

# Welcome to St James Episcopal Church...

## *We're glad that you chose to worship with us today!*

COVID guidelines-- out of love for others we'll continue to err on the side of caution.

- Please wear masks for all indoor church activities, including worship. **Masks are required when in the building for all over age 2** (or those with health restrictions). You may remove your mask briefly while receiving Communion. Clergy and Readers may remove masks when speaking.
- Please greet each other and share your love through verbal or other contact-less expressions.
- Please use the handicap-accessible restroom outside the sanctuary.
- Communion is provided for those who would like to consume bread and/or wine as directed. You may participate in spiritual communion if you prefer to not receive either physical element. (*This is sacramentally appropriate any time receiving bread and/or wine is not a possibility for any reason. The bread and wine are the outward and visible signs of the inward and spiritual grace in the communion sacrament*)

This Worship service will be live-streamed. If you have privacy concerns for yourself or your child(ren), please sit in the back left of the Sanctuary (the area closest to the Chapel). Nobody will be identifiably visible during Communion. Our videos may be viewed online live or any time: [go.mysjec.com/youtube](https://go.mysjec.com/youtube)



## **10AM Worship with Communion – November 21, 2021**

### **Christ the King Sunday**

Sharing  
God's Love  
Through  
Action

**ST JAMES**  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH, MANITOWOC  
*An inviting safe community for all*

#### Today's Worship leadership includes...

<i>Ministers</i>	Members of the Congregation
<i>Reader 1</i>	Chris Dee Eggert-Rosenthal
<i>Reader 2</i>	Eleanor Agnew
<i>Rector (Pastor)</i>	The Rev'd Diane M Murray (Amma Diane)
<i>Worship/Music Coordinator</i>	Tony Karl

**We are an inclusive community of faith that welcomes and celebrates diversity in age, race, nation of origin, citizenship status, gender identity, sexual orientation, social status, political view, background, ability level, marital status, and anything else that makes us unique. Whatever your reason for coming, we are glad you are here!**

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 St James Episcopal Church, 434 North 8th Street, Manitowoc, WI 54220  
 mysjec.com — info@mysjec.com — Church Office: 920.684.8256  
 Amma Diane: 920.860.5152 (*cell/text*) — dianemarie.murray@gmail.com  
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If you would like to know more about the life, mission, or ministries of St James Episcopal Church, please talk to any member of our Vestry (church council):

*Rector (Pastor):* The Rev'd Diane M Murray      *Wardens:* Chris Dee Eggert-Rosenthal & Mary Green  
*Vestrypersons:* Nick Doszkewycz, Richard Hall, & Kim Kaufmann  
*Clerk:* Tony Karl      *Treasurer:* Linda Molitor  
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**All the words you will need are in this bulletin:** Text that the people say is prefaced with "People" or "All" and is in a **bold font**. All song lyrics are also in this bulletin. For those who prefer to read music, most song numbers are referenced for the blue *Hymnal 1982* and soft-cover *Renew!* books found in the pew racks.

**Worship/Liturgy Sources:** Our worship is based on the *Book of Common Prayer* (BCP--the red hardcover book in the pew rack), the *Book of Occasional Services*, the *Enriching Our Worship series*—the primary liturgical resources authorized by General Convention of The Episcopal Church—supplemented by occasional other resources. You may find additional prayers in the BCP on pages 832-834 helpful for personal devotion before, during, and after worship (especially prayers 64-69 and 57-61). If you'd like a BCP for your own use at home, the church can provide one for you—please talk to Amma Diane.

**Children:** Children of all ages are welcome in worship! Activity bags are available in the back of the church. A changing station is available in the restroom in the atrium just outside the sanctuary.

**Hearing Loop:** Our Hearing Loop system enables people with hearing loss to better hear sounds through our sound system. If you can set your hearing aid to a T or M/T setting, audio from our sound system will be received directly by your device (70% of aids have this feature). If your aid does not have this option, or you do not wear a hearing aid, there are a few portable headsets available in the back of the church.



**Please share your prayer requests with us:** All are invited to share their prayer requests so that the entire congregation may join in lifting up your needs and thanksgivings. Please add requests to the Prayers of the People clipboard (you can simply use first names on requests... God knows our needs). If you'd like a prayer lifted up for multiple weeks, please fill out a prayer request slip found at the back of the church.

**We worship with our bodies:** You'll notice that some of us may sit, stand, and kneel at various points in the service. Some of us may make the sign of the cross or bow now and then. Some may clap, raise their hands, or tap their feet. All of these movements are traditions from various parts of our Christian heritage—none are required, none are frowned upon. All are welcome to express whatever movements they might find meaningful in worship. Some instructions are printed throughout this bulletin—you may also observe what others do. None of these movements are a requirement: if you prefer not to use them, don't worry about it—God doesn't.

**Restrooms/Layout/Accessibility:** A handicapped-accessible restroom is located in the atrium just outside the sanctuary (next to the elevator.) Additional restrooms are located on the south end of the lower level. The atrium gives access to the lower level and upper level by stairs or elevator. The worship space and chapel are located on the upper level. The offices, fellowship hall, library, and classrooms are located on the lower level and marked by signs.

## Welcome!

*All who are able, please stand. Masks must be worn while singing.*

### ♪ **Praise to the Lord, the Almighty**

[Renew #57]

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation;  
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!  
All you who hear, now to his temple draw near;  
join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things is wondrously reigning.  
Shelters you under his wings, oh, so gently sustaining.  
Have you not seen: all that is needful has been  
sent by his gracious ordaining.

Words: Joachim Neander (1650-1680). Music: *LOBE DEN HERREN*, 1665.

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* **And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. AMEN!**

*Celebrant* 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.

*People* **AMEN!**

*All* **Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. AMEN!**

*Celebrant* God be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* 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.

*People* **AMEN!**

*Please be seated.*

## **The Reign of Christ the King**

*Texts by Robin Stephenson-Bratcher & Dennis Bratcher, © Christian Resource Institute/The Voice.*

### **Introduction**

*Celebrant* We have been on a journey the past twelve months as we have traveled through the Christian church year. We have followed in the steps of Jesus as he was birthed in a stable, as he walked the dusty hillsides of Galilee, opened blind eyes and made the lame to walk again, as he taught the multitudes and the disciples, as he was crucified, and rose again. We have celebrated the coming of the Holy Spirit at Pentecost, reflected on the mission of the Church, and what it means to be a disciple of Jesus Christ. Today is the last Sunday of that journey for this year. Next Sunday we begin celebrating Advent, as we once again begin that journey to remind ourselves who we are—and whose we are.

We do so knowing that the Kingdom of God that Jesus brought is a present reality in our lives. And yet we also know that there is a future kingdom over which God will reign in Christ, a kingdom in which the world will once again fully reflect its Creator. Today we celebrate Christ as past, present, and future king over all the earth, at the same time that we express our hope and our faith in that coming kingdom.

So today we will look back at this past year's journey with Jesus. But we are also looking forward to our journey this coming year, as we express each week our faith in the transforming power of God at work in our world, and in our Church, and in our lives to restore all of creation to his purposes. Please remain seated throughout the lessons and songs.

## ♪ **Alleluia! Sing to Jesus**

[Hymnal #460]

Alleluia! sing to Jesus; his the scepter, his the throne;

Alleluia! his the triumph, his the victory alone.

Hark the songs of peaceful Zion thunder like a mighty flood:

"Jesus out of ev'ry nation has redeemed us by his blood."

Alleluia! not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;

Alleluia! he is near us; faith believes, nor questions how.

Though the cloud from sight received him when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise; "I am with you evermore"?

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

## **Advent**

*Celebrant* Advent: Christ the King is Coming -- The royal colors of blue and purple begin the Church Year in Advent, a word that means "coming". We pace this season of four Sundays hearing again the silence of the prophets, experiencing the breathless waiting of the Israelites hoping for a Messiah. We sing the song "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" with longing, not because we seek a Messiah yet to come to the world, but because the Christ has come and we long for him to come to us again. The quiet pace of Advent is in direct contrast to the bustling commercialism of the secular holidays. And so we begin our new year in Advent, reminding ourselves that in the midst of the worldliness of our lives we need to renew our relationship to this King who has come.

*Reader 1* Mary's song of praise, from Luke chapter 1, verses 46 through 55 -- Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent

the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever.”

## ♪ **O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

[Hymnal #56]

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel  
that mourns in lowly exile here until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, thou Dayspring, from on high, and cheer us by thy drawing nigh;  
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Words: Latin, 12th century; trans John Mason Neale. Music: *VENI EMMANUEL*, 15th century plainsong

## **Christmas**

*Celebrant* Christmas: Christ the King is Born -- In the season of Christmas we frequently use the colors white and gold, a celebration of the purity of the infant who was born in a manger, and yet a King with all the splendor of God come to dwell with his people. Christmas Day is both the culmination of the waiting of the Advent season, and the beginning of twelve days of celebration as we rejoice in the gift of our Savior and the daily rebirth of grace in our own lives.

*Reader 2* The Word became flesh, from John chapter 1, verses 1 through 14 -- In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through

him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth.

## ♪ **Joy to the World!**

[Hymnal #100]

Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth receive her King;  
let every heart prepare him room,  
and heaven and nature sing, and heaven and nature sing,  
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the nations prove  
the glories of his righteousness,  
and wonders of his love, and wonders of his love,  
and wonders, wonders of his love.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719. Music: *ANTIOCH*, George Frideric Handel, 1742.

## **Epiphany**

*Celebrant* Epiphany: Christ the King is Made Known -- Epiphany means "to make known," and in the season of Epiphany we remember the ways and events through which God revealed himself through Jesus Christ. In the Season of Epiphany, we see white on Holy Days including Epiphany and the Presentation of Jesus in the Temple, but we generally see the color green as in Ordinary Time.

As with most aspects of the Christian liturgical calendar, Epiphany has significance as a teaching tool in the church. The Wise Men or Magi who brought gifts to the infant Jesus were the first Gentiles to acknowledge Jesus as "King" and so were the first to "show" or "reveal" Jesus to a wider world as the incarnate Christ. This act of worship by the Magi, which corresponded to Simeon's blessing that this child Jesus would be "a light for revelation to the Gentiles", was one of the first indications that Jesus

came for all people, of all nations, of all races, and that the work of God in the world would not be limited to only a few.

The season is now observed as a time of focusing on the mission of the church in reaching others by "showing" Jesus as the Savior of all people. It is also a time of focusing on Christian brotherhood and fellowship, especially in healing the divisions of prejudice and bigotry that we all too often create between God's children.

*Reader 1* The ingathering of the dispersed, from Isaiah chapter 60, verses 1 through 6 -  
 - Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you. For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the Lord will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you. Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn.  
 Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their nurses' arms. Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you. A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the Lord.

## ♪ **Songs of Thankfulness and Praise**

[Hymnal #135]

Songs of thankfulness and praise, Jesus, Lord, to thee we raise,  
 manifested by the star to the sages from afar;  
 branch of royal David's stem in thy birth at Bethlehem;  
 anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Manifest at Jordan's stream, Prophet, Priest and King supreme;  
 and at Cana, wedding guest, in thy Godhead manifest;  
 manifest in power divine, changing water into wine;  
 anthems be to thee addressed, God in man made manifest.

Words: Christopher Wordsworth (1807-1885).

Music: *SALZBURG*, mel Jakob Hintze (1622-1702).

## **Lent & Holy Week**

*Celebrant* Lent and Holy Week: Christ the King is Sacrificed -- With the ashes on our heads after the service of Ash Wednesday, the sanctuary colors for Lent turn to a somber purple and to red and black in Holy Week. Throughout the weeks of Lent we pace the length of Jesus' three years of ministry. We relearn the faces and names of people who, like you and me, were sometimes faithful and sometimes selfish; people who heard the good news and responded and others who laughed and scorned; men, women, and children who heard Jesus' words and watched his life and came hungry and were fulfilled, or who walked away because they could not use him for their own ends. It is a long season, a season that calls us to stop and take a look at our life in the light of Christlikeness, and humble ourselves before our God who says to us gently, "Come, let us talk this over. Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be white as snow; though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool. If you are willing to obey, you shall eat the good things of the earth."

The season of Lent culminates in Holy Week, or "Passion Week," from a Latin word that means "to suffer." Starting with Palm Sunday and the joyful entry of Israel's Messiah-King into Jerusalem, it ends with that very same crowd yelling "Crucify him, crucify him!" The week's events are remembered with various services that including Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, and the Great Vigil.

*Reader 2* Jesus foretells his death and resurrection, from Mark chapter 8, verses 31 through 38 -- Then he began to teach them that the Son of Man must undergo great suffering, and be rejected by the elders, the chief priests, and the scribes, and be killed, and after three days rise again. He said all this quite openly. And Peter took him aside and began to rebuke him. But turning and looking at his disciples, he rebuked Peter and said, "Get behind me, Satan! For you are setting your mind not on divine things but on human things."

He called the crowd with his disciples, and said to them, "If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me. For those who want to save their life will lose it, and

those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the gospel, will save it. For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? Indeed, what can they give in return for their life? Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation, of them the Son of Man will also be ashamed when he comes in the glory of his Father with the holy angels.”

## ♪ **What Wondrous Love**

[Renew #277]

What wondrous love is this, O my soul, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this, O my soul!

What wondrous love is this that caused the Lord of bliss  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul, for my soul,  
to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

When I was sinking down, sinking down, sinking down,  
when I was sinking down, sinking down;  
when I was sinking down beneath God's righteous frown,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul, for my soul,  
Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

Words: S. Mead's *A General Selection*, 1811. Music: W. Walker's *Southern Harmony*, 1935.

## **Easter**

*Celebrant* Easter: Christ the King is Victorious -- Morning dawns and Mary Magdalene weeps at the tomb until she is told the good news "He is not dead! He has risen!" And that call echoes down through the centuries as Christians around the world joyfully cry out "Alleluia, Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!" year after year on the highest and holiest day of the Christian calendar.

Easter lilies adorn the sanctuary, the colors change to the brightness of white and gold to portray the purity and kingliness of our Risen Savior. There is no joy compared to an Easter Sunday after the solemn pace of Lent. Three days before we buried our beloved Jesus; today he lives! We wept with Peter on the night he was crucified, and on Easter we are awed anew by the great news that he Lives!

And the fifty days of Easter ring jubilantly with the new life and new hope that the Risen Savior brings to us, to our world, and to all peoples who open their hearts to him. We listen in on the conversations of the disciples as they struggle to wrap their human hearts and minds around this new revelation. We watch as those who previously had persecuted the people of God now fall on their knees in awe and wonder. We experience anew for ourselves in this season the freedom and joy and the power, strength, and life that is our heritage as the people of God.

*Reader 1* Gentiles hear the Good News, from Acts chapter 10, verses 34 through 43 -- Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

## ♪ **Christ is Alive!**

[Renew #300]

Christ is alive! Let Christians sing. The cross stands empty to the sky.  
 Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.  
 Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,  
 till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love and praise.

## **Pentecost**

*Celebrant* Pentecost: Christ the King Empowers Us – We use red and other colors of flames on Pentecost as we remember the great rushing wind and the dancing flames like fire, and the words of Jesus, baptizing his disciples with the Holy Fire of the Spirit. The disciples and followers of Jesus were one moment huddled in fear in a small upper room. Then the Holy Spirit came in power and they rushed out of the building and into the streets, telling everyone about the good news in ways that all could understand. Today? Well, one day we are ordinary people, the next we are his evangelists, and pastors, and healers, and mercy-bringers, and the Body of Christ, redeemed by his blood, one in ministry to the entire world. Are you willing to be filled with the Spirit?

*Reader 2* The coming of the Holy Spirit, from John chapter 20, verses 19 through 22 and Acts chapter 2 verses 1 through 12 -- When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each.

Amazed and astonished, they asked, "Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power." All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, "What does this mean?"

## ♪ **Breathe On Me, Breath of God**

[Hymnal #508]

Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life anew,  
that I may love what thou dost love, and do what thou wouldst do.

Breathe on me, Breath of God, till I am wholly thine,  
till all this earthly part of me glows with thy fire divine.

Words: Edwin Hatch (1835-1889). Music: *NOVA VITA*, Lister R Peace (1885-1969).

## **Ordinary Time**

*Celebrant* Ordinary Time: Christ's Reign Grows with Us -- Ordinary time includes the counted Sundays in the season after Pentecost leading to the next Advent. This time serves to remind us of the ordinary times of life. The book of Acts and the Epistles give us a clear picture of ordinary people, going about ordinary lives, but doing extraordinary things that built the Kingdom of God. The Church was growing by leaps and bounds, both the individuals within it and the worldwide Church. So we typically use the color green to depict this growing time, and pray for the same thing within our ordinary lives. We hear again the Good News, we are instructed in the ways of the world and the Kingdom, and we are shown the vision of the Church and our responsibility within it.

We hear afresh the voices of the gospel writers, the prophets, and Paul, Peter, James, each exhorting us to respond anew to the call of God to be his people in a world that is hungry for the grace, love, and peace we bring into every minute of life, if we are walking in the Light, if we are "abiding in the vine."

Ordinary? Yes, but through our lives God brings the living water to a thirsty world in our offerings of service and mercy that we offer to others on a daily basis. This is the extraordinary way that God builds his Kingdom—through ordinary people like you and me.

*Reader 1* Jesus is the True Vine, from John chapter 15, verses 1 through 9 -- I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinegrower. He removes every branch in me that bears no fruit. Every branch that bears fruit he prunes to make it bear more fruit. You have already been cleansed by the word that I have spoken to you. Abide in me as I abide in you. Just as the branch cannot bear fruit by itself unless it abides in the vine, neither can you unless you abide in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. Whoever does not abide in me is thrown away like a branch and withers; such branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask for whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. My Father is glorified by this, that you bear much fruit and become my disciples. As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love.

## **Sermon**

*Amma Diane*

*All who are able, please stand.*

### **Prayers of the People: The Way of Love**

*Reader 2* Creator God, by the mercies of your son, our Lord, Jesus, compel us to TURN our hearts to his Way of Love. That we might follow Jesus together as your faithful people, we pause, listen, and respond in prayer.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* Jesus, your life, death, resurrection, and ascension inspire the church to continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship. Guide your people to LEARN your Word, that we might see God's story unfolding in our midst.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* Son of God, you responded to your Father in PRAYER and pleaded that we might all be one. Guide the leaders and faithful citizens of this nation to respond to God and to one another in compassion — in thought and deed, with or without words — that the people of the United States might live in unity and peace.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* Light of the World, you taught us to WORSHIP in spirit and in truth. Lead us to join with others to acknowledge the holiness of God, that the whole world might be united in the truth of your love.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* Lord, you came not to be served but to serve. Empower us to BLESS one another and our neighbors, that your spirit of generosity, compassion, and selfless action transform us and the people in our midst.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* Savior, you came into our midst that we might know life. Embolden us to GO among those who are weary, burdened, sick, or imprisoned, that we might live like you, crossing the boundaries that divide rich from poor, sick from well, and sinner from saint.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* Lamb of God, in your death you destroyed death and taught us the way to eternal life. Compel us to daily die to self and REST in your grace. May all who have died rest in peace and rise in glory.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* We lift up the special needs and concerns of this congregation, including those on our prayer lists and those we remember now silently or aloud... *The people offer additional prayers at this time.*  
...We pray with confidence in your grace, O God.

*All* **Jesus, guide us in your Way of Love.**

*Reader 2* Lord Jesus Christ, who gave your life for the life of all, we commit our lives to following you. Continually guide us in your way and draw us in to live as your Beloved Community in this age and in the age to come; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

*All* **AMEN!**

*Reader 2* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*You may remain standing or kneel for the confession prayer.*

**All** Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. **AMEN!**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

**People** **AMEN!**

*Please be seated. Those with birthdays or anniversaries, please stand at this time. If you would like a prayer for healing, travel, or any other needs, please let Amma Diane know.*

*Celebrant* Let us join in prayer for all those who have celebrated or will be celebrating their birthdays.

**All** O God, our times are in your hand: Look with favor, we pray, on your servants as they begin another year. Grant that they may grow in wisdom and grace, and strengthen their trust in your goodness all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **AMEN!**

*Celebrant* Let us join in prayer for all those who have celebrated or will be celebrating their anniversaries.

**All** O God, you teach us through the example of Jesus that love is the fulfilment of the Law; help those couples celebrating anniversaries to persevere in love, to grow in mutual understanding, and to deepen their trust in each other; that in wisdom, patience and courage, their life together may be a source of happiness to all with whom they share it. **AMEN!**

*Celebrant* To all of you celebrating milestones: May the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be upon you to guide and protect you and all those you love, today and always!

**All** **AMEN!**

*All who are able, please stand.*

## **Passing the Peace**

*Celebrant* The peace of Christ be always with you.

*People* And also with you.

*We share God's love with others from a distance with verbal greetings, waving, peace sign, etc.*

*Please be seated.*

**Announcements** *All giving announcements: please use a mic for our friends online.*

## **Offering Our Gifts**

*Celebrant* Gifts and offerings may be left in the offering plate, mailed to the church, dropped off in the church mail slot, or sent through your bank. There are also online giving options on our web site at [mySJEC.com/donate](http://mySJEC.com/donate). We are grateful for your continued financial support of our ministry and mission.

*All who are able, please stand. Masks must be worn while singing.*

## **♪ Praise the Source of Faith and Learning**

Praise the source of faith and learning who has sparked and stoked the mind with a passion for discerning how the world has been designed.

Let the sense of wonder flowing from the wonders we survey  
keep our faith forever growing and renew our need to pray:

God of wisdom, we acknowledge that our science and our art  
and the breadth of human knowledge only partial truth impart.  
Far beyond our calculation lies a depth we cannot sound  
where your purpose for creation and the pulse of life are found.

May our faith redeem the blunder of believing that our thought  
has displaced the grounds for wonder which the ancient prophets taught.

May our learning curb the error which unthinking faith can breed  
lest we justify some terror with an antiquated creed.

As two currents in a river fight each other's undertow  
till converging they deliver one coherent steady flow,  
blend, O God, our faith and learning till they carve a single course  
till they join as one, returning praise and thanks to you, their Source.

Words: Thomas H Troeger, 1987. Music: *HYFRYDOL*, Rowland H Prichard, 1830.

*Celebrant* Inspire us to always share your love through action, O God:  
*People* **Strengthen us to always be an inviting safe community for all.**

## **Invitation to Communion**

*from the Iona Community, Scotland*

*Celebrant* The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus, and all who love him. It is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself. It is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who have not been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have failed; come.

## **Great Thanksgiving**

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

*People* **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

*Celebrant* At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

*People* **By your will they were created and have their being.**

*Celebrant* From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

*People* **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

*Celebrant* Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent

your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

*People* **By his blood, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.**

*Celebrant* And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

*All* **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.**

*Celebrant* And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, and said, "Take... eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper, he took the cup of wine, gave thanks, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

*All* **We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.**

*Celebrant* Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham and Sarah, of Isaac and Rebekah, of Jacob, Leah, and Rachel; God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal. Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

**People** Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

*Celebrant* Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

**People** AMEN!

*Celebrant* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**All** 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 Bread**

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

**People** Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

*At this time, the Celebrant will extend the invitation to communion to all present and give instructions as needed. Visitors are welcome to receive communion or a blessing.*

*All who are able, please stand.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

**All** Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. AMEN!

## **Blessing**

*Celebrant* May the blessing of God, who Creates, Redeems, and Sustains, be upon you and all you love and pray for, this day and for ever more.

**People** Alleluia! AMEN!

*Masks must be worn while singing.*

♪ **Jesus Shall Reign** [Renew #296]

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

To him shall endless prayer be made, and endless praise to crown his head;  
his Name like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song;  
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his Name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns; the prisoners leap to lose their chains,  
the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blessed.

Let all the people rise and bring their special honors to our King;  
angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud Amen.

Words: Isaac Watts, 1719. Music: *DUKE STREET*, John Hatton, 1793.

## Sending

*Celebrant* Go forth sharing the Good News of God's love! Alleluia, alleluia!  
*People* Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!

Thank you for celebrating with us today! Please join us after worship in the lower level Fellowship Hall for casual conversations and sharing (*due to COVID we are currently not having food/drink*).

*Thank you for your support! Gifts may be mailed to the church or sent through your bank.*

*There are also online giving options on our web site at [mySJEC.com/donate](https://www.mySJEC.com/donate).*

*November's special offering supports Painting Pathways Clubhouse—please label accordingly.*

