



# First Presbyterian Church

149 Broad Street

Tonawanda, New York 14150 ~ 2111

Church: (716) 692-1319

Rev. Dr. Rebecca Chaffee

**Come, Worship the Lord, Our God  
Christ the King Sunday**

CCLI License # 2839486

November 20, 2022

10:30 am

**PRELUDE**    *Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,  
for God has looked favorably on God's people and  
redeemed them.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,  
for God has called us God's own beloved and called  
each of us by name.

Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,  
for God has blessed God's creation and called us to worship.  
Blessed be the Lord God of Israel!

## **GATHERING PRAYER**

God of all times and all places,  
be with us in this time and this place.  
Just as you have spoken to your people  
through prophets and poets,  
we pray that we might hear the Word  
you speak to us today.

Just as you have spoken to your people through  
deeds and miracles,  
we pray that we might have eyes  
to see the Word you speak to us today.

Just as you have called your people  
to act in the midst of your creation,  
we pray that we might have feet to walk  
and hands to reach out;  
for the sake of your Son, in whose name we pray. Amen.

**\*HYMN:     *God is Calling #410***

## **CALL TO CONFESSION**

We do not confess our sins in the *hope* of forgiveness;  
we confess our sins with the *certainty* of forgiveness.  
For the apostle Paul assures us  
that we have been rescued from the power of darkness,  
and transferred into the kingdom of God's beloved son,  
in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.  
And so with that promise, that assurance, that redemption  
we confess our sins before God and one another.

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Holy God,

**We confess that we have neglected to declare Jesus the king and model for our lives. We have been quick to call on others to follow the ways of Christ yet slow to do the same. We have been bold in demanding generosity, mercy, and forgiveness yet quiet when it comes to offering inclusion, love, and compassion. Forgive us, O God. Restore in us, yet again, the commitment to be more Christlike in word, in deed, and in spirit. Amen.**

*Time for Silent Confession*

## **DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS**

All things, in heaven and on earth, are reconciled to God in Jesus Christ. Forgiveness is ours through faith in the Lord, in whom God was pleased to dwell. Know that you are forgiven, and be at peace.

## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

Holy God,

Through the generations you have spoken to us.  
You have sent voices crying out in the wilderness.  
You have sent the words of an overjoyed new father and an expectant mother. You have sent the assurance of a condemned man on a cross. Quiet in us any voice but your own that, by the power of your Spirit, we might hear the words you speak to us today. Amen.

**SCRIPTURE IN ACTION: Luke 1:68-79; Jeremiah 23:1-6; Luke 23:33-43**  
**Luke 1:68-79**

**The King that is to be born is the King who hangs crucified from the cross –  
*A dramatic reading by Caroline Fairless from Congregations in Bloom***

**HYMN: “Hosanna”** (please remain seated)

**by Carl Tuttle**

1. Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!  
Hosanna, Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest!

**(Refrain)** Lord we lift up Your name, with our hearts full of praise.  
Be exalted, oh Lord my God! Hosanna in the highest!

2. Glory, Glory, Glory to the King of Kings!  
Glory, Glory, Glory to the King of Kings! (Refrain)

**Jeremiah 23:5-6 (please join in as the narrator repeats these verses several times)**

The Lord says, "The time is coming when I will choose as king a righteous descendant of David. That king will rule wisely and do what is right and just throughout the land. When he is king, the people of Judah will be safe, and the people of Israel will live in peace. He will be called "The Lord of Our Salvation."

**HYMN: "Jesus, Remember Me" #227 (please remain seated)**

1. Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.  
Jesus remember me when you come into your kingdom.

**SERMON: "Christ Reigns"**

**Rev. Dr. Rebecca Chaffee**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

**THE 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.**

**CALL TO THE OFFERING**

God is our rock and our fortress. Let us celebrate our salvation by fearlessly giving a portion of what has already been given to us, either by placing it in the basket in the back of the church, or by mailing it in.

**THE OFFERTORY *How Firm a Foundation***

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Holy God,

You have looked upon your people with mercy, generosity, and love. You have granted your favor to your people, offering them redemption, salvation, and wisdom. And so we offer these gifts for your hurting and broken world. May they be multiplied to do your service. May we be strengthened to do your work. In the name of Jesus the Christ, who multiplied small gifts and fed multitudes. **Amen.**

**\*HYMN: *How Great Thou Art* #625**

**CHARGE**

Go out into the world in peace, declaring Christ the king and ruler over all creation. Go out into the world with courage, supporting the ways he gives light to those who sit in darkness and guides our feet in the way of peace.

**BENEDICTION**

And now may the holy triune God, the visible and invisible, guide your feet, strengthen your hands, and fortify your heart this day and evermore. In the name of the Creator, Sustainer, and Redeemer.

**We would like to thank Rev. Dr. Rebecca Chaffee for sharing her gifts with us today.**