



*An Open & Affirming, Creation Justice
Congregation of the United Church of Christ*

22 November 2020 – 10:30 AM

Reign of Christ

PRELUDE *Come, Ye Thankful People, Come* Charles Callahan
Vlada Valkova-Moran, organist

WELCOME The Rev. David Pattee, pastor

SOUNDING OF THE BELL

CALL TO WORSHIP Susie Land, liturgist

One: Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.

All: Worship the LORD with gladness; come into God's presence with singing.

One: Know that the LORD is God. It is God who made us, and we belong to God. We are God's people and sheep of God's pasture.

All: Enter the gates with thanksgiving, and the temple courts with praise. Give thanks to God, bless God's name.

One: For the LORD is good;

All: God's steadfast love endures forever. God's faithfulness is to all generations.

HYMN 422 *Come, O Thankful People* tune: ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR
led by Ingrid Parker

**Come, O thankful people, come, raise the song of harvest home;
All is safely gathered in as the winter storms begin;
God our Maker does provide for our wants to be supplied;
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.**

**All the blessings of the field, all the stores the gardens yield,
All the fruits in full supply, ripened 'neath the summer sky,
All that spring with bounteous hands scatters o'er the smiling land,
All the liberal autumn ours from its rich o'er-flowing stores,**

**These to you, our God we owe, source from whom all blessings flow;
And for these our sings we raise, grateful vows and solemn praise.
Come, then, thankful people come, raise the song of harvest home;
Come to God's own temple, come, raise the song of harvest home.**

PRAYER IN THE SPIRIT OF JESUS

**Earth-Maker, Life-Giver, Pain-Bearer, Source of all that is and all that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all, Loving God in whom is Heaven:
May the hallowing of your name echo through the universe.
May your Heavenly will be done by all creatures great and small.
And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need this day, feed us. For the hurt we inflict on one another, forgive us.
Through times of temptation, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is Love.**

Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 25:31-46

Susie Land

'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.'

ANTHEM

And the Father Will Dance
Chancel Choir • Cheryl Anderson, director

Mark Hayes

And the Father will dance over you in joy!
He will take delight in whom He love,
Is that a choir I hear singing the praises of God?
No, the Lord God Himself is exulting o'er you in Song!
And He will joy over you in song.

My soul will make its boast in God, for He has answered all my cries.
His faithfulness to me is as sure as the dawn of a new day.

Awake my soul and sing! Let my spirit rejoice in God!

Sing, O daughter of Zion, with all of your heart!
Cast away fear for you have been restored!
Put on the garment of praise as on a festival day.
Join the Father in glorious, jubilant song.
And He will joy over you in song!
God rejoices over you in song!

SERMON *What's So Bad About Goats?* Pastor Dave

MEDITATION *At the River* Aaron Copland
Art Schuller, soloist

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH The Rev. Beverly Brook

OFFERTORY www.PeaceUnited.org/giving
Invitation

Reflections on Flamingos, with Tom Postlewaite

<https://www.peaceunited.org/pledge>

Offertory Music *For the Beauty of the Earth* Charles Callahan

COVENANT

**We covenant with God and with each other:
to walk together in all God's ways
as the Holy is revealed to us;
to give ourselves freely and without reserve
to Jesus' ministry in this church;
to celebrate through worship God's
amazing gifts of unity and diversity;
to take up Christ's mission around the world,
striving for justice and peace;
to care for the earth and all her creatures,
reconciling ourselves to them in love;
for God gives immeasurable grace
into all life and every life. Amen.**

HYMN 422 *For the Fruit of All Creation* tune: AR HYD Y NOS

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

**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.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Now Thank We All Our God* Sigfrid Karg-Elert