

The Order of Service for Home Worship

THE FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING

THE FOURTH SUNDAY of
THE KINGDOM



Hymn: **Crown Him with Many Crowns.**

1. **Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
Hark, all the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own:
Awake my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.**
2. **Crown him the Virgin's Son, the God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn;
Fruit of the mystic Rose, as of that Rose the stem,
The Root, whence mercy ever flows, the Babe of Bethlehem.**
3. **Crown him the Lord of love, behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:
No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
But downward bends each burning eye at mysteries so bright.**
4. **Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise:
His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet
Fair flowers of paradise extend, their fragrance ever sweet.**
5. **Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time,
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;
Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**
Grace and peace be with you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Father of glory, holy and eternal, look upon us now in power and mercy. May your strength overcome our weakness, your radiance transform our blindness, and your Spirit draw us to that love shown and offered to us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.

As we come into the presence of our heavenly Father let us seek his forgiveness of our sins that we may know his peace in our hearts.

Lord Jesus, you have shown us the way to the Father. **Lord, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you have given us knowledge of your truth. **Christ, have mercy.**

Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd leading us to life. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

Alleluia, alleluia, glory be to God on high;

Alleluia, to the Saviour who has gained the victory;

Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity;

Alleluia, Alleluia, to the Triune Majesty.

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; grant this for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

A reading from the book of Daniel

7. 9-10, 13, 14

As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. A stream of fire issued and flowed out from his presence. A thousand thousand served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgement, and the books were opened. As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a human being coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. To him was given dominion and glory and kingship that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 93 Response: The Lord is King, he is robed in majesty.

The Lord is King, he is robed in majesty;
the Lord he is robed
he is girded with strength. **(R)**

he as established the world;
it shall never be moved;
your throne is established from the old;
you are from everlasting. **(R)**

The floods have lifted up. O Lord,
the floods have lifted up their voice;
the floods lift up their roaring. **(R)**

More majestic than
the thunders of the mighty waters,
more majestic than the waves of the sea,
majestic on high is the Lord! **(R)**

Your decrees are very sure;
Holiness befits your house,
O Lord, for evermore. **(R)**

A reading from the Book of Revelation

1. 4b-8

Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth. To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen. Look! He is coming with the clouds; every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail. So it is to be. Amen.

'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Gospel Acclamation:-

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

"I came into the world, to testify to the truth", says the Lord. "Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice."

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to Saint John

18. 33-37

Glory to you, O Lord.

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, 'Are you the King of the Jews?' Jesus answered, 'Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?' Pilate replied, 'I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?' Jesus answered, 'My kingdom is not from this world. If my kingdom were from this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.' Pilate asked him, 'So you are a king?' Jesus answered, 'You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

Meditation: The feast of Christ the King brings the Church's year to a close and with it comes a reminder in the Gospel that the cycle of our own lives on earth will also, one day, reach its conclusion. As disciples of Christ our sure hope is that when our life in this world comes to an end we will join him in the glory of his eternal Kingdom of Heaven. For the Kingdom of Christ is not of this world, his authority is given to him by God the Father, but through his Church the Kingdom of Christ is manifested in this world. The Church is called to proclaim the truth of God, the truth of Christ and his Kingdom bringing love, joy, peace and hope to a world in need. This year the world seems more volatile, more unstable, more dangerous than it has for many years. Conflicts spread around the world affecting all of us, many are living in fear, many living with injury and bereavement. What the Church is emphasising today is the importance listening to the voice of Jesus and of turning our lives and hearts to God in response to his calling in order to bring his love, his peace to a world in turmoil through our own words and actions which should manifest the love of God and the hope he gives for a better future to those among whom we live. We are called to respond to hatred with words and actions of love, fear and despair with words and actions of hope. Today as we celebrate the Kingship of Christ over heaven and earth we celebrate that he has called us into fellowship with him and with one another, that he has called us to work with him in building his Kingdom on earth. He has entrusted this little part of his world to our care and protection. Christ reminds us in the Gospel reading today that everyone who listens to his voice belongs to the truth and everyone who belongs to the truth belongs to him and has a place in his kingdom for ever. He has gone before us to prepare a place for each of us in the Father's house where one day we will be brought to be with him forever. Today we enthrone Jesus, the King of all creation, as King of our own hearts. We thank God that he has revealed to us the

truth of his kingdom of life, his kingdom of peace, love, justice and hope. As faithful followers of Christ we pledge ourselves to working with him in building his Kingdom on earth, in proclaiming the truth of his Kingdom of love. This we do in performing small acts of charity which can mean so much, when we reach out to someone in need. When we bring hope, love, peace of mind to someone the truth of Christ the King is revealed and the boundary of his Kingdom extends further into the world. Amen.

In the power of the Holy Spirit and in union with Christ let us bring our prayers for the Church and for the world to our heavenly Father.

We pray for the Church throughout the world, for the leaders of the Church among them Mary our Bishop. We pray for the clergy and people of our diocese and for our own parish; may the Church be a faithful sign of Christ's love and compassion for all. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the people of the world, for the victims of violence and oppression, for all suffering the effects of natural disaster and for those suffering from famine or drought; that all people may come to recognise the kingship of Christ and spread his Kingdom by promoting peace and justice for all. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our own community, for our families, friends and neighbours. We give thanks for all who serve the needs of the vulnerable; May we prepare for the way for the coming of the Kingdom in our homes and our community. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are in need, for those who are sick, for those who are bereaved, for the lonely and isolated and for all in any kind of need. We hold in our hearts before God those known to us who are in need at this time and all whose names are recorded in our parish intercession books; may they be strengthened by the Holy Spirit and consoled with the love of Christ. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died. We remember before God our own departed loved ones and we pray for the recently departed and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time. May they share the eternal glory of heaven in the company of all the saints. Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We bring all our prayers to our heavenly Father as we pray together:

**Our Father,
who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name,
thy Kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom,
The power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

The Peace:

Jesus said, Peace I bequeath to you; my own peace I give you; a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.
The peace of the Lord be with you and with all those whom you love.
And also with you.

Let us pray:

God of our pilgrimage, you have willed that the gate of mercy should stand open for those who trust in you: look upon us with your favour that we who follow the path of your will may never wander from the way of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Blessing:

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Hymn: Alleluia Sing to Jesus

1. Alleluia, sing to Jesus, His the sceptre, his the throne;
Alleluia, his the triumph, his the victory alone:
Hark, the songs of peaceful Sion
Thunder like a mighty flood;
Jesus, out of every nation,
Hath redeemed us by his blood.

2. Alleluia, not as orphans are we left in sorrow now;
Alleluia, he is near us, faith believes nor questions how;
Though the cloud from sight received him
When the forty days were o'er,
Shall our hearts forget his promise,
"I am with you evermore"?

3. Alleluia, Bread of Angels, Thou on earth our food, out stay;
Alleluia, here the sinful flee to thee from day to day;
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,
Earth's Redeemer, plead for me,
Where the songs of all the sinless
Sweep across the crystal sea.

4. Alleluia, King eternal, Thee the Lord of lords we own;
Alleluia, born of Mary, Earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:
Thou within the veil hast entered,
Robed in flesh, our great High Priest;
Thou on earth both Priest and Victim
In the Eucharistic Feast.