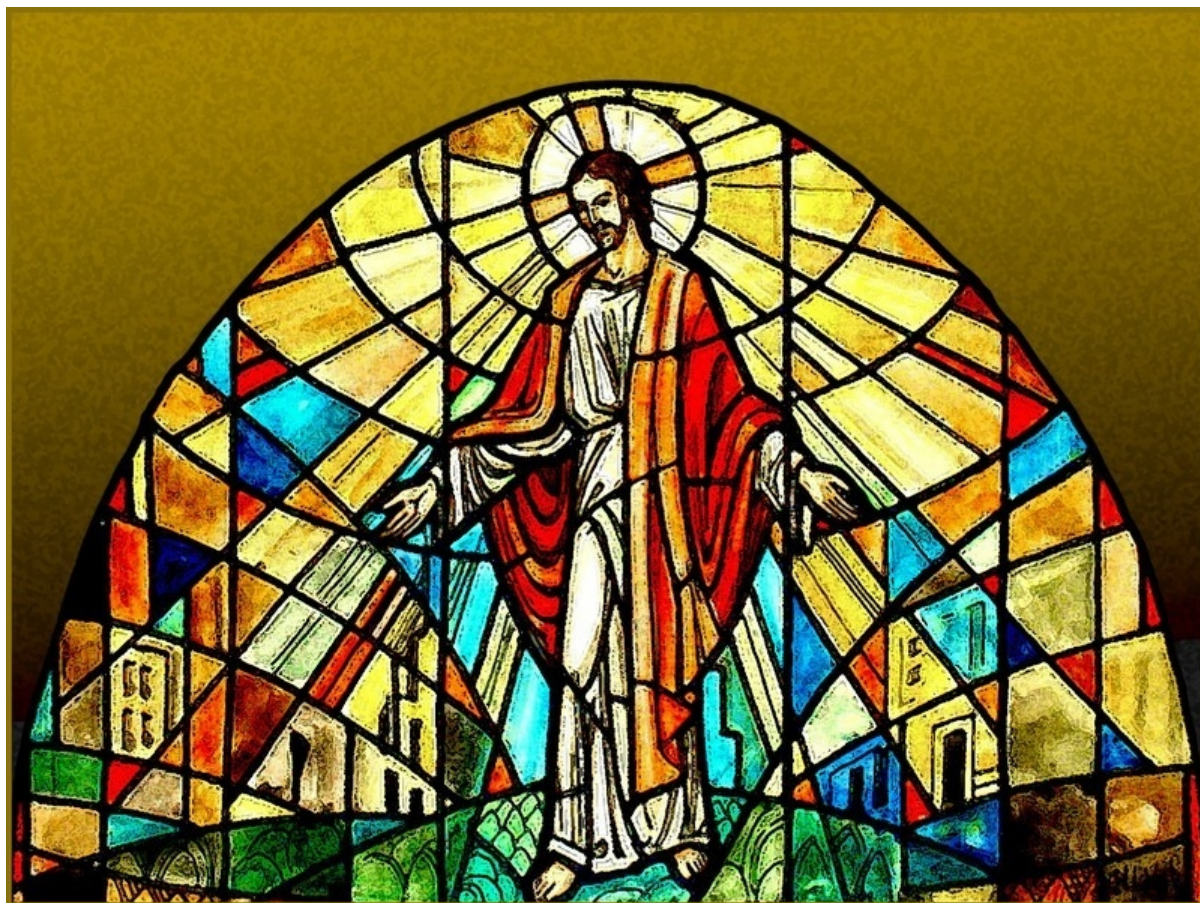


**Sunday Worship- November 22, 2020**



## **Reign of Christ Sunday**

**First Presbyterian Church of Mount Vernon, Iowa**

*“Striving to live as Jesus lived –  
confronting injustice with love, compassion, service.”*

## Welcome to Worship

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE HOUR

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT AND LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP (Psalm 95:1-7)

L: O come, let us sing to the LORD;  
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

**P: Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;  
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!**

L; For the LORD is a great God,  
and a great King above all gods.

**P: In his hand are the depths of the earth;  
the heights of the mountains are his also.**

L: The sea is his, for he made it,  
and the dry land, which his hands have formed.

**P: O come, let us worship and bow down,  
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!**

**ALL: For he is our God,  
and we are the people of his pasture,  
and the sheep of his hand.**

HYMN #268 Crown Him with Many Crowns

*1: Crown him with many crowns,  
the Lamb upon his throne.  
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns  
all music but its own!  
Awake, my soul, and sing  
of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless king  
through all eternity.*

*2: Crown him the Lord of love;  
behold his hands and side,  
rich wounds, yet visible above,  
in beauty glorified:  
no angel in the sky  
can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends his burning eye  
at mysteries so bright.*

*3: Crown him the Lord of peace,  
whose power a scepter sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,  
absorbed in prayer and praise.  
His reign shall know no end;  
and round his pierced feet  
fair flowers of paradise extend  
their fragrance ever sweet.*

*4: Crown him the Lord of years,  
the potentate of time,  
creator of the rolling spheres,  
ineffably sublime.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail!  
for thou hast died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail  
throughout eternity.*

PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION

L: In Christ, God came to reconcile all things,  
making peace through the blood of the cross.  
Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin:

**All: Righteous God,  
you have crowned Jesus Christ as Lord of all.  
We confess that we have not bowed before him,  
and are slow to acknowledge his rule.  
We give allegiance to the powers of this world,  
and fail to be governed by justice and love.  
In your mercy, forgive us.  
Raise us to acclaim him as ruler of all,  
that we may be loyal ambassadors,  
obeying the commands of our Lord Jesus Christ.**

Time of Silence

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: God has rescued us from the power of evil  
and claimed us for the realm of Jesus Christ,  
in whom we have redemption.  
In the name of Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.  
**All: Thanks be to God. Amen!**

RESPONSE #750 Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil

*Goodness is stronger than evil; love is stronger than hate;  
light is stronger than darkness; life is stronger than death.  
Victory is ours; victory is ours through God who loves us.  
Victory is ours; victory is ours through God who loves us.*

### PASSING OF THE PEACE

L: In Christ, we are a new creation.  
**P: The old is passed away, and we live as signs of reconciliation and love.**  
L: The peace of Christ be with you.  
**P: And also with you.**

### DISCOVERY TIME

### SCRIPTURE

L: In the beginning was the Word.  
**P: And the Word was with God, and the Word was God.**  
L: And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us.

Matthew 25:31-46 (NRSV) – The Judgment of the Nations

*Reader 1:* “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.

*Reader 2:* 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.’

*Reader 1:* 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?’

*Reader 2:* 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.’

*Reader 1:* 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.’

*Reader 2:* 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.”

L: For the Word of God in scripture, for the Word of God among us, for the Word of God within us,  
**P: Thanks be to God.**

## REFLECTION ON THE WORD

HYMN #134 Joy to the World!

*1: Joy to the world! the Lord is come;  
Let earth receive her King;  
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n and nature sing,  
And heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.*

*2: Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns;  
Let all their songs employ,  
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat the sounding joy,  
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*3: No more let sin and sorrow grow,  
Nor thorns infest the ground;  
He comes to make his blessings flow  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as the curse is found,  
Far as, far as the curse is found.*

*4: 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.*

## SHARING OF JOYS & CONCERNS AND 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 FOR THE OFFERING

L: God has shown us the meaning of generosity  
in the beautiful diversity of creation,  
in the overflowing love of Jesus Christ,  
in the never-ending gift of the Holy Spirit.  
God has abundantly blessed us and called us  
to be a community that honors each other,  
to be servants to others with joy,  
to share our love and material possessions.  
Let us rejoice in what we have been given  
and in what is ours to give.

## OFFERTORY DANCE PARTY!!!!

SONG OF RESPONSE #70 What Does the Lord Require of You?

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

L: Let us pray our thanks together.

**All: God of extravagant mercy,  
with hands outstretched you have poured out  
wonder and pleasure and delight,  
goodness and beauty and bounty.  
So take these offerings, we pray, as our protest against all  
that is evil and ugly and impoverished,  
trivial and wretched and tyrannical,  
in our world and in ourselves—  
And thus may we and others know ourselves to be blessed. Amen.**

## HYMN #273 He Is King of Kings

*Refrain:  
He is King of kings;  
he is Lord of lords,  
Jesus Christ, the first and last,  
no one works like him.  
O he is King of kings;  
he is Lord of lords,  
Jesus Christ, the first and last,  
no one works like him.*

*1: He built his throne up in the air;  
no one works like him;  
and called his saints from everywhere;  
no one works like him. [Refrain]*

*2: He pitched his tents on Canaan ground;  
no one works like him;  
and broke oppressive kingdoms down;  
no one works like him. [Refrain]*

*3: I know that my Redeemer lives;  
no one works like him;  
and by his love sweet blessing gives;  
no one works like him. [Refrain]*

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE