

## A Service of the Word for the Feast of Christ the King

Grace, mercy and peace  
from God our Father  
and the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with you

*All* **and also with you.**

This is the day that the Lord has made.

*All* **Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**



### **Hymn: Rejoice, the Lord is king**

*The organist will play one verse and we then say (or at home you may sing!)*

Rejoice, the Lord is King:  
Your Lord and King adore!  
Mortals give thanks and sing,  
and triumph evermore.  
Lift up your heart,  
Lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Jesus, the Saviour, reigns,  
The God of truth and love;  
when He has purged our stains,  
He took his seat above;  
Lift up your heart,  
Lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

His kingdom cannot fail,  
He rules o'er earth and heav'n;  
the keys of death and hell  
are to our Jesus giv'n:  
Lift up your heart,  
Lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

Rejoice in glorious hope!  
Jesus the judge shall come  
and take His servants up  
to their eternal home:  
Lift up your heart,  
Lift up your voice!  
Rejoice, again I say, rejoice!

*Charles Wesley*

### **Prayers of Penitence**

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

*All* **Lord God,  
we have sinned against you;  
we have done evil in your sight.  
We are sorry and repent.  
Have mercy on us according to your love.  
Wash away our wrongdoing and cleanse us from our sin.  
Renew a right spirit within us and restore to us the joy of your salvation;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

May the Father of all mercies cleanse you from your sins,  
and restore you in his image to the praise and glory of his name,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All*

**Amen.**

### **Collect**

Eternal Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven,  
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:  
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;  
who is alive and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

### **The Gloria**

*We say together*

Glory to God in the highest,  
and peace to his people on earth.  
Lord God, heavenly King,  
almighty God and Father,  
we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.  
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God,  
you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us;  
you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.  
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,  
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,  
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

### **First Reading**

<sup>15</sup>I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason <sup>16</sup>I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. <sup>17</sup>I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, <sup>18</sup>so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, <sup>19</sup>and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. <sup>20</sup>God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, <sup>21</sup>far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. <sup>22</sup>And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, <sup>23</sup>which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

*Ephesians 1. 15-end*

## **Psalm 95.1-7a**

- 1 O come, let us sing to the Lord;  
let us heartily rejoice in the rock of our salvation.
- 2 **Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving  
and be glad in him with psalms.**
- 3 For the Lord is a great God  
and a great king above all gods.
- 4 **In his hand are the depths of the earth  
and the heights of the mountains are his also.**
- 5 The sea is his, for he made it,  
and his hands have moulded the dry land.
- 6 **Come, let us worship and bow down  
and kneel before the Lord our Maker.**
- 7 For he is our God;

## **Second Reading**

Jesus said to his disciples: <sup>31</sup>‘When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup>All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup>and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. <sup>34</sup>Then the king will say to those at his right hand, “Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; <sup>35</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup>I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.” <sup>37</sup>Then the righteous will answer him, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup>And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup>And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?” <sup>40</sup>And the king will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.” <sup>41</sup>Then he will say to those at his left hand, “You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; <sup>42</sup>for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup>I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.” <sup>44</sup>Then they also will answer, “Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?” <sup>45</sup>Then he will answer them, “Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.” <sup>46</sup>And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.’

*Matthew 25.32-46*

## **Address**

**Organ piece for reflection:** Gabriel’s oboe, *Morricone*

## **The Creed**

**All**

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended to the dead.

On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

## **Prayers of Intercession, *followed by***

**All**

**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.**

## **The Peace**

To crown all things there must be love,  
to bind all together and complete the whole.  
Let the peace of Christ rule in our hearts.

## **Hymn: Let all the world, in ev'ry corner sing**

*The organist will play one verse and we then say (or at home you may sing!)*

Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,  
"My God and King!"  
The heav'ns are not too high,  
God's praise may thither fly;  
the earth is not too low,  
God's praises there may grow.  
Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,  
"My God and King!"

Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,  
"My God and King!"  
The church with psalms must shout:  
no door can keep them out.  
But, more than all, the heart  
must bear the longest part.  
Let all the world in ev'ry corner sing,  
"My God and King!"

*George Herbert*

## 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.

**All**      **Amen.**

## Blessing

Christ our King make you faithful and strong to do his will,  
that you may reign with him in glory;  
and the blessing of God almighty,  
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,  
be among you and remain with you always.

**All**      **Amen.**

Yours, Lord, is the greatness, the power,  
the glory, the splendour and the majesty;  
**for everything in heaven and on earth is yours.**

Yours, Lord, is the kingdom:  
**and you are exalted as head over all. Amen.**



