# Carlisle/Kilbride Pastoral Charge
# November 22, 2026 – Reign of Christ
Kilbride 9:30 am; Carlisle 11:00 am

**Worship Leader:** Rev. Gayle MacDonald
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## WE GATHER AS GOD'S PEOPLE

### Welcome & Acknowledgement of the Land

We begin this time of worship by acknowledging that we are meeting on the land of
*(Kilbride: the Huron-Wendat, Petun, Seneca, Neutral, Anishinaabe, and most recently the Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation),*
*(Carlisle: the Neutral, Haudenosaunee, Anishinabek, and Mississaugas of the Credit First Nation),*
who continue to cry out for justice. As treaty people, we commit to listen, learn, and work to right the wrongs of the past and present.

### The Life and Work of the Church

**Lighting the Christ Candle:**
It is far better to light the candle than to curse the darkness.*
**The Light of Christ is in our midst.**
**(William L. Watkinson,* The Supreme Conquest and Other Sermons Preached in America*, 1907)*

**Centring Music:** MV 8 – And On This Path (v.1)
*Words: Lynn Bauman 2000; Music: Linnea Good 2003*
Lynn Bauman and Linnea Good's inclusive and welcoming hymn is given an energetic performance by the Journey Band in an arrangement by Jonathan Wong. This band is from St Mary's Road United in Winnipeg.
And on this Path

1 And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,
and on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,
and on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide!
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide! The gates are open wide!

**Call to Worship:**
Come, you who hunger. Come, you who thirst.
Come, you who have been turned away and forgotten.
Come, you who have much and carry the weight of abundance.

Come, all who seek the face of God.
**We come to worship the Shepherd King,**
**who gathers us not by our worthiness,**
**but by the measure of our love.**
Listen. Do you hear it?
The cry of the forgotten echoes through these walls.
The voice of the excluded calls us home.
The Jesus who sits in judgment does not judge as the world judges—
he measures us by our kindness,
our courage,
our willingness to see divinity in the least.
**We come to be transformed.**
**We come to learn again what it means to follow Jesus.**
**We come to offer ourselves to the work of justice and love.**
This is Christ the King Sunday—
not a coronation in power,
but a revelation of power made visible in the breaking of bread,
in the clothing of the naked,
in the visiting of the imprisoned,
in the hospitality of the stranger.
**Let us worship the Shepherd King**
**who calls us to his side,**
**not because we have earned it,**
**but because we are willing to love as he loves.**

**Opening Prayer:** VU 214
Mighty and tender God,
voice of the voiceless,
power of the powerless:
we praise you for your vision
of a community of wholeness,
a realm of peace,
in which all who hunger and thirst are nourished,
in which the stranger is welcomed,
the hurting are healed,
and the captive set free.
**Guide us by your truth and love,**
**until we and all your people**
**make manifest your reign of justice and compassion.**
**We pray in the name of your anointed one, our servant-king,**
**to whom with you and the Spirit, one Holy God,**
**be honour, glory and blessing**
**this day and forever. Amen.**

**Hymn:** VU 820 – Psalm 100: Make a Joyful Noise

*Words & Music: Linnea Good 1991; arr. David Kai 1994*
Here is the composer's official music video: Linnea Good performs her hymn at the Epiphany Explorations conference in Victoria, BC, alongside her husband and musical partner David Jonsson on drums and their friend and colleague Alex Rempel on bass. In the Vulgate or principal Latin version of the Bible, this psalm begins with and is known as "Jubilate Deo," which means "Rejoice in God."
Linnea Good - Make a Joyful Noise (Official music video)

*Make a joyful noise all the earth!*
*Worship your God with gladness.*
*Make a joyful noise all the earth.*
*Come to this place with a song!*

1 Know that your God has made you.
Know it's to God we belong.
And come to this place with joyfulness and praise.
Worship your God with a song! R

2 Enter these gates, thanks giving.
Enter these courts with praise.
Sing thanks to your God and bless the holy Name.
Worship your God with a song! R

3 Ages through endless ages,
seasons of endless years,
the love of our Maker ever shall endure.
Worship your God with a song! R

**Prayer for Grace**

**Assurance of Grace:**
The past is finished and gone. In Christ, everything begins new again. This is the Good News of the Gospel.
**Thanks be to God.**

**Sung Response:** MV 8 – And On This Path (v.2)
*Words: Lynn Bauman 2000; Music: Linnea Good 2003*
And on this Path

2 So enter in, the games of holiness are open wide,
so enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide,
so enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide!
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide! The gates are open wide!

**Prayer for Illumination:**

Holy and Loving God, may these words passed through the centuries, and translated faithfully, stir our hearts and our minds that we may catch a glimpse of your presence and a sense of you word for us this day. Amen.

## Readings from Our Christian Tradition

**Hebrew Scripture:** Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24
*God will shepherd Israel*
34:11 For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep and will sort them out.
34:12 As shepherds sort out their flocks when they are among scattered sheep, so I will sort out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness.
34:13 I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries and bring them into their own land, and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land.
34:14 I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel.
34:15 I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD.
34:16 I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strays, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.
34:20 Therefore, thus says the Lord GOD to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep.
34:21 Because you pushed with flank and shoulder and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide,
34:22 I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged, and I will judge between sheep and sheep.
34:23 I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them; he shall feed them and be their shepherd.
34:24 And I the LORD will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the LORD, have spoken.

**Gospel:** Matthew 25:31-46

**Sung Response:** MV 114 – Behold the Face of Christ (repeated throughout Gospel reading)
*Words & Music: Bernadette Farrell 2002*
Although we are using different scripture, this recording from First United in Waterloo, Ontario, provides a good introduction to Bernadette Farrell's gentle chant. Kenny Muth leads the singing while Music Director Kathleen King-Martin accompanies on piano.
Behold the Face of Christ | More Voices #114

***Behold the face of Christ,***
***O Jesus Christ, O Living Christ,***
***You rise among your people.***

**Reader (CUC: Sheila):** 25:31 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.
25:32 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,
25:33 and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.
25:34 Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world,
25:35 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,
25:36 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."

**Gayle:** 25:37 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?"

***Behold the face of Christ,***
***O Jesus Christ, O Living Christ,***
***You rise among your people.***

**Gayle:** 25:38 "And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing?"

***Behold the face of Christ,***
***O Jesus Christ, O Living Christ,***
***You rise among your people.***

**Gayle:** 25:39 "And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?"

***Behold the face of Christ,***
***O Jesus Christ, O Living Christ,***
***You rise among your people.***

**Reader:** 25:40 And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me."
25:41 Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels,"

**Gayle:** 25:42 "for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink,"

***Behold the face of Christ,***

***O Jesus Christ, O Living Christ,***
***You rise among your people.***

**Gayle:** 25:43 "I was a stranger and you did not welcome me,"

***Behold the face of Christ,***
***O Jesus Christ, O Living Christ,***
***You rise among your people.***

**Gayle:** "I was naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me."

***Behold the face of Christ,***
***O Jesus Christ, O Living Christ,***
***You rise among your people.***

**Reader:** 25:45 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."
25:46 And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life.

**Response:**
May we hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
Let the people say "Amen."
**Amen.**

**Reflection**

**Hymn:** VU 701 – What Does the Lord Require of You? (2x)
*Words & Music: Jim Strathdee 1986*
Although there is no description given for this video, I can state with some confidence that this is Christina Cichos singing and Music Director Bryn Nixon providing piano accompaniment and percussion. These musicians hail from Pacific Spirit United in Vancouver, which boasts "one of the largest United Church music programs in Canada."
What Does the Lord Require of You - Voices United 701

1 What does the Lord require of you?
What does the Lord require of you?

2 Justice, kindness,
walk humbly with your God.

3 To seek justice, and love kindness,
and walk humbly with your God.

**Offertory:** MV 191 – What Can I Do?

*Words & Music: Paul Rumbolt and Michele McCarthy; arr. Alan C. Whitmore 2005*
Paul Rumbolt, one of the hymn's co-composers, performs this offertory, accompanying himself on acoustic guitar.
What Can I Do?

What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

**Dedication of the Offering:**
Our heavenly Father:
by your generosity we have received
all that we have and all that we are.
Grant that we may so use
the things you have entrusted to our care,
that we may become more and more your children
in spirit and in truth,
through Jesus, our Christ. Amen.

**Prayers of the People:**
Sing into prayer: VU p. 865 refrain "Hear our prayer"
*Words & Music: George Whelpton 1897*

Hear our prayer, O God,
hear our prayer, O God;
incline your ear to us,
and grant us your peace.

**Prayer of Jesus:** (alternate version)
*(Jim Cotter, VU 916, 1988)*
**Eternal Spirit,**
**Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,**
**Source of all that is and that shall be.**
**Father and Mother of us all,**
**Loving God, in whom is heaven:**

**The hallowing of your name echo**
**through the universe!**
**The way of your justice be followed**
**by the peoples of the world!**
**Your heavenly will be done**
**by all created beings!**
**Your commonwealth of peace and freedom**
**sustain our hope and come on earth.**

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.**
**In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.**
**In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.**
**From trials too great to endure, spare us.**
**From the grip of all that is evil, free us.**

**For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,**
**now and for ever. Amen.**

**Hymn:** MV 145 – Draw the Circle Wide
*Words & Music: Gordon Light 1994*
This recording can be found on Curran Reichert's 2019 album of the same name. With at least four published albums, Reichert is a pastor at First Congregational Church (within the United Church of Christ) in Sonoma, California. Her biography on FCC's website states, "The slightly irreverent Reverend Dr. Curran Reichert has been stirring up 'good trouble' and serving up questions that challenge us to grow spiritually for the past seven years at FCC. She believes in the power of Spiritual community to be a force for good in the world. Curran is highly educated and completely dedicated to making Sonoma Valley a more just and equitable place."
Draw the Circle Wide

*Draw the circle wide.*
*Draw it wider still.*
*Let this be our song, no one stands alone,*
*standing side by side,*
*draw the circle wide.*

1 God the still-point of the circle,
'round whom all creation turns;
nothing lost, but held forever,
in God's gracious arms. R

2 Let our hearts touch far horizons,
so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders,
faithful to God's call. R

3 Let the dreams we dream be larger
than we've ever dreamed before;
let the dream of Christ be in us,
open every door. R

**Commissioning & Benediction**

**Online Postlude:** Chichester Psalms, movement 1

Chichester Psalms is a three-movement choral composition by Leonard Bernstein, scored for boy soprano or countertenor, choir, and orchestra and also in a version with a smaller ensemble of organ, harp, and percussion. It was commissioned for Chichester Cathedral as part of the Southern Cathedrals Festival in 1965. While the introduction – which sounds like dissonant, clanging bells telling the listener to awaken – uses a quotation from Psalm 108, the remainder of movement 1 sets text from Psalm 100 in the original Hebrew. Atlanta Master Chorale performed the piece for a 2024 concert featuring sacred music from around the world. If this festive movement feels as if it is skipping energetically, it is because of the unusual meter: it is written in 7/4 time, split into asymmetrical beats of 2+2+3.

Chichester Psalms: Movement 1 (Bernstein) | Atlanta Master Chorale