

Living Out God's Call to Joy and to Justice

First Presbyterian Church, McAllen
November 23, 2025
Reign of Christ



Christ the Redeemer
Rio de Janeiro

Opening Sentences

- Worship Christ, Eternal Son of God; honor Christ, Incarnate Son of Mary; serve Christ, Glorious Ruler of creation; for to Christ belong the power and the glory of the Almighty.
- Let us prepare our hearts and minds for worship.

Prelude

Litany for the Reign of Christ

Please rise in body or in spirit.

Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice!

Christ will reign forever and ever.

The Lord is robed in majesty and girded in strength.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

God has established the world, and God's realm will never be shaken.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

God will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

The kingdom of this world has become the kingdom of our Lord.

Christ will reign forever and ever.

Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Savior,
through your Lordship,
the powers and dominions of the world obtain their purpose,
and creation finds its meaning.
Reveal to us your gracious rule,
end all enmity among the nations,
and bring us to your glorious, peaceable kingdom
where you live and reign
with the Father and the Holy Spirit,
one God, forever and ever. Amen.

Opening Hymn Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun, v. 1 and 5 GG #265

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King;
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud Amen!

Passing the Peace

The peace of Jesus Christ be with you. / **And also with you.**

Life of the Church

Prayer for Illumination

Sovereign God, let your Word rule in our hearts
and your Spirit govern our lives until at last we see the fulfillment
of your realm of justice and peace;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Anthem

Epistle Reading

Colossians 1:11-20

I pray that you'll be given all possible strength, according to the power of his glory,
so that you'll have complete patience and become truly steadfast and joyful.

¹² And I pray that you will learn to give thanks to the father, who has made you
fit to share in the inheritance of God's holy ones in the light. ¹³ He has delivered
us from the power of darkness, and transferred us into the kingdom of his
beloved son. ¹⁴ He is the one in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of
sins.

¹⁵ He is the image of God, the invisible one, the firstborn of all creation.

¹⁶ For in him all things were created,
in the heavens and here on the earth.

Things we can see and things we cannot,
-- thrones and lordships and rulers and powers --
all things were created both through him and for him.

¹⁷ And he is ahead, prior to all else
and in him all things hold together;

¹⁸ and he himself is supreme, the head
over the body, the church.

He is the start of it all,
firstborn from the realms of the dead;
so in all things he might be the chief.

¹⁹ For in him all the Fullness was glad to dwell

²⁰ and through him to reconcile all to himself,
making peace through the blood of his cross,
through him -- yes, things on the earth,

and also the things in the heavens. (N. T. Wright; *The New Testament for Everyone*)

The Word of the Lord / **Thanks be to God.**

Homily

Hymn

Come, Christians, Join to Sing, v. 1-2

GG #267

Come, Christians, join to sing: Alleluia! Amen!
Loud praise to Christ our King: Alleluia! Amen!
Let all, with heart and voice, before his throne rejoice;
praise is his gracious choice: Alleluia! Amen!

Come, lift your hearts on high: Alleluia! Amen!
Let praises fill the sky: Alleluia! Amen!
He is our guide and friend; to us he'll condescend;
his love shall never end: Alleluia! Amen!

Invitation to the Offering

With gratitude, let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offertory

Act of Dedication

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow GG #609

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Alleluia, alleluia!
Praise God, in Jesus fully known:
Creator, Word, and Spirit one.
Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

Offertory Prayer: A Valley Thanksgiving Litany

Praise! All praise to God
for the fall of the year in our Valley!
Praise to God for autumn heavens!
For clear early-morning peace;
for noonday warmth of our bones;
for yellow slant of afternoon light;
for southern path of evening sun.
Praise God for our beautiful skies!
Praise to God for winter reminders!
For showers of humble mesquite beans;
for processions of ants underfoot;
for wedges of ducks overhead;
for drifting cottonwood and tallow leaves.
Praise God for change!

Praise! Praise also to God for surprises!

**For fields of green seedlings;
for petunias that shout
and chrysanthemums singing;
for all that defies death.**

Praise God for the unexpected!

Praise God for the season of fellowship!

**For friendly greetings of neighbors;
for folk from the north
with whom we share our bounty;
for music of bands at practice;
and shouts of happy teams.**

Praise God for a time of communion!

Thanks to God for a tropical autumn!

**For reprieve from summer's long day;
for gifts of color abounding;
for new crops springing forth;
for scurry of small beasts;
for soft winds;
for new breath and new life in us.**

Praise God from whom FALL blessings flow!

Jan Seale (Copyright 1989)

Transition to Hanging of the Green

Today's Worship Leaders:

Rev. Kathryn J. Escandell
Robert Garza Ale Pacheco

Beverly Avila
The Chancel Choir

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