

**Kindred Spirits Worship
November 23, 2025
Reign of Christ Sunday**

PRELUDE

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND AND TREATIES

One:

Called to live with respect in Creation
as Indigenous, Métis, Settler and Newcomer people,
we acknowledge that the land on which we worship, work, learn and serve,
and the water which sustains life on this land,
is of God, Creator,
and in the farthest reaches of memory
was entrusted to the original peoples who walked this land,
and to their descendants.

One:

With the coming of colonizers,
treaties were made,
but again, and again the colonizers disregarded and broke the treaties,
causing grave and lasting harm to the historic caregivers of the land,
to the generations that followed them,
and to the land itself.

All:

**Called to action for Truth and Reconciliation,
we who gather here on Treaty One territory
commit ourselves to finding faithful ways
of honouring the treaties, the land and one another
in a spirit of openhearted respect.**

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

OPENING STATEMENT

Today we crown the liturgical year by celebrating Jesus Christ as King of kings and Lord of lords, the one who rules not with violence or domination, but with justice, peace, and self-giving love. On this Reign of Christ Sunday, we also close our season of Creation Time in Pentecost, giving thanks for the earth that belongs to Christ the Creator and Redeemer. As two congregations walking together, we rejoice that the One who holds all creation in his hands also holds us together in one mission, one hope, one Lord.

Call to Worship

One: Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, the ruler of the kings of the earth.

All: To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

One: The trees of the field clap their hands; the hills sing for joy.

All: For Christ is the Alpha and Omega, the beginning and the end.

One: Come, let us worship the One before whom every knee shall bow!

All: We come in wonder, full of praise together as one people!

Opening Prayer

Eternal God, on this last Sunday of the year, we crown Christ as King of the universe and of our lives.

We give you thanks for the beauty and bounty of creation, for the changing seasons that have carried us from green to gold to harvest, and for the promise that the Lamb who was slain now reigns in power and love.

Rule in our hearts today. Teach us to live under Christ's gentle reign of justice, mercy, and peace. Bind John Black and Immanuel ever closer in your service, that together we may bear witness to the kingdom that has no end.

We pray through Jesus Christ, our Sovereign and Saviour. Amen.

HYMN VU#213 Rejoice, the Lord Is King

MOMENT TO PONDER

Take a breath and let the strangeness settle in your heart: Christ's reign is upside-down. The One who could command galaxies stoops to wash feet, the King of kings hangs helpless on a cross, and the Lord who holds all power chooses love that will not save itself if it means abandoning even one lamb, one tree, one child, or one fragile planet. In a world that still crowns domination and exploitation, Jesus quietly shows that real authority is born in service, forgiveness, and tender care for the earth and the least. And here we are, discovering the same unsettling truth: when we lay down our need to be right, our instinct to protect only ourselves, and instead stay with one another in costly love, something happens. Christ's strange kingdom breaks in among us, abundance overflows where we expected only enough, and we begin, almost without noticing, to live the way our crucified King reigns. As we carry this into our daily lives, may Christ reign through us and shine his light for the world to see.

HYMN: MV#173 Put Peace into Each Other's Hands

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Jeremiah 23:1–6 The Lord will raise up a righteous Branch

Luke 1:68–79 (VU pp. 900)

Luke 23:33–43

CHOIR ANTHEM: Come Walk with Me

REFLECTION:

HYMN: VU#2 Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

MISSION AND SERVICE

OFFERING INVITATION

On the cross, Christ the King poured out everything for the life of the world.

Let us now pour out our gifts, money, time, and lives so that his reign of justice and healing may be known in our communities and throughout creation.

Doxology VU#541 Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Dear God, receive these gifts and receive us.

Use them and use us to feed the hungry, shelter the vulnerable, heal the earth, and proclaim that Jesus not any earthly power reigns forever. Amen.

Centering Music

COMMUNITY/PEOPLE'S PRAYERS

Gracious and reigning God, we give thanks for the gift of this year now ending, for the beauty of creation in every season, for the partnership between Immanuel and John Black that multiplies joy and ministry, and for your promise, that justice and peace shall finally embrace.

We pray for our world, for places torn by violence and oppression, for lands and waters wounded by greed, for leaders who have forgotten they serve under a higher King.

Raise up shepherds after your own heart. We pray for your church that we may live now as citizens of the kingdom which is to come in its fullness.

Make us bold to name Jesus as Lord in word and deed. We pray for all who suffer, the sick, the grieving, the lonely, the forgotten.

Hear us now as we pray the prayer Jesus taught, saying together:

LORD'S PRAYER (sung) AMEN

HYMN: MV#161 I Have Called You by Your Name

Commissioning and Benediction

Christ reigns from the cross and will reign forever.

Go now as people who belong to this gentle King:

love justice, care for the earth, stay with one another.

The Lamb who was slain is making all things new, beginning with us.

And the blessing of God Almighty — Creator, Christ, and Holy Spirit — be upon you and remain with you, this day and forevermore.

Choral Blessing: Go Now in Peace (VU 964)

Go now in peace, go now in peace.

May the love of God surround you everywhere,

Everywhere, everywhere, you may go.

Postlude