate your soul at St John's:

A community of connections across generations.

Connect to God through worship, service,
real life and tradition.

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Today is Christ the King Sunday, sometimes known as the celebration of the Reign of Christ. This Christian holiday takes place on the last Sunday before Advent (the season of preparation before Christmas) begins.

Christ the King Sunday was made a celebration of the church in 1925 by Pope Pius XI. WWI had killed or injured nearly an entire generation of young men in Europe and the young people who were left behind were profoundly disillusioned with God and with the church. The world was becoming more secular. And so, as the power of the church receded, Pope Pius wanted to affirm that while the reign of the church might be over, the reign of Christ was not.

Pope Pius XI also intended the celebration of Christ the King as a call to action. He hoped that the annual practice of celebrating Christ as King would serve as a reminder that our faith is in Christ alone, rather than in any secular ruler. He hoped also that the holiday would remind us to allow Jesus to rule all parts of our lives.

As we worship today, you are invited to pray aloud with us, or join silently; to sing along or enjoy listening. Welcome - we are thankful for your presence!

Have a prayer request that you'd like to be shared (anonymously or with your name) on Sunday during the prayers? Would you like a blessing for a birthday, anniversary, or other occasion of thanksgiving? **During the service, please text your prayer request to (415) 275-0115 and it will be shared at the Prayers of the People.**

Please join in praying for the needs and concerns of our congregation by viewing our online [Prayer List and Prayer Wall](#).

Altar Flowers this morning are given to the Glory of God

To remember or celebrate a loved one with a donation for our altar flowers, please contact Nancy Strauch via [email](#) or at 510-237-5021.

Prelude

Voluntary III

William Croft (1678-1727)

Welcome

After the welcome announcement a bell will sound, signaling a few moments of prayer and silence.

Liturgy of the Word

Processional Hymn

Alleluia, sing to Jesus

Hymnal 460 vs s. 1, 3-5 (Hyfydol)

1 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the
*2 Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans are we
3 Al - le - lu - ia! bread of Hea - ven, Thou on
4 Al - le - lu - ia! King e - ter - nal, thee the
*5 Al - le - lu - ia! sing to Je - sus! his the

1 scap - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the
2 left in sor - row now; Al - le - lu - ia! he is
3 earth our food, our stay! Al - le - lu - ia! here the
4 Lord of lords we own; Al - le - lu - ia! born of
5 scap - ter, his the throne; Al - le - lu - ia! his the

1 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the
2 near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how; though the
3 sin - ful flee to thee from day to day; In - ter -
4 Ma - ry, earth thy foot - stool, heaven thy throne; thou with -
5 tri - umph, his the vic - to - ry a - lone; Hark! the

1 songs of peace - ful Zi - on thun - der like a
 2 cloud from sight re - ceived him, when the for - ty
 3 ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's Re - deem - er,
 4 in the veil hast en - tered, robed in flesh, our
 5 songs of ho - ly Zi - on thun - der like a

1 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery
 2 days were o'er, shall our hearts for - get his
 3 plead for me, where the songs of all the
 4 great High Priest; thou on earth both Priest and
 5 might - y flood; Je - sus out of ev - ery

1 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.
 2 prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more?"
 3 sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.
 4 Vic - tim in the eu - cha - ris - tic feast.
 5 na - tion hath re - deemed us by his blood.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898) Music: Hyfrydol, Rowland Hugh Prichard (1811-1887)

All standing, the Presider says

Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

People

Glory to God for ever and ever.

Presider and People

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

Opening Anthem

All things bright and beautiful

Hymnal 405 (*Royal Oak*)

refrain, verse 2, refrain

Refrain

All things bright and beau-ti-ful, all crea-tures great and small, all things wise and

Verse 2

won-der-ful, the Lord God made them all. The pur-ple-head-ed moun-tain, the

Repeat refrain

riv-er run-ning by, the sun-set, and the morn-ing that bright-ens up the sky.

Collect of the Day

Presider God be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

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.

First Reading
34:11-24

Ezekiel

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

As for you, my flock, thus says the Lord God: I shall judge between sheep and sheep, between rams and goats: Is it not enough for you to feed on the good pasture, but you must tread down with your feet the rest of your pasture? When you drink of clear water, must you foul the rest with your feet? And must my sheep eat what you have trodden with your feet, and drink what you have fouled with your feet?

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep.

I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 100

Please join in praying the Psalm together.

1 Be joyful in the Lord, *
all you lands;

2 serve the Lord with gladness
and come into the divine presence with a song.

3 Know this: the Lord, the Lord, is God; *
the One made us and to whom we belong;
we are God's people, the sheep of God's pasture.

4 Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving;
go into these courts with praise; *
give thanks to God and call upon the name of the Lord.

5 For the Lord is good, whose steadfast love is everlasting; *
and whose faithfulness endures from age to age.

Gospel Acclamation

Hymnal 627, vv4-5 (*Nun danket all*)



4 word of the ev - er - liv - ing God, will of his glo - rious Son;
5 Lord, grant us all a - right to learn the wis - dom it im - parts;



4 with - out thee how could earth be trod, or heaven it - self be won?
5 and to its heav - en - ly teach - ing turn, with sim - ple, child - like hearts.



The Holy Gospel

Matthew 25:31-46

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Jesus said, “When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’ Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?’ Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’ And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.”

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Sermon

Dr. Joanna Benskin, Seminarian

One minute of silence follows the sermon.

The Nicene Creed

Please stand if you wish and join in saying the 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

adapted from *Planning for Rites and Rituals*

Please add your prayers, petitions, and thanksgiving where appropriate.

God has raised up for us a righteous ruler: Jesus our Christ. Let us lift our prayers to him, saying: We praise you, Christ our Ruler;
you have come to your people and set us free.

Jesus our Ruler, remember your body, the Church. You have rescued us from the power of darkness and have brought us into your kingdom. Make us strong with all the strength that comes from your glorious power. Guide us as we seek to love and to serve under these new circumstances. We praise you, Christ our Ruler;
you have come to your people and set us free.

Jesus our Ruler, remember this nation. Guide our feet into the way of peace. Raise up leaders in all areas of life who follow you in leading through humble service to others. We praise you, Christ our Ruler;
you have come to your people and set us free.

Jesus our Ruler, all things in heaven and earth are created through you and for you. May we who care for your creation do so with all due respect. We praise you, Christ our Ruler;
you have come to your people and set us free.

Jesus our Ruler, remember this region in which we live and work and worship. Drive far from us all fear; give us the courage to face our problems with wisdom and determination. We pray especially for our community as we face epidemics of coronavirus, racism, and division. We praise you, Christ our Ruler;
you have come to your people and set us free.

Priest

Jesus our Ruler, you know intimately the experience of pain and suffering. May all those who are suffering today know that you are with them in their pain. We pray especially for... We praise you, Christ our Ruler;
you have come to your people and set us free.

Jesus our Ruler, accept those who have died into your kingdom. Give all the departed peace through the power of your cross, and in the fullness of time, raise them with you to newness of life. We praise you, Christ our Ruler;
you have come to your people and set us free.

We thank you that you are a God who hears our prayers; hear us now, and give us opportunities to be the answer to the prayers of others, following the example of your Son, who reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. *Amen.*

Peace

The Ministers and the People greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements

The Holy Eucharist

Offertory Anthem

During this time of uncertainty, St. John's particularly needs your help to continue to offer care and support to our community. You can give online [here](#).

Fairest Lord Jesus

Hymnal 383 (St. Elisabeth)

Betsy Bennett-Smith, soprano

Presider The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People It is right to give our thanks and praise.

The presider continues with the Eucharistic prayer, and then says:

. . . Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*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.

The People may stand or kneel as the Presider continues. In the midst of the Eucharistic prayer, the Presider says:

...Therefore, according to his command, O God,

Presider and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Presider continues with the prayer, and then says

. . . By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

Presider and People: AMEN.

Lord's Prayer

Please join hands with those worshipping next to you as we pray 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.

Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Presider

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Administration of Communion

The Church has always believed that to desire communion with Jesus in the bread and wine is to receive it on a spiritual level, even when circumstances prevent a bite of bread or sip of wine. In the silence, you are invited to meditate on the gift of Jesus' presence in and with us, offered in the bread and wine and received by faith.

Postcommunion Prayer for a Pandemic

Please stand or kneel.

Let us pray.

God of hope, you have promised to be present to us in this bread of life and this cup of salvation. In our desire to commune with you and each other, we have fed on your presence in spirit. We pray that you protect, guide, and strengthen us as we hope for the time when we may eat the bread and drink the cup together in body. We pray that you nourish us in the power of your Spirit, that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world and continue for ever in the risen life of Christ our Savior. *Amen.*

Blessing

The presider asks God's blessing on the congregation

Birthdays, Anniversaries and Occasions of Thanksgiving

All those celebrating birthdays, anniversaries and occasions of thanksgiving are invited to share them using the phone number at the beginning of the bulletin.

Today, tomorrow and always we rejoice in the hands of God.

May God's powerful hands support you.

May God's guiding hands lead you.

May God's loving hands enfold you.

We rejoice in the hands of God. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn

Lead on, O King eternal

Hymnal 555 (*Lancashire*)

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, the day of march has come;
2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,
3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears;

hence - forth in fields of con - quest thy tents shall be our home;
and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;
for glad - ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er thy face ap - pears.

through days of prep - a - ra - tion thy grace has made us strong,
for not with swords loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums,
Thy cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light:

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song,
but deeds of love and mer - cy, the heav - en - ly king - dom comes.
the crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

The musical score consists of four systems, each with a treble and bass staff. The lyrics are placed between the staves. The key signature has one flat (Bb) and the time signature is 4/4. The music is a simple harmonic setting of the hymn text.

Dismissal

Our worship has ended and now our service begins.
Let us go forth into the world,
rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!

People

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Postlude

Voluntary in B-flat

Joanathan Battishill (1738-1801)

During this time of uncertainty, St. John's particularly needs your help to continue to offer care and support to our community. You can give online [here](#).

Today after the 10am service, please join us [here](#) for coffee hour on zoom. If you would like help in connecting through zoom, please reach out by [email](#).

St John's Episcopal Church

Bishop of California:	The Rt. Rev. Marc Handley Andrus
Rector:	The Rev. Chris Rankin-Williams <i>crw@stjohnsross.org</i>
Associate Priest:	The Rev. Ginger Strickland <i>ginger@stjohnsross.org</i>
Assisting:	The Revs. Skip Fotch, Jan Hickman West, and Bill Rankin
Director of Music:	Dr. David Montgomery
Choir section leader:	Betsy Bennett-Smith <i>david@stjohnsross.org</i>
Church Administrator:	Virginia Kosydar <i>virginia@stjohnsross.org</i>
Youth Minister:	Tom Fregoso <i>tom@stjohnsross.org</i>
Director of Children's Ministry:	Sandra Pathik <i>sandra@stjohnsross.org</i>
Treasurer:	Susan Aley
Director of Stewardship	Emily McFarland <i>emily@stjohnsross.org</i>
Bookkeeper:	Henry Auriti <i>bookkeeper@stjohnsross.org</i>
Vestry:	<i>President:</i> The Rev. Chris Rankin-Williams <i>Senior Warden:</i> Robb Baer <i>Junior Warden:</i> June Sullivan Mary Beth Baker, Genny Biggs, Joannie Ericson, Maya Farhoud, Jennifer Jones, Paul Kaplan, Mike O'Brien, Chris Russell, Jaco Sadie, Kathryn Supinski, Amy Taylor.