

The Lord's Day, December 31, 2023

10:30 AM Morning Service

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Revelation 1:5b-6

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

The Voluntary for Silent Prayer

*Call to Worship: Psalm 93

Minister: The Lord reigns; he is robed in majesty; the Lord is robed; he has put on strength as his belt.

People: **Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved. Your throne is established from of old; you are from everlasting.**

Minister: The floods have lifted up, O Lord, the floods have lifted up their voice; the floods lift up their roaring. Mightier than the thunders of many waters, mightier than the waves of the sea, the Lord on high is mighty!

People: **Your decrees are very trustworthy; holiness befits your house, O Lord, forevermore.**

Unison: **Come, let us sing and praise our King!**

*Hymn of Adoration: "Rejoice, the Lord Is King" (No. 310)

1 Rejoice, the Lord is King;
your Lord and King adore!
Rejoice, give thanks, and sing,
and triumph evermore.

Refrain:

*Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!*

2 Jesus the Savior reigns,
the God of truth and love;
when he had purged our stains,
he took his seat above. [Refrain]

3 His kingdom cannot fail,
he rules o'er earth and heav'n;
the keys of death and hell
are to our Jesus giv'n. [Refrain]

4 He sits at God's right hand
till all his foes submit,
and bow to his command,
and fall beneath his feet. [Refrain]

5 Rejoice in glorious hope!
Our Lord, the Judge, shall come,
and take his servants up
to their eternal home. [Refrain]

*Prayer of Adoration and Congregational Prayer

King of Glory, Divine Majesty: Every perfection adorns your nature and sustains your throne. The heavens and earth are yours and all that is in them. Your power created the universe from nothing; your wisdom has managed all its multiple concerns, presiding over nations, families, and individuals. Your goodness is boundless. All creatures wait on you, are supplied by you, are satisfied in you. Indeed, you have provided everything we need. When we were ignorant, you made us wise unto salvation. We are poor and needy, but you bless us with Christ's unsearchable riches. We are weary, but you give us rest. We are helpless, but your strength is made perfect in our weakness. We are perplexed and tempted, but we cling to your promise, "I will never leave you nor forsake you." Blessed be your name!

Adapted from "God All-Sufficient" in The Valley of Vision

Affirmation of Faith: Heidelberg Catechism Q&A 31

Minister: Why is he called Christ, that is, Anointed?

People: **Because he has been ordained by God the Father, and anointed with the Holy Spirit, to be our chief Prophet and Teacher, who has fully revealed to us the secret counsel and will of God concerning our redemption; our only High Priest, who by the one sacrifice of his body has redeemed us, and who continually intercedes for us before the Father; and our eternal King, who**

governs us by his Word and Spirit, and who defends and preserves us in the redemption obtained for us.

Unison: To the King of the ages, immortal, invisible, the only God, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen.

***Gloria (Tune: Regent Square)**

**Glory to the King of angels, glory to the Church's King,
Glory to the King of nations; heav'n and earth your praises bring!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! To the King of glory sing!**

New Testament Reading: Hebrews 1:1-14

***Hymn of Response: "Prophets' Words Foretold a Savior" (SH No. 18)**

Prophets' words foretold a savior in Bethlehem that night
Hailed by angels, shepherds, wisemen, Emmanuel our Light.
Royal blood his kingly mantle, yet in kindness came to show
Human flesh in God's hands dealt death its final, fatal blow.
Lowly infant in a stable, make all our prayers take flight.
Coming Christ, our God incarnate, be all our soul's delight.

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The Prayers of Intercession

Unison: Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done in 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, for ever. Amen.

Minister: Father, we pray for your people throughout the world; for our denomination; for this church; and for all ministers and missionaries. We pray especially for the Mahands in England, the Mays in Peru, the Lees with RUF, and the Mugaris in Zimbabwe.

People: We pray for the leaders of our nation and all who hold authority, that they would govern according to your truth, and especially that they would resolve to protect the lives of the unborn and defenseless.

Minister: We pray for the world, especially that you would bring peace and justice and deliverance to nations and peoples oppressed by war, by disaster, by tyranny, and by evil. We pray for our brothers and sisters in these places as they offer the hope of the gospel of Jesus Christ amid great danger and opposition.

Unison Lord, hear our prayer.

Pastoral Prayer

Words of Encouragement

Minister: Now to him who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen (Ephesians 3:20)

Unison: Bless the Lord, O my soul; and all that is within me, bless His holy name.

Hymn of Thanksgiving: "O Lord Most High, with All My Heart" (No. 48; Tune: As the Hart Longs)

1 O Lord Most High, with all my heart
your wondrous works I will proclaim;
I will be glad and give you thanks
and sing the praises of your name.

2 The Lord, the everlasting King,
is seated on his judgment throne;
the righteous Judge of all the world
will make His perfect justice known.

3 Jehovah will a refuge prove,
a refuge strong for all oppressed,
a safe retreat, where weary souls
in troubled times may surely rest.

4 All they, O Lord, that know your name
their confidence in you will place,
for you have ne'er forsaken them
who earnestly have sought your face.

5 Sing praises to the Lord Most High,
to him who does in Zion dwell;
declare his mighty deeds abroad,
his deeds among the nations tell.

Worship of God through Tithes and Offerings

***Doxology (Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen)**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise Him, above ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost;
O Praise Him! O Praise Him! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

***Prayer of Thanksgiving and Dedication**

***Reading of The Holy Scriptures: Psalm 45**

Minister: This is the Word of God.

Unison: Thanks be to God for his Word!

***The Prayer for Illumination**

Sermon: Rev. Michael Allen

***Hymn of Response: "Life Up You Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" (No. 198)**

1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates!
Behold, the King of glory waits;
the King of kings is drawing near,
the Savior of the world is here.

2 A helper just he comes to thee,
his chariot is humility,
his kingly crown is holiness,
his scepter, pity in distress.

3 O blest the land, the city blest,
where Christ the Ruler is confessed!
O happy hearts and happy homes
to whom this King in triumph comes!

4 Fling wide the portals of your heart;
make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use for heav'n's employ,
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

5 Redeemer, come! I open wide
my heart to thee; here, Lord, abide!
Let me thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in me reveal.

6 So come, my Sovereign, enter in!
Let new and nobler life begin!
Thy Holy Spirit, guide us on,
until the glorious crown be won.

***Benediction**

Postlude

**Denotes congregation standing, if able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

➤ **2024 Bible Reading Plan**

We invite you to join us in reading through the Bible in 2024. Copies of the reading plan are available in the narthex.

➤ **Taking Down the Greens**

This morning after the service we will be putting away the Christmas decorations. If you are able, please stay and help. Many hands make light work; we've done this the past two years and everything was put away in record time!

➤ **Men's Fellowship Time**

Men's Fellowship Time is every **Wednesday at 7:00 AM** at Nettie's Roadside Restaurant, 2555 27th Ave Suite G-6 in Vero Beach.

➤ **Support Care Net**

January is Sanctity of Life Month. To show our support of CareNet during this month, we'll be collecting diapers (sizes 4, 5, and 6) and baby wipes. There will be a pack-n-play in the narthex throughout the month of January for your donations. CareNet runs out of diapers almost every month, so our help with this makes a big difference!