



# *Order of Worship*

Christ the King/Reign of Christ

**November 20, 2022**

---

## **Call to worship**

Leader: "God has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins" (Colossians 1:13-14).

**People: "Christ is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything" (Colossians 1:18).**

**All: We worship and adore you, Christ our King.**

## **Call to confession**

Jesus, remember us and hear our prayers of honest confession.

## **Prayer of confession**

Prince of Peace, we confess the barriers we build, the self-protective numbing we conjure to distance ourselves from the pain of this world. We harden our hearts to the suffering and behave in ways far from humane. Soften us, Jesus. Humble us with the compassion you exhibit from the cross. Guide us to live open and wholehearted lives as we attend to the needs of others. Amen.

## **Assurance of pardon**

"Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing" (Luke 23:34).

Christ our King calls for our forgiveness and grants us pardon. Let us love and forgive in response to this glorious gift. Amen.

## **Prayer for illumination**

Savior God, guide us into and through your Word, that we might be shaped by your Spirit's message to us today and transformed for service in your world. Amen.



## **Scripture readings**

## **Sermon**

### **Affirmation of faith** (From the *Book of Common Worship*)

This is the good news  
which we have received,  
in which we stand,  
and by which we are saved,  
if we hold it fast:  
that Christ died for our sins  
according to the scriptures,  
that he was buried,  
that he was raised on the third day,  
and that he appeared  
first to the women,  
then to Peter, and to the Twelve,  
and then to many faithful witnesses.  
We believe that Jesus is the Christ,  
the Son of the living God.  
Jesus Christ is the first and the last,  
the beginning and the end;  
he is our Lord and our God. Amen.

### **Call for the offering**

In response to God's abundant gifts to us, let us give generously to  
Christ's mission and ministry. Let us present our tithes and offerings to God.

### **Prayer of dedication**

Risen Savior, responding to your love and grace, we offer our gifts of  
time, talent and service. May our offerings feed the hungry, cloth the poor,  
quench the thirsty and shelter the most vulnerable among us. Amen.



## Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

God of abundant blessing, as we approach a holiday of gratitude and a new liturgical year, we pause to give you thanks and praise. We acknowledge all good gifts that come from you and for the many ways you bless us. Especially, we thank you for:

- ~ Family and loved ones who encircle us with care ...
- ~ Clear skies and starry nights that stun us with your creation's beauty ...
- ~ Acts of kindness and compassion shared between neighbors and strangers ...
- ~ Leaders who defy partisan rhetoric and rancor to act with honesty and integrity ...

The sun sinks early, and the days grow short in this darkening season, Holy God. Your people languish, yearning for a break from bad news and heavy burdens. In our despair we turn to you and lift our hope-filled petitions for the needs of your people. We pray for:

- ~ Victims of violence, war and oppressive regimes ...
- ~ Those in need of healing from trauma ...
- ~ Those whose spirits are burdened by mental illness ...
- ~ Those who believe they are beyond help and hope ...

We humble ourselves before you, Christ our King, to pray for our redemption and the world's. May we live and love and forgive as you did. May we resist evil forces that seek to turn us from a humane path. May we embrace your way of peace, transformed for lives of love and grace.

Now, hear us pray the prayer Christ taught us, saying together, **"Our Father..."**.

## Charge and benediction

May Jesus' name be praised as we leave to love and serve.

May our lives reflect Christ's glory and honor his name.

May God, the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer, bless us and keep us all. Amen.

© Presbyterian Outlook, 2022.

Liturgy written by Teri McDowell Ott  
and provided for free distribution.

For more resources,  
visit [pres-outlook.org](https://pres-outlook.org)