

Sunday, November 21<sup>st</sup>

## Prelude

### Welcome and Announcements



### \*Call to Worship

Leader: Come! Behold the reign of Christ,

**People: like the sun rising on the cloudless morning, gleaming  
from the dew on the grassy land.**

Leader: Come! Behold the reign of Christ,

**People: a power that shall not pass away and a love that will never be destroyed.**

Leader: We belong to the reign of Christ,

**People: the Alpha and Omega, who was, and is, and is to come.**

### \*Hymn # 2 – Come, Thou Almighty King

### Call to Confession

#### Prayer of Confession

**O Holy One, you showed us what it means to live by your reign: sharing food with the hungry, freedom with the imprisoned, justice with the oppressed, and joy with the sorrowful. We ask your forgiveness, O God, for all the ways we fail to live as people who belong to your reign. Show us once more what our belonging means, for you are the beginning, you are the end, and, in every time between, you fill our lives with grace. Amen.**

#### Assurance of Pardon

#### \*Passing of the Peace

Leader: The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

#### Prayer of Illumination

**Scripture:** Matthew 5:1-12

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

#### Sermon

Guest Preacher: Katie Flood

**Affirmation of Faith:** The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth,  
and in Jesus Christ his only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

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**Special Music**

**Prayers of the People**

**\*Hymn # 134 – Joy to the World**

**\*Charge and Benediction**

**\*Congregational Response: Hymn # 606 – Doxology**

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

**Postlude**

THE TRIUNE GOD

# 2 Come, Thou Almighty King

1 Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy  
2 Come, thou in - car - nate Word, mer - ci - ful,  
3 Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred  
4 To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal

name to sing; help us to praise:  
might - y Lord, our prayer at - tend.  
wit - ness bear in this glad hour.  
prais - es be, hence ev - er - more!

Fa - ther, all glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,  
Come, and thy peo - ple bless, and give thy word suc - cess;  
Thou who al - might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart,  
Thy sov - ereign maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,

come, and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.  
Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend.  
and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of power.  
and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

The author of this Trinitarian text is unknown, but this hymn has proved popular since the middle of the 18th century, partly because of its effective use of biblical metaphors, but also because of the strength of this tune, which was composed especially for these words.

JESUS CHRIST: BIRTH

# 134 Joy to the World

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth re - ceive  
2 Joy to the earth, the Sav - ior reigns! Let all their songs  
3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in - fest  
4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the na -  
her king; let ev - ery heart pre - pare him room,  
em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains  
the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow  
tions prove the glo - ries of his righ - teous - ness  
and heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture  
re - peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing  
far as the curse is found, far as the curse is  
and won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his  
and heaven and na - ture sing,  
and  
sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.  
joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.  
found, far as, far as the curse is found.  
love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.  
heaven and na - ture sing,

While Isaac Watts did not write this text strictly for Christmas use, he did purposely cast his paraphrase of Psalm 98:4-9 in Christian terms, titling it "The Messiah's coming and kingdom." So "the Lord" here is Jesus Christ, rather than the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob.