



**First Church of Christ in Mansfield
(Congregational) United Church of Christ**

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All the Members, Ministers

Rev. Joseph Blotz, Pastor + Erik Haeger, Organist

Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator

THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE SERVANT KING + NOVEMBER 21, 2021

Welcome to Our Guests!

We're delighted you have joined us for worship; the members are the ministers of this church...if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us!

Playing the Chimes and Prelude

Welcome and Greeting

Opening Hymn

O Worship the King

CH17

Call to Healing and Opening Prayer Daniel 7:9-14

With striking imagery our reading from the book of Daniel presents vision the Prophet Daniel had of judgment in heaven and a dream of a Human One coming to rule in an everlasting kingdom. The ancient figure is God, and the Human One seems to be symbolic of the future people of Israel. The imagery derives from pre- Israelitic mythology and once was used to picture the beginning of a reign of a new ruler. Christians later understood the vision to be a prefiguration of Jesus' role in judgment as the divine Human One. Let us hear these words from Daniel:

As I watched, Thrones were set up, and the one who sat there was the Ancient of Days, whose clothing was snow white, with a head of hair as white as wool; whose throne was flames of fire, with wheels of burning fire. A stream of fire surged forth, flowing from the Ancient One's presence, with tens of thousands ministering, and hundreds of thousands standing in attendance. The court was convened, and the books were opened. I gazed into the visions of the night once again, and I saw, coming on the clouds of heaven, One who looked human, but somehow more than human. This Human One came to the Ancient One and was led into the divine Presence. Thus was conferred sovereignty, glory and dominion, and all peoples, nations and languages became this Human One's subjects. This sovereignty is an eternal Sovereignty which will never pass away, nor will this dominion ever be destroyed.

When is this past week have we forgotten that we live in the divine presence?

When have we forgotten that all people of all nations and all languages are siblings with us in the dominion of God?

silence

God most majestic, God most mighty, our beginning and our end: rule in our hearts and guide us to be faithful in our daily actions, worshipping the one who comes as Savior and Sovereign, and who lives and loves with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God. Amen.

Gloria Patri

Henry W. Greatorex

7

Glo - ry to the Cre - a - tor, the Christ, the Ho - ly Spi - rit, Three - in - One; as it
was in the be - gin - ning, is now and ev - er shall be, world with - out end. A - men. A - men.

The image shows two staves of musical notation in G major (one flat) and 4/4 time. The first staff contains the melody for the first line of the Gloria Patri, and the second staff contains the melody for the second line. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 93

God is Sovereign, clothed in splendid apparel;

God is robed in majesty and is girded with strength.

God has made the whole world so sure that it cannot be moved;

**Ever since the world began, your throne has been established;
you are from everlasting.**

The waters have lifted up, O God, the waters have lifted up their voice; the waters have lifted up their pounding waves.

Mightier than the sound of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, mightier is the Holy One who dwells on high.

Your testimonies are very sure,

and holiness adorns your house, O God, for ever and for evermore.

Gospel

John 18:33-37

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" Jesus answered, "Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?" Pilate replied, "I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?" Jesus answered, "My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here." Pilate asked him, "So you are a king?" Jesus answered, "You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

Reflection

Call to Prayer

Hear Us O Lord

Don Besig and Nancy Price

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Hear us, O Lord, as we come now in prayer, shar - ing our joys, our trou-bles, and our cares.
Help us, O Lord, to be o - pen to your word, and teach us to put our trust in you.

Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

For the Church: that we may become people of truth giving witness to it in our decisions and actions

For protection of the earth: that God will guide world leaders and each of us in caring for the earth and give us the courage to follow through on difficult choices to preserve our common home

For a new understanding of authority: that we may recognize God as the source of all authority and use our authority in cooperation with God's loving plan for humanity

For leaders of government and judges: that they may recognize that their authority comes from God and that it is intended for the service of the human community

For all whose commitment to the truth brings them into conflict with the social, governmental, and religious authorities: that they may learn from and be strengthened by Christ, the suffering servant of truth

For all who bear the marks of suffering, persecution, or famine: that the world community may recognize their dignity and work to alleviate their pain. In particular, we remember this day those transgender or gender-non-conforming siblings killed this past year in our nation:

Alexus	Natalia	Thomas	Kiér
Chyna	Iris	Poe	Mel
Jeffrey	Tiffany	EJ	Royal Poetical
JJ	Keri	Aidelen	Starz
Jenna	Jahaira	Taya	Zoella "Zoey"
Diamond	Whispering Wind	Shai	Jo
Rayanna	Bear Spirit,	Tierramarie	Jessi
Jaida	Sophie	Miss CoCo	Rikkey
Dominique	Danika	Pooh	Marquiisha
Remy	Serenity	Disaya	
Tiara	Oliver "Ollie"	Briana	

For all who are rebuilding their lives: that God will restore the sick to health, guide the unemployed to new opportunities, provide the needed resources to those recovering from natural disasters, and comfort those who are grieving

For the safety of all travelers: that God will protect all who are traveling this week and help them to have renewing visits with family and friends

For transformation of our attitudes: that we may follow Christ in using our power and abilities to wash the feet of others, speak up for those who are oppressed, and help carry the burdens of those who are suffering

For a spirit of gratitude: that we may recognize all our skills, opportunities, and freedoms as gifts from God and place them at the service of God and one another

Please pray the Prayer of Jesus in whatever language is most comfortable for you.

The following are offered as examples...

**Our Father/Mother/Creator,
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/sins/trespases,
as we forgive our debtors/those who sin/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, forever. Amen.**

Musical Offering

The Lord Hears the Cry of the Poor

John Foley, S.J.

Offerings may be placed in the plates, mailed to: First Church of Christ in Mansfield UCC, Box 36, Mansfield Center, CT 06250, or given online at www.myfcc.info

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here be low; Praise
5 God for all that love has done: Cre - a - tor, Christ and Spi - rit, One. A - men!

Prayer of Dedication

God of endless generosity, we bring our offerings to you; grow our hearts in giving and in compassion for those our gifts will touch and bless. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn

Soon and Very Soon

Andrae Crouch

Soon and ve - ry soon, we are going to see the King!
No more cry - ing there,
No more dy - ing there,

5
Soon and ve - ry soon, we are going to see the King!
No more cry - ing there,
No more dy - ing there,

9
Soon and ve - ry soon, we are going to see the King! Hal-le -
No more cry - ing there,
No more dy - ing there,

13
lu - jah! Hal - le - lu - jah! We're going to see the King!

Benediction

The Week Ahead...

- | | |
|------------------------|--|
| Sunday, November 21 | 10:15am Worship and Worship Circle
2:15pm Walk for Warmth at Jillian Square |
| Monday, November 22 | 10am First Church leads Worship at St Joseph Living Center |
| Tuesday, November 23 | 7pm Prayers at the End of the Day on Facebook Wednesday, |
| Wednesday, November 24 | 1pm Book Group in Fellowship Hall |
| Sunday, November 28 | 10:15am Worship and Worship Circle
6pm Tree Lighting, Carols, and Cookies |

First Church Giving Opportunities

1st Sunday of the Month- Supportive Friends Sunday

- First Church Deacon's fund
- The Community Meal program
- "Love Offerings" honoring our friends and family

2nd Sunday of the Month- Sheltering Sunday

- Holy Family Shelter & the No-Freeze Shelter
- Our First Church Building fund

3rd Sunday of the Month- Sustenance Sunday

Welcoming gifts of food items and funds for:

- The Soup Kitchen
- Our First Church Blessing Box
- Tuna Church for Access Agency

4th Sunday of the Month- School & Service Sunday:

- Items for Church World Service School Kits and Hygiene Kits