**THE UNITING CHURCH IN AUSTRALIA**
Ballarat Central Uniting Church

**Sunday 22nd November, 2026 – 10am**

# Feast of Christ the King (Reign of Christ)



**AS A GATHERED AND CONNECTED COMMUNITY WE COME TO WORSHIP GOD** **Luke 24: 13-24**

**GATHERING HYMN** — I rise up to worship (Chariots of Fire)

**I rise up to worship, I stand to acclaim**
**The King of all Glory, Christ Jesus His name.**
**I ask you King Jesus, fulfil this desire:**
**ignite me and make me a chariot of fire.**

***Come rule in my life, Lord Jesus Christ,***
***my King and my Master.***
***Come rule in my life, to this one goal I wholly aspire.***
***Come rule in my heart, Lord Jesus Christ,***
***my King and my Master.***
***Come rule in my life and I will be a chariot of fire.***

**To God be all blessing, as praises we sing**
**To Jesus our Saviour, all honour we bring.**
**All praise to the Spirit, come, fill and inspire,**
**equip and empower us as chariots of fire.**

Anon.

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

May the sounds of our gathering be full of joy and our worship bring gladness to every heart.
**We have come into God's presence with singing.**
We are God's sacred people, the handiwork of God's Spirit
**With grateful hearts we will continue to sing God's praise**
Come, let us continue to worship.

**ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF THE TRADITIONAL OWNERS**

**WELCOME & INTRODUCTION**

**HYMN** God of Creation Tune: Highland Cathedral

**God of creation, God of grace and love**
**Maker of all things here below, above,**
**While all the heav'ns declare your glory, Lord**
**all on the earth sing praise with one accord.**

**Son of the Father, Christ our Saviour, King,**
**Who on the cross did our salvation bring;**
**Risen to life in resurrection power,**
**Prays to the Father for us hour by hour.**

**Wonderful and wise Counsellor;**
**Lord, do that which is just;**
**Do that which is right.**
**Mighty God and the Prince of Peace,**
**Come, rule over our life today.**

**Life-giving Spirit, God's good gift of grace,**
**Presence of Jesus through all time and space;**
**Come and empower us so our lives may be**
**Spent in your service for eternity. Amen.**

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**LITANY OF CHRIST'S KINGSHIP**

We shout, "Hallelujah" and worship our God, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit! One-in-three, three-in-one!
**Hallelujah! Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb. Amen!**

Praise and glory and wisdom and thanks and honour and power and strength be to our God for ever and ever.
**Amen! You are the Lord, there is no other!**

The Lamb of God, Jesus, being in very nature God, who made us in his likeness did not consider equality with God something to be used to his own advantage. Jesus made himself nothing, a humble servant, obedient to death, even death on a cross.
**Therefore, God exalted him to the highest place and gave him the name that is above every name.**

That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.
**Jesus Christ is Lord! All glory to you, Father!**

In Christ, we are no longer foreigners and strangers, but fellow citizens with God's people and also members of his household, built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, with Christ Jesus himself as the chief cornerstone.
**We are a chosen people, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's special possession, that we may declare the praises of him who called us out of darkness into his wonderful light.**

Once we were not a people, now we are the people of God; once we had not received mercy, but now we have received mercy.
**Hallelujah! Amen. Come, Holy Spirit! Build your Church!**
Jesus Christ is the cornerstone; the firm foundation on which we stand!
**Hallelujah! Amen. Come, Holy Spirit! Build your Church!**
Baptized by water and filled with the Holy Spirit and fire, the gates of hell will not overpower it!
**Hallelujah! Amen. Come, Holy Spirit! Build your Church!**

**JOYS and CONCERNS**

**ANDY'S EARLY WORD**
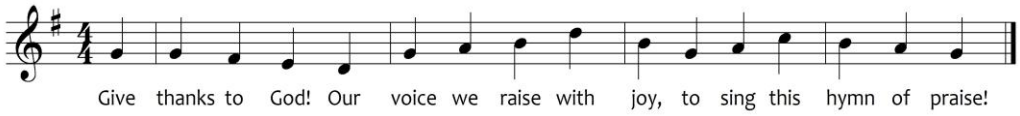
**WE HEAR AND REFLECT ON GOD'S WORD FOR TODAY**
Luke 24:25-27

**READINGS**

Your Word O lord is a lamp to our feet
**A light to our path**

**Ezekiel 34: 11-16** (The New International Version)
11 For this is what the Sovereign LORD says: I myself will search for my sheep
and look after them. 12As a shepherd looks after his scattered flock when he
is with them, so will I look after my sheep. I will rescue them from all the
places where they were scattered on a day of clouds and darkness. 13I will
bring them out from the nations and gather them from the countries, and I
will bring them into their own land. I will pasture them on the mountains of
Israel, in the ravines and in all the settlements in the land. 14I will tend them
in a good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel will be their grazing
land. There they will lie down in good grazing land, and there they will feed
in a rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. 15I myself will tend my sheep
and have them lie down, declares the Sovereign LORD. 16I will search for the
lost and bring back the strays. I will bind up the injured and strengthen the
weak, but the sleek and the strong I will destroy. I will shepherd the flock
with justice.

**Psalm 100**




Response: ***Give thanks to God. Our voice we raise with joy, to sing this hymn of praise.***

Acclaim Yahweh, all the earth
Serve Yahweh with gladness,
Come into his presence with songs of joy.

Be sure that Yahweh is God
He made us, we belong to him,
His people, the flock of his sheepfold.
***Give thanks to God. Our voice we raise***
***with joy, to sing this hymn of praise.***

Come within his gates giving thanks,
To his courts singing praise.
**Give thanks to him and bless his name!**
***Give thanks to God. Our voice we raise***
***with joy, to sing this hymn of praise.***

For Yahweh is good,
His faithful love is everlasting,
His constancy from age to age..
***Give thanks to God. Our voice we raise***
***with joy, to sing this hymn of praise.***

Graeme R. Sutton & New Jerusalem Bible October, 2026

**Ephesians 1: 15-23**

15For this reason, ever since I heard about your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love for all God's people, 16I have not stopped giving thanks for you, remembering you in my prayers. 17I keep asking that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the glorious Father, may give you the Spirit of wisdom and revelation, so that you may know him better. 18I pray also that the eyes of your heart may be enlightened in order that you may know the hope to which he has called you, the riches of his glorious inheritance in his holy people, 19and his incomparably great power for us who believe. That power is the same as the mighty strength 20he exerted when he raised Christ from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly realms, 21far above all rule and authority, power and dominion, and every name that is invoked, not only in the present age but also in the one to come.

22And God placed all things under his feet and appointed him to be head over everything for the church, 23which is his body, the fullness of him who fills everything in every way.

**Matthew 25: 31-46** (The New Jerusalem Bible)

31When the Son of Man comes in His glory, escorted by all the angels then he will take his seat on His throne of glory. 32All the nations will be assembled before him and he will separate then people one from another as the shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. 33He will place the sheep on his right hand and the goats on his left.

***Pitcairn Anthem—sung by the Choir***

*Then shall the King say unto them on his right hand:*
*Come ye blessed of my Father*
*Inherit the kingdom prepared for you*
*From the foundation of the world.*
*I was hunger'd and ye gave me meat,*
*I was thirsty and ye gave me drink*
*I was a stranger and ye took me in,*
*Naked and ye clothed me,*
*I was sick and ye visited me,*
*I was in prison and ye came unto me*
*In as much ye have done it unto one of the least of*
*These my brethren*
*Ye have done it unto me,*
*Ye have done it unto me.*

41Then he will say to those on his left hand, "Go away from me, with your curse upon you, to the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels. 42For I was hungry and you never gave me food, I was thirsty and you never gave me anything to drink. 43I was a stranger and you never made me welcome, lacking clothes and you never clothed me, sick and in prison and you never visited me. 44Then it was their turn to ask: "Lord when did we see you hungry, or thirsty, a stranger or lacking clothes, sick or in prison and did not come to your help?" 45Then he will answer: "In truth I tell you, in so far as you neglected to do this to one of the least of these you neglected to do it to me." 46And they will go away to eternal punishment, but the upright to eternal life.

May your word live in us,
**And bear much fruit to your glory.**

**A LATER WORD:** Ruler of our Days

## WE RESPOND TO THE WORD IN ACTION, WORD AND SONG

Luke 24:28-32

**OFFERING** (remain seated for the 1st 3 verses, stand on the 4th)

**HYMN** TiS 256 The Servant King

**From heaven you came helpless babe**
**Entered our world Your glory veiled**
**Not to be served but to serve**
**And give your live that we might live**
***This is our God, The servant King***
***He calls us now to follow Him***
***To bring our lives as a daily offering***
***Of worship to the servant king***

**There in the garden of tears**
**My heavy load He chose to bear**
**His heart with sorrow was torn**
**Yet not my will but Yours He said**
***This is our God, The servant King***
***He calls us now to follow Him***
***To bring our lives as a daily offering***
***Of worship to the servant king***

**Come see His hands and His feet**
**The scars that speak of sacrifice**
**Hands that flung stars into space**
**To cruel nails surrendered**
***This is our God, The servant King***
***He calls us now to follow Him***
***To bring our lives as a daily offering***
***Of worship to the servant king***

**So let us learn how to serve**
**And in our lives enthrone Him**
**Each other's needs to prefer**
**For it is Christ we're serving**
***This is our God, The servant King***
***He calls us now to follow Him***
***To bring our lives as a daily offering***
***Of worship to the servant king***

Graham Kendrick 1950

**OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Lord God, you have given to us in abundance and our very lives are evidence of your sustaining love. Our experience enables us to be giving in return, and so, aware of the incredible need all around us we open our hands, our hearts and our minds in order to share what we have been blessed with others. May what we give and what we do be used to bridge the gap that exists between those who have much and those who have little as we seek day by day to invite Jesus to rule over our lives as Saviour and King.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE—** *for the Church and the world*

**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.**
**Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil.**
**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours**
**now and forever. Amen.**

## FORGIVEN AND RESTORED—WE CAN RETURN CONFIDENTLY TO THE WORLD Luke 24: 33-35

**HYMN** TiS 224(ii) All hail the power of Jesu's name:

**All hail the power of Jesus' name!**
**Let angels prostrate fall,**
**Bring forth the royal diadem,**
**to crown Him, crown Him, crown Him, crown Him,**
**to crown Him Lord of all.**

**Crown him your martyrs of our God**
**Who from his altar call;**
**Praise him whose way of pain you trod**
**And crown him ….**

**As heirs of Israel's chosen race,**
**And ransomed from the fall,**
**Hail Him who saves you by His grace,**
**And crown Him, ….**

**Sinners, whose love cannot forget**
**the wormwood and the gall;**
**go spread your treasures at his feet**
**And crown him….**

**Let every tribe and every tongue**
**responsive to his call,**
**now shout in universal song**
**and crown him….**

*Author: Edward Perronet 1726-92 alt. Public Domain.*

**WORD OF MISSION and BLESSING**

In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, may the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, 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, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power.
Go in peace to love and serve in the way of Christ our King. **Amen.**

**RECESSIONAL***:* TiS 279 The King of glory comes

***The King of glory comes the nation rejoices***
***Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.***
**Who is the King of glory, how shall we call him?**
**He is Immanuel, the promised of ages.**

***The King of glory comes the nation rejoices***
***Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.***
**He gave his life for us, the pledge of salvation;**
**he took upon himself the sins of the nation.**

***The King of glory comes the nation rejoices***
***Open the gates before him, lift up your voices.***
***The King of Glory comes the nation rejoices.***

*Author: Willard Francis Jabusch 1930- © 1967, Willard F. Jabusch.*

**Worship Leaders:** Rev. Dr. Graeme Sutton, **Musician**: Ray Hodder, **Elder:** Miriam Peck, **Reader**: Greta Christie, Margot Cunningham, Andy Gault, **Prayers:** Karen Coad, **IT/Video/Audio** Ben Daniel, Andrew Boatman, **Welcome:** Maureen Doonan, Merriel LeMarshall. **Door Stewards:** Rod Devenish, Nancy O'Loughlin, Anita Hinton; **Morning Tea:** Bron James, Corrie Olsen, Carol Gannon, Jan Dimond

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