

**Service for the dispersed communities of St John's and All Saints' on the Feast of Christ the King, 22 November 2020**

**Welcome and introduction**

A moment of silence before we commence our service:

The Lord our God, the Almighty, reigns.

**Let us rejoice and shout for joy, giving God the glory.**

Glory to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;  
**as it was in the beginning is now and shall be for ever. Amen.**

**Opening prayer**

Faithful one, whose word is life: come with saving power to free our praise, inspire our prayer and shape our lives for the kingdom of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Hymn**

*Rejoice the Lord is king*  
Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

**Invitation to confession**

Jesus says, 'Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand.' So let us turn away from sin and turn to Christ, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

**The Confession**

**O King enthroned on high, filling the earth with your glory:  
holy is your name,  
Lord God almighty.  
In our sinfulness we cry to you to take our guilt away,  
and to cleanse our lips to speak your word,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**

**The Absolution**

Almighty God, who in Jesus Christ has given us a kingdom that cannot be destroyed, forgive you your sins, open your eyes to God's truth, strengthen you to do God's will and give you the joy of his kingdom, through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
**Amen.**

**Collect**

God the Father, help us to hear the call of Christ the King and to follow in his service, whose kingdom has no end; for he reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, one glory.  
**Amen.**

**Old Testament reading**

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

**Hymn**

*You laid aside your majesty*  
Noel Richards

## **New Testament reading**

Ephesians 1:15-end

## **Gospel Reading**

Matthew 25:31-end

## **Reflection** (YouTube)

Sue

## **The Creed**

Let us affirm our faith in Jesus Christ the Son of God.

**Though he was divine,  
he did not cling to equality  
with God,**

**but made himself nothing.  
Taking the form of a slave,  
he was born in human  
likeness.**

**He humbled himself  
and was obedient to death,  
even the death of the cross.  
Therefore God has raised him  
on high,  
and given him the name above  
every name:**

**that at the name of Jesus  
every knee should bow,  
and every voice proclaim that  
Jesus Christ is Lord,  
to the glory of God the Father.  
Amen.**

## **Hymn**

*King of glory, King of peace*  
George Herbert (1593-1633)

## **Intercessions**

Concluding with the The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,**

**your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin  
against us.  
Lead us not into temptation  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours  
now and for ever.  
Amen.**

## **Hymn**

*Crown him with many crowns*  
Matthew Bridges (1800-1894)

## **Closing prayer**

Stir up, O Lord,  
the wills of your faithful people;  
that they, plenteously bringing  
forth the fruit of good works, may  
by you be plenteously rewarded;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

## **Blessing and dismissal**

God the Father,  
who has given to his Son the  
name above every name,  
strengthen you to proclaim Christ  
Jesus as Lord.  
**Amen.**

God the Son,  
who is our great high priest  
passed into the heavens,  
plead for you at the right hand of  
the Father.  
**Amen.**

God the Holy Spirit,  
who pours out his abundant gifts  
upon the Church,  
make you faithful servants of  
Christ our King.

**Amen.**

And the blessing ...

Go in peace to love and serve the  
Lord.

**In the name of Christ,  
Amen**

