



The Bellbrook Presbyterian Church
 72 West Franklin St. Bellbrook, Ohio 45305
 937-848-2378
www.bellbrookpc.com

Worship for Sunday, November 22, 2020 10:00 am

Christ The King Sunday and A Celebration of the Liturgical Year
 Pastor Diane Ziegler

*Our mission: Embracing the Community with God's Love, Providing a Home for
 Spiritual Nurture & Worship, Reaching Out to Those in Need, Growing through
 Service to Others*

FOR YOUR REFLECTION The liturgical year is an adventure in bringing the Christian life to fullness, the heart to alert, the soul to focus. ~ Joan Chittister

Chancel flowers provided by Diane Ziegler

Gathering in God's Name

Prelude: "Via Dolorosa"

-by Niles Borop

The Life of the Church

Gratitude and Gifts Stewardship Minute

Mike Seiler

Lighting of the candles

One: Jesus said, "I am the light of the world."

All: We welcome the light of Christ into our worship.

Introduction to our Worship

Today is Christ the King Sunday. It is the last day of our liturgical year as a church. It is a day on which we give thanks and praise for Christ's sovereignty, for Jesus is Lord of all creation and is coming again in glory to reign (Revelation 1:4-8). The festival of Christ the King (or Reign of Christ) ends our marking of Ordinary Time after the Day of Pentecost, and moves us to the threshold of Advent, the season of hope for Christ's coming again at the end of time.

The day centers on the crucified and risen Christ, whom God exalted to rule over the whole universe. The celebration of the lordship of Christ thus looks back to Ascension, Easter, and Transfiguration, and points ahead to the appearing in glory of the King of kings and Lord of lords. Christ reigns supreme. Christ's truth judges falsehood. As the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end, Christ is the center of the universe, the ruler of all history, the judge of all people. In Christ all things began, and in Christ all things will be fulfilled. In the end, Christ will triumph over the forces of evil.

Such concepts as these cluster around the affirmation that Christ is King or Christ reigns! As sovereign ruler, Christ calls us to a loyalty that transcends every earthly claim on the human heart. To Christ alone belongs the supreme allegiance in our lives. Christ calls us to stand with those who in every age confessed, "Jesus Christ is Lord!" In every generation, demagogues emerge to claim an allegiance that belongs only to God. But Christ alone has the right to claim our highest loyalty. The blood of martyrs, past and present, witnesses to this truth.

On this Christ the King morning we will take a journey through the entire liturgical year, beginning with Advent and ending with Christ the King, so that we can take in the beauty and breadth of the church's year, and better understand the comfort and power of Jesus Christ our King.

Call to Worship

One: Who are you?

All: I am a child of God.

One: Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me."

All: Let us, God's children, answer God's call.

One: Let us worship God, our Creator and Savior.

Opening Prayer

One: Let us pray:

All: God of majesty, You love us more than we can imagine. In Jesus Christ You reconciled the whole world to You and claim us as Your own, so that we may live as Christ's body on earth. We give You thanks for the lives we have been given. We pray in Your holy name, great Trinity of Love. Amen.

ADVENT

Advent is the four weeks, including the four Sundays, before Christmas Day. Advent is a season of preparation for the coming of Christ; preparation to celebrate Jesus' birth at Christmas, to receive faithfully the risen Christ who comes to us in Word and Spirit, and to await with hope Christ's coming in final victory. The word Advent comes from the Latin *adventus*, which means "coming". The color for the season is purple, which symbolizes both penitence and royalty.

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:26-38

The Birth of Jesus Foretold

²⁶ In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, ²⁷ to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. ²⁸ And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." ²⁹ But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. ³⁰ The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. ³¹ And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. ³² He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. ³³ He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." ³⁴ Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" ³⁵ The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you;

therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. ³⁶ And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. ³⁷ For nothing will be impossible with God.” ³⁸ Then Mary said, “Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word.” Then the angel departed from her.

Hymn “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Purple #88
*O Come, O Come Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!*

CHRISTMAS SEASON

Christmas Season begins with Christmas Eve or Christmas Day and continues through the Day of Epiphany (January 6th). The Christmas Season is the time of celebration, thanksgiving, and praise for God present with us in Jesus Christ. Christmas Day was first celebrated on December 25 in Rome sometime between 336 and 354 C.E. A pagan winter solstice festival, the birthday of the unconquered sun, was already celebrated on December 25th. Christians adopted that date to celebrate the birth of the Son of God. Christians have often adapted and transformed the customs of the world around them. The colors of the season are white and gold.

Scripture Reading: Luke 2:1-7

The Birth of Jesus

2 In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. ² This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. ³ All went to their own towns to be registered. ⁴ Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. ⁵ He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. ⁶ While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. ⁷ And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

***Hymn** “Joy to the World” Purple #134 v. 1
*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.*

EPIPHANY

The word Epiphany is from the Greek word *epiphaneia*, which means “manifestation.” On the Day of Epiphany, January 6, we celebrate Jesus being revealed to the world and the visit of the wise men, the first Gentiles to whom Jesus was made known. Scripture doesn’t say how many wise men came to Bethlehem. At various times tradition has set the number from two to twelve. However, because three gifts are mentioned, we usually think of three wise men or Magi. When January 6th falls on a weekday, churches that do not have services on the 6th may celebrate Epiphany on the Sunday before or after. The colors for Epiphany are white and gold.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 2:1-12

The Visit of the Wise Men

2 In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ² asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” ³ When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴ and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. ⁵ They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

⁶ ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

⁷ Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸ Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” ⁹ When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰ When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. ¹¹ On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. ¹² And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Hymn

“What Star is This, With Beams So Bright”

Purple #152 v. 1,2

What star is this, with beams so bright, more lovely than the noonday light?

‘Tis sent to announce a newborn king, glad tidings of our God to bring.

‘Tis now fulfilled what God decreed, “From Jacob shall a star proceed”;

And lo! The eastern sages stand to read in heaven the Lord’s command.

LENT

Lent begins on Ash Wednesday and ends on the Saturday before Easter. Lent lasts forty days, not counting Sundays. Sundays aren't counted because Sunday always celebrates Jesus' victory over sin and death. Lent is a season of preparation for the celebration of Easter. The word Lent comes from the Anglo-Saxon *lencten*, which means "spring," the time of the lengthening of days. At first Lent was a time to prepare new converts for baptism on Easter Eve. Eventually, Lent became a time of reflection and self-examination for all Christians. The color of Lent is purple, a royal color that also signifies penitence and preparation.

Scripture Reading: Mark 8:34-37

³⁴ 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. ³⁵ 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. ³⁶ For what will it profit them to gain the whole world and forfeit their life? ³⁷ Indeed, what can they give in return for their life?

Hymn

"When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

Purple #223 v. 1,2

*When I survey the wondrous cross on which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count by loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.*

GOOD FRIDAY

Good Friday is the Friday before Easter. In the Old English usage good meant "of God". Good Friday is God's Friday: Jesus' death shows God's salvation. The worship space is either void of decoration and color, or black is used.

*Call to Confession

With sincere and repentant hearts, let us name our sins against God and one another. Join me as we pray in silence.

*Silent Prayer of Confession

*Assurance of Pardon

One: This is the good news: God remembers! Not our sins, not our foolish lives, not our rebellion. God remembers us – and redeems us!

All: **God prepares the way for us – the way to grace, to hope, to new life.
Joyfully, we offer our thanks to God. Amen.**

***Singing With Thanksgiving** “When I Survey the Wondrous Cross” Purple #223 v. 4
*Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a present far too small;
Love so amazing, so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.*

THE EASTER SEASON

Easter Sunday is the first Sunday after the full moon that occurs on or next after March 21, the spring equinox. Easter can be any time from March 22 through April 25. The date may differ in Orthodox Churches. The Easter Season, also known as the Great Fifty Days, begins at sunset on Easter Eve and continues through the Day of Pentecost. At this season we celebrate with joy Christ’s resurrection and ascension and the giving of the Holy Spirit on the first Easter (John 20:22-23) and on the Day of Pentecost (Acts 2). The colors for Easter are white and gold.

Scripture Reading: Luke 24:1-9 The Resurrection of Jesus

24 But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. ²They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, ³but when they went in, they did not find the body. ⁴While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. ⁵The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, “Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. ⁶Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, ⁷that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again.” ⁸Then they remembered his words, ⁹and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest.

Hymn “Jesus Christ is Risen Today” Purple #232 v. 1
*Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!
Who did once upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!*

In the early Christian church, the baptism of new believers occurred on Easter following the season of Lent which was a time of preparation for those who were learning the Christian faith for the first time. We are blessed this day to celebrate two baptisms as part of our special service.

The Sacrament of Baptism – Madison Ann and Alexis Marie Wolf

Presentation

Profession of Faith

The Apostles Creed

***Affirmation of Faith— The Apostles Creed**

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,
born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and
buried; he descended into hell;
the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth at
the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the
quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the
forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

Thanksgiving Over the Water
The Baptism
Laying on of Hands and Anointing
Welcome

***Singing With Thanksgiving** “Jesus Christ is Risen Today” Purple #232 v. 4
*Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as God’s love. Alleluia!
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Alleluia!*

PENTECOST

Pentecost is the fiftieth day after Easter. It comes from the Greek word for fiftieth, *pentekoste*. Greek-speaking Jews called the Jewish Feast of Weeks the Day of Pentecost. Acts tells how the anxious and fearful disciples, who had gathered on the Day of Pentecost, were filled with the Holy Spirit and thereafter preached boldly the gospel of Jesus Christ. The color for Pentecost is Red, the color of fire, which represents the Holy Spirit.

Hymn “Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness” Purple # 291, Refrain
*Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free.
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.*

SEASON OF PENTECOST (ORDINARY TIME)

The Season of Pentecost, called Ordinary Time, runs from the day after Pentecost through the Saturday before the first Sunday in Advent. It is a time of growth, and the color is green which symbolizes growth in Christ. White is used on Trinity Sunday, All Saints Sunday and Christ the King Sunday. Churches emphasize Jesus’ teachings about the kingdom of God. They engage issues of daily life and concerns of the

community, nation and world. The Season comes after we have remembered Christ's sacrifice on Good Friday and celebrated his resurrection on Easter and the gift of the Holy Spirit at Easter and Pentecost.

Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

The Commissioning of the Disciples

¹⁶ Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. ¹⁷ When they saw him, they worshiped him; but some doubted. ¹⁸ And Jesus came and said to them, "All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. ¹⁹ Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, ²⁰ and teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you. And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Hymn

"Now Thank We All Our God"

Purple # 643 v.1

Now thank we all our God, with heart and hands and voices, who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices; who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

CHRIST THE KING

The Sunday before the Season of Advent begins, and the last Sunday of the Season of Pentecost is Christ the King Sunday. The color for Christ the King is gold and white.

Scripture Reading: Jeremiah 36:1-8

The Scroll Read in the Temple

36 In the fourth year of King Jehoiakim son of Josiah of Judah, this word came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ² Take a scroll and write on it all the words that I have spoken to you against Israel and Judah and all the nations, from the day I spoke to you, from the days of Josiah until today. ³ It may be that when the house of Judah hears of all the disasters that I intend to do to them, all of them may turn from their evil ways, so that I may forgive their iniquity and their sin.

⁴ Then Jeremiah called Baruch son of Neriah, and Baruch wrote on a scroll at Jeremiah's dictation all the words of the LORD that he had spoken to him. ⁵ And Jeremiah ordered Baruch, saying, "I am prevented from entering the house of the LORD; ⁶ so you go yourself, and on a fast day in the hearing of the people in the LORD's house you shall read the words of the LORD from the scroll that you have written at my dictation. You shall read them also in the hearing of all the people of Judah who come up from their towns. ⁷ It may be that their plea will come before the LORD, and that all of them will turn from their evil ways, for great is the anger and wrath that the LORD has pronounced against this people." ⁸ And Baruch son of Neriah did all that the prophet Jeremiah ordered him about reading from the scroll the words of the LORD in the LORD's house.

Jeremiah 36:21-23

²¹ Then the king sent Jehudi to get the scroll, and he took it from the chamber of Elishama the secretary; and Jehudi read it to the king and all the officials who stood beside the king. ²² Now the king was sitting in his winter apartment (it was the ninth month), and there was a fire burning in the brazier before him. ²³ As Jehudi read three or four columns, the king^[a] would cut them off with a penknife and throw them into the fire in the brazier, until the entire scroll was consumed in the fire that was in the brazier.

Jeremiah 36:27-28

Jeremiah Dictates Another

²⁷ Now, after the king had burned the scroll with the words that Baruch wrote at Jeremiah's dictation, the word of the LORD came to Jeremiah: ²⁸ Take another scroll and write on it all the former words that were in the first scroll, which King Jehoiakim of Judah has burned.

Jeremiah 31:31-34

A New Covenant

³¹ The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ³² It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the Lord. ³³ But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the Lord," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the Lord; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

Message

"A New Covenant"

Rev. Diane Ziegler

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power and the glory forever. Amen

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God, with gratitude and praise.

(Offering plates are located at the front and back of the sanctuary or we invite you to give online using the QR code that is included in the bulletin announcements.)

Offertory: "Wade In The Water"

-African American Spiritual

***Doxology**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host!
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen*

***Prayer of Dedication/Offering (unison)**

Holy God, use us, and these gifts, to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and honor Your presence in all people, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Parting Hymn**

“Come Thou Long Expected Jesus”

Purple #82

Come, thou long expected Jesus, born to set thy people free; from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee. Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth thou art; dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.

***Carrying the Light**

One: As we go forth to serve,

All: **We carry the light of Christ into the world.**

***Benediction**

Postlude: “People Need the Lord”

-by Greg Nelson

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Portions of the liturgy this morning come from Next Church and the Presbyterian Mission Agency.

Church Office Hours

Office hours will be Monday, Wednesday and Friday 10-2.



Remember we now offer online giving- just scan this QR code and input your information. It's that easy! If you have any question you can contact Mike Seiler. You can also mail your gift to 72 W. Frankin Street Bellbrook, Ohio 45305.

Prayers

Rob Holten and family-George Walker- Linda Worthington's granddaughter-Kelly Settle and Family- Family of Jim Evans-Katie Henry- Family of Connie Hopkins- Family of Bob Edwards- Fidel Flores- Sharon- Alice Wiseman- Candy Garrison- Will Wiseman- Teachers, Staff and children in school-The Alternative school and staff- Mary Jo Zoller- Brian Koch-Art Neff-Betty (Katie's sister)- Those with estranged loved ones-Those who are sick and those who are dealing with anxiety-Health Care Professionals, Emergency Responders and Grocery Store Employees-Betty Cornette-Barb Wagner- Charlotte Downing-Alzheimer Patients-Cancer Patients-Caregivers -COVID patients and people in quarantine.

Worship with us online or in the sanctuary. We offer one weekly service at 10:00 a.m. This service will be live streamed. Your Wednesday Constant Contact newsletter has instructions on how to access the live stream. These instructions are also posted on the website at www.bellbrookpc.com . The service will also be recorded for later viewing. An email with the link will be sent on Sunday afternoon.

Caring for Each Other in These Days. We continue to care for each other in these days. The Session has been in conversation and reaffirmed the guidelines for our Sunday morning worship (below) as well as clarified how we will be in ministry together at other times during the week.

Reminders for each Sunday in worship:

- Remember to bring your masks and bulletins.
- Remember to wear your mask in worship.
- Remember to enter through the Fellowship, Kitchen or front sanctuary doors to be screened before entering.
- Remember to keep 6ft apart.
- Remember to respect each person's comfort level.

Outside of worship and during the week:

- **Call the office or text/email Sally or Diane BEFORE you come to the office.**
- **Masks are required in the building unless you are eating. Please take care of each other by wearing your mask.**
- **Those using the building for meetings or gatherings need to clean the area used. Disinfectant and paper towels are in the kitchen, the office, and the sanctuary. Please spray down surfaces in the area where your activity occurred and wipe them with a paper towel.**

These are expectations rather than suggestions. Please be a supportive part of this community and care for your brothers and sisters by following these guidelines. It takes everyone to continue safety in the building.