

November 23, 2025
Christ the King Sunday
Montevallo Presbyterian Church

Prelude “Thanksgiving Medley” Magnus Eck

Welcome and Invitation to Worship
The Rev. Wayne McLaughlin

Introit “Jesus, Remember Me”

Call to Worship Jim Chomicz *1 Chronicles 29*

Blessed may you be, O God of Israel, from eternity to eternity.

Yours, O God, are grandeur and power, majesty, splendor, and glory.

For all in heaven and on earth is yours; yours,
O God, is the sovereignty;
you are exalted as head over all.

In your hands are power and might; it is yours to give grandeur and strength to all.

Therefore, our God, we give you thanks, and we praise the majesty of your name.

Opening Prayer

Hymn #363 *Rejoice, the Lord Is King*

Call to Confession

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.

Prayer of Confession

**Righteous God, you have crowned Christ as Lord of all.
We confess that sometimes we are slow to
acknowledge his rule.**

**Instead, we bow to technology or a political party or to
our own selfish ambitions. Instead of being governed by
justice and love, we allow ourselves to be ruled by anger
or greed or envy. Make us come to our senses, so that
our lives will show forth your sovereign grace. For you
have appointed us as royal ambassadors
of your kingdom.**

**May the Holy Spirit strengthen us. We pray in the name
of Jesus the Lord.**

Assurance of God's Forgiveness *Colossians 1.13-14*

Musical Response "You Are the Lord, Giver of Mercy!"

You are the Lord, giver of mercy!
You are the Christ, giver of mercy!
You are the Lord, giver of mercy!

The Peace

The peace of Christ be always with you.
And also with you.

The people may exchange greetings of peace.

Prayer for Illumination

Hebrew Scriptures Jeremiah 23:1-6

A righteous shepherd for Israel

23:1 Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the LORD.

23:2 Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD.

23:3 Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply.

23:4 I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall no longer fear or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the LORD.

23:5 The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

23:6 In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Response

Luke 1.68-79

Canticle of Zechariah

Blessed are you, the Most High God of Israel—
for you have visited and redeemed your people.

**You have raised up a mighty savior for us
of the house of David, as you promised through
the mouths of your holy ones, the prophets
of ancient times: salvation from our enemies
and from the hands of all our foes.**

You have shown mercy to our ancestors
by remembering the holy Covenant
you made with them, the oath you swore
to Sarah and Abraham, granting that we,
delivered from the hands of our enemies,
might serve you without fear in holiness
and justice, in your presence all our days.

**And you, my son John, will be called
the prophet of the Most High,
for you'll go before Our God
to prepare the way for the Promised One,
giving the people the knowledge of salvation**

through forgiveness of their sins.

Such is the tender mercy of our God,
 who from on high
 will bring the Rising Sun to visit us,
**to give light to those who live
 in darkness and the shadow of death
 and to guide our feet
 into the way of peace.**

Anthem

“Lord Jesus, Think on Me”

Epistle

Colossians 1.11-20

A hymn to Christ, firstborn of all creation

1:11 May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, so that you may have all endurance and patience, joyfully

1:12 giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light.

1:13 He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son,

1:14 in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

1:15 He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation,

1:16 for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers--all things have been created through him and for him.

1:17 He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together.

1:18 He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.

1:19 For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

1:20 and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Gospel

Luke 23.33-43

Jesus crucified with two thieves

23:33 When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left.

23:34 Then Jesus said, "*Father, forgive them, for they do not know what they are doing.*" And they cast lots to divide his clothing.

23:35 And the people stood by watching, but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, "He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!"

23:36 The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine

23:37 and saying, "If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!"

23:38 There was also an inscription over him, "This is the King of the Jews."

23:39 One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, "Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!"

23:40 But the other rebuked him, saying, "Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation?"

23:41 And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong."

23:42 Then he said, "Jesus, remember me when you come in your kingdom."

23:43 He replied, "*Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in paradise.*"

For the Word of God in Scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us—
Thanks be to God!

Sermon

No king, unless...

A time of silence is observed

Hymn # 273

He Is King of Kings

Announcements and Invitations to Discipleship

Prayers of the People

Offering / Offertory

“A Charlie Brown Thanksgiving Theme”

Vince Guaraldi

Doxology

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
 praise Christ, all creatures here below;
 praise Holy Spirit evermore;
 praise Triune God, whom we adore.***

The Sacrament of Communion

The Invitation

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

It is truly right and our greatest joy
 to give you thanks and praise...

[the minister continues the prayer]

Therefore, we praise you,
 joining our voices with the servants around heaven's throne
 and with all the faithful of every time and place,
 who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

You are holy, O God of majesty,
and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord...
[the prayer continues...]

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,
now and forever. **Amen.**

Our Father who art in heaven...

Communion of the People

*During the distribution of the elements,
the people may sing #501 "Feed Us, Lord".*

Prayer after Communion

A Time for Children

“God of Great and God of Small”

***God of great and God of small,
God of one and God of all,
God of weak and God of strong,
God to whom all things belong,
alleluia, alleluia, praise be to your name.***

Charge and BlessingPostlude #80 “You Shall Go Out with Joy”

***You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;
and the mountains and the hills
will break forth before you;
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field
will clap, will clap their hands.
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands;
the trees of the field will clap their hands
while you go out with joy.***