





Presbyterian
Community Church
of the Rockies

November 26, 2023

Christ the King Sunday

"Created in the image of God we are called to reflect God's glory. We do this best when we love as God loves and reflect God's personal and particular care for the whole of creation—a creation where we are very much at home." Anna Case-Winters, Professor of Theology at McCormick Theological Seminary.

TIME OF QUIET PREPARATION

Worship begins with the prelude. Please quiet and prepare yourself for worship. Relax your body; quiet the inner dialogue of your mind; be open and receptive to God's Spirit in our midst.

PRELUDE "Prelude in C, BWV 531" J.S. Bach
Organist, Isaac Johnson

CHORAL INTROIT

WELCOME The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Let the heavens be glad and let the earth rejoice!
Christ will reign forever and ever.
The Lord is robed in majesty and girded in strength.
Christ will reign forever and ever.
God has established the world and God's realm will never be shaken.
Christ will reign forever and ever.

***OPENING HYMN NO. 421** "The Church in Every Age" WAREHAM

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Merciful God, You have crowned Jesus Lord of all, and yet we are slow to acknowledge him. Instead, we give allegiance to the powers of this world and fail to be governed by your law of love. Forgive us and help us acknowledge God's rule where peace and justice reign and hope is the law of our lives. And God as we give ourselves to your perfect leadership help us be loyal ambassadors to care for all of your creation.

Silent Prayer of Confession

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***RESPONSE** "Gloria Patri" (Hymnal #579)
*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.*

A READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES *Ephesians 1:15-23, NRSV*

A READING FROM THE GOSPEL *Matthew 25:31-46, NRSV*

CHANCEL CHOIR ANTHEM "Let All the Nations Praise the Lord" Leisring
Director, Rich Dixon

**Please stand if you are able.*

MESSAGE

"The Glory of Christ"

The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (Unison)

from the PCUSA study catechism

How did Jesus Christ fulfill the office of prophet? He was God's Word to a dying and sinful world; he embodied the love he proclaimed. His life, death and resurrection became the great Yes that continues to be spoken despite how often we have said No. When we receive this Word by faith, Christ himself enters our hearts, that he may dwell in us forever, and we in him.

How did Jesus Christ fulfill the office of priest? He was the Lamb of God that took away the sin of the world; he became our priest and sacrifice in one. Confronted by our hopelessness in sin and death, Christ interceded by offering himself — his entire person and work — in order to reconcile us to God.

How did Jesus Christ fulfill the office of king? He was the Lord who took the form of a servant; he perfected royal power in weakness. With no sword but the sword of righteousness, and no power but the power of love, Christ defeated sin, evil and death by reigning from the cross.

MEDITATION AND *HYMN OF THE DAY NO. 434

"Today We Are Called to Be Disciples"

KINGSFOLD

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

OFFERTORY

"Nun danket alle Gott (Bicinium)"

Georg Philipp Telemann

*DOXOLOGY

(Hymnal # 592)

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Unison?)

Glorious God, Today we offer these gifts and promises from our hearts to do here on earth those things that are of your heavenly realm. As we celebrate these gifts, let us look forward to the festival where we experience how our they transform lives. May they feed the hungry, welcome the stranger, and clothe the naked. We pray in the name of Jesus the Christ, Lord and Savior, Amen.

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*The congregation responds, "Let your will be done, on earth as in heaven."
following each petition which concludes, "God, in your grace.."*

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Unison)

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.

LIFE OF THE COMMUNITY

(Not merely announcements, but the activities of our life together that reflect our day-to-day responses to God's call for faithfulness and your invitation to join in!)

*HYMN OF SENDING NO. 263

"Immortal Invisible God Only Wise"

ST. DENIO

*BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

POSTLUDE

"Variations on St. Denio"

Christa Rakich

The Week Ahead

Monday, November 27

9:00 am—Membership and Hospitality

4:00 pm—Sign Choir

Tuesday, November 28

2:00 pm—Advent Study Group #1

Wednesday, November 29

10:00 am—Advent Study Group #2

12:00 pm—Bible Study

4:00 pm—Joyful Bells

6:30 pm—Advent Study Group #3

Thursday, November 30

10:00 am—Staff Meeting

4:00 pm—Chancel Bells

6:30 pm—Chancel Choir

Saturday, December 2

9:00 am—Card-Making Group

Sunday, December 3

8:15 am—Adult Sunday School

8:30 am—Journeys (Online and in-person)

10:00 am—Worship (Livestream available)

See the full church calendar on www.pccrusa.org

Church Staff

Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Christine Dempsey, pastor@pccrusa.org

Office Administrator: Meredith Ishida, office@pccrusa.org

Financial Manager: Carolyn Hull, finance@pccrusa.org

Handbell Director: Patti Dolezal, music@pccrusa.org

Organist: Larry Gillum

Choir Director: Rich Dixon

Elders

Jan Boatman • Dot Rohrbaugh • Sue Yowell • Jim Nussbaumer

Bill Solms • Pat Waltermire • Nancy Almond • Curtis Fox • Judy

Schaffer • Steve Wilson • Clerk of Session: Barb Cole

Deacons

Sharyn Gartner • Carol Pearson • Tami Scafe • Robert Sherrod

Bill Almond • Mimi Harndorf • Diane Palmer • Bonnie

Vanderveen • Kelley Anderson • Chuck Bonza • Deborah Webb

Announcements

Fellowship Time—Join us after worship today for coffee and treats hosted by Pete and Bonnie Vanderveen

Poinsettias for PCCR—The deadline to order poinsettias is tomorrow, Nov. 27. See the bulletin insert for details on how to honor a loved one or remember someone who has passed.

Advent Study begins this week. We are studying Walter Bruggeman's text, Names for the Messiah. These peer-led groups will meet four times in late November and December. Look in the Narthex for the signup sheets to find a time and day that works for you. If you would like to sign up, please see the sign-up sheets in the Narthex.

Passing the Peace—From the Worship and Music Committee: Let us greet one another! And let us respect one another's unique needs and desires. As we pass the peace in worship, reach out in greeting to shake hands if you are comfortable doing so. If that does not feel right for you for any reason, feel free to wave, extend an elbow, or place your hands over your heart to indicate that you would like some space today.

When life gets a little complicated, can the Deacons on the Sunshine Committee help? We would be happy to supply meals to our PCCR family who are experiencing a few clouds in their life. Please contact the office or Pastor Christine if you or someone you know would like some sunshine!



**Presbyterian
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Office hours 9:00-3:00, Monday-Thursday