

November 20, 2022
Christ the King / Reign of Christ Sunday

PRELUDES

Prelude on "Rejoice, the Lord Is King"
He Is King of Kings

John Barr
Anthony Giamanco

WELCOME

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP #405

Praise God for This Holy Ground
(verse 1)

Heymonystraat

Praise God for this holy ground, place and people, sight and sound.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! God's goodness is eternal.

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CALL TO WORSHIP (based on Isaiah 2:1-4)

One: The day is coming...

All: When all nations will seek out God's ways.

One: The day is coming...

All: When God will bring about reconciliation and peace.

One: The day is coming...

All: When swords will be beaten into plowshares, and weapons into tools for the garden.

One: The day is coming...

All: When nation shall not fight against nation and the word "war" will be forgotten.

One: The day is coming...

All: Lord, let it come.

***GATHERING SONG #756** *O God of Every Nation*
(verse 1)

Llangloffan

O God of every nation, of every race and land, redeem the whole creation with your almighty hand. Where hate and fear divide us and bitter threats are hurled, in love and mercy guide us and heal our strifetorn world.
(verse 3)

Lord, strengthen those who labor that all may find release from fear of rattling saber, from dread of war's increase; when hope and courage falter, your still small voice be heard; with faith that none can alter, your servants undergird.

(verse 4)

Keep bright in us the vision of days when war shall cease, when hatred and division give way to love and peace, till dawns the morning glorious when truth and justice reign and Christ shall rule victorious o'er all the world's domain.

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*Please stand as you are able.

CALL TO CONFESSION

One: Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sins:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Eternal God, you set Jesus Christ as ruler over all things and made us servants in your kingdom: empowered to love the unloved and minister to all in need. We confess that we are slow to acknowledge Christ's rule. We give allegiance to the powers of this world and fail to be governed by justice and love. In your mercy, forgive us. Raise us to confess him as Lord of all, that we may obey and follow the commands of our Lord, Jesus Christ.

(Moment of Silent Reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God who is full of compassion and steadfast love cleanses and teaches us, so that we might be restored and renewed through the Spirit.

All: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

***CHORAL RESPONSE #447** *We Are Forgiven* *We Are Forgiven*
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.
We are forgiven. We are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Thanks be to God.

*SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST (from Jude 2)

One: May mercy, peace, and love be yours in abundance. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

WORD

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Eternal Wisdom, from generation to generation you teach your people the way to live. Through words that are ancient, you speak your living Word. Teach us now all that we need to honor you and walk in your way with honest and humble hearts. Amen.

THE FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 36:1-3, 13-20

In the fourteenth year of King Hezekiah, King Sennacherib of Assyria came up against all the fortified cities of Judah and captured them. ² The king of Assyria sent the Rabshakeh with a great army from Lachish to King Hezekiah at Jerusalem. He stood by the conduit of the upper pool on the highway to the fuller's field. ³ And there came out to him Eliakim son of Hilkiah, who was in charge of the palace, and Shebna the secretary, and Joah son of Asaph, the recorder.

*Please stand as you are able.

¹³ Then the Rabshakeh stood and called out in a loud voice in the language of Judah, "Hear the words of the great king, the king of Assyria!" ¹⁴ Thus says the king: Do not let Hezekiah deceive you, for he will not be able to deliver you. ¹⁵ Do not let Hezekiah make you rely on the LORD by saying, 'The LORD will surely deliver us; this city will not be given into the hand of the king of Assyria.' ¹⁶ Do not listen to Hezekiah, for thus says the king of Assyria: Make your peace with me and come out to me; then every one of you will eat from your own vine and your own fig tree and drink water from your own cistern, ¹⁷ until I come and take you away to a land like your own land, a land of grain and wine, a land of bread and vineyards. ¹⁸ Do not let Hezekiah mislead you by saying, 'The LORD will deliver us.' Has any of the gods of the nations delivered their land out of the hand of the king of Assyria? ¹⁹ Where are the gods of Hamath and Arpad? Where are the gods of Sepharvaim? Have they delivered Samaria out of my hand? ²⁰ Who among all the gods of these countries have delivered their countries out of my hand, that the LORD should deliver Jerusalem out of my hand?"

CHORAL ANTHEM

Thankful

Sager, Foster, & Page

THE SECOND LESSON

Isaiah 37:1-7; 2:2-4

37 When King Hezekiah heard it, he tore his clothes, covered himself with sackcloth and went into the house of the LORD. ² And he sent Eliakim, who was in charge of the palace, and Shebna the secretary, and the senior priests, covered with sackcloth, to the prophet Isaiah son of Amoz. ³ They said to him, "Thus says Hezekiah: This day is a day of distress, of rebuke, and of disgrace; children have come to the birth, and there is no strength to bring them forth. ⁴ It may be that the LORD your God heard the words of the Rabshakeh, whom his master the king of Assyria has sent to mock the living God, and will rebuke the words that the LORD your God has heard; therefore lift up your prayer for the remnant that is left." ⁵ When the servants of King Hezekiah came to Isaiah, ⁶ Isaiah said to them, "Say to your master: 'Thus says the LORD: Do not be afraid because of the words that you have heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have reviled me. ⁷ I myself will put a spirit in him, so that he shall hear a rumor and return to his own land; I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land.'" "

2 ² In days to come the mountain of the LORD's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. ³ Many peoples shall come and say, "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob, that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths." For out of Zion shall go forth instruction and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem. ⁴ He shall judge between the nations and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into plowshares and their spears into pruning hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation; neither shall they learn war any more.

THE MESSAGE

"Swords into Plowshares"

Rev. Dr. John Wahl

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

WITNESS

GATHERING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

We take this time to reflect and recognize all contributions of time, talent, and treasure. A basket is available in the narthex for making monetary donations.

OFFERTORY

Lento

G. F. Handel

*DOXOLOGY #263

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!
(verse 1)

Coronation

***All hail the power of Jesus' name! Let angels prostrate fall;
bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!
Bring forth the royal diadem, and crown him Lord of all!***

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION FOR OFFERING

*SENDING SONG #36

For the Fruit of All Creation
(verse 1)

Ar Hydy Nos

For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God. For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God. For the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safe-keeping, thanks be to God.

(verse 2)

In the just reward of labor, God's will be done. In the help we give our neighbor, God's will be done. In our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God's will be done.

(verse 3)

For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God. For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God. For the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

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*CHARGE AND BLESSING

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE

Love Has Come

Maher

POSTLUDE

Partita on St. George's Windsor

Iteke Prins

*Please stand as you are able.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Service

Sunday, November 20, 5:00 p.m.

Chagrin Valley Council of Churches



We invite you to an ecumenical worship service of Thanksgiving at Valley. The service will include a special offering to benefit the Geauga Hunger Task Force and our local food banks.

A joint choir will perform two choral selections: “*Simple Gifts*” by Pooler and “*A Time For all Things*” by Wagner. If you would like to sing, practice will be held that Sunday at 4:00 p.m. in the Church Sanctuary.

CFPCC Food Bank Needs

Please consider donating the following items in November to help stock the shelves at the Chagrin Falls Park Community Center in preparation for Thanksgiving:



Cranberry sauce, canned sweet potatoes, canned turkey gravy, Stove Top stuffing mix, cooking oil, mayo, butter, celery, white potatoes, onions, eggs, sweet relish, brownie mix, whole turkey.

CFPCC is receiving donations at your car. Someone will come out and retrieve donations.

Wise Men Still Seek Him Musical Service



Sunday, December 11, 2022

10:30 a.m.

At

Valley Presbyterian Church

Pass-it-on Resale Store



The **store will be open** on:

Friday, December 16

(10 a.m. – 4 p.m.)

Saturday, December 17

(10 a.m. – 2 p.m.)

Advent Devotion Booklets

Printed copies of “O Come Dawning Light” – a series of daily Advent devotions, beginning on Monday, November 21 and written by our friend Rev. Susi Kowalics – are available in the Narthex. If you would prefer to receive them electronically, you can sign up at: <https://www.facebook.com/AdventReflections>.

Health and Safety Protocols

With the return to in-person worship services, we ask you to follow these guidelines:

- Windows may be open or fans turned on to provide appropriate air circulation.
- When inside the church building, face coverings are optional based on personal comfort level.
 - Socially distance as able in the pews and sanctuary.
 - If you are not feeling well today, please stay home.
- At this time, we will not be the offering plate or holding hands for the benediction at the close of the service.
- After the worship service has concluded, we ask that you move outside for any extended conversations.

Thank you for your patience and understanding. Any changes to these protocols will be shared in advance of Sunday gatherings.

<u>VALLEY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH</u> <u>www.valleypresbychurch.org</u> VPC Guest Wifi Password: VPC12345		
17560 Chillicothe Road Chagrin Falls, OH 44023 Phone: (440) 543-1071 Email: valleypc@netlink.net	Rev. Dr. John Wahl, Pastor Cell Phone: (216) 287-2405 Email: revjohnwahl@netlink.net	Heart of Valley Preschool Heidi Cregar, Director Phone: (440) 708-2572 Email: hovcp@netlink.net
Director of Music: Nancy Sullivan Liturgist: Ruth Gurd	Organist: John Kautzman	Greeter: Bev Keough