

Season after Pentecost, Year C, Proper 29

Reign of Christ

Color: White

Scriptures: [Scripture linked to NRSV at [Oremus Bible Browser](#)]
[Jeremiah 23:1-6](#) (I will raise up a righteous Branch and he shall reign)
[Luke 1:68-79](#) (Blessed be the Lord, who has raised up a savior for the people)
or [Psalm 46](#) (God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble)
[Colossians 1:11-20](#) (In Christ, all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell)
[Luke 23:33-43](#) ("Jesus, remember me in your kingdom")

Themes: Hope, Salvation, Cross, Return and Reign of Christ

HYMN SUGGESTIONS

Hymn Suggestions link to [Hymnary.org](#), a searchable resource with a wealth of information. The tunes listed here are the ones most commonly associated with the texts, and the biblical/thematic references suggest the hymn's association with the scriptures or themes of this service.

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name (CORONATION; DIADEM; MILES LANE).....	Jeremiah, Colossians, Luke 23
Blest Be the God of Israel (MERLE'S TUNE).....	Luke 1
Crown Him With Many Crowns (DIADEMATA)	Reign of Christ, Psalm 46
Fairest Lord Jesus (ST. ELIZABETH)	Luke 23
For the Beauty of the Earth (DIX).....	Luke 1, Psalm 46
The Head That Once Was Crowned With Thorns (AZMON; ST. MAGNUS).....	Luke 23
Here in This Place (GATHER US IN).....	Jeremiah
Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun (DUKE STREET)	Jeremiah, Colossians, Luke 23
Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates (TRURO).....	Psalm 46
Rejoice, the Lord Is King (DARWALL).....	Colossians, Luke 23
Soon and Very Soon (SOON AND VERY SOON).....	Colossians
What Wondrous Love Is This (WONDROUS LOVE).....	Luke 23
You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd (PICARDY).....	Jeremiah, Luke 23

ANTHEMS

E = Easy, M = Moderate, MD = Moderately Difficult

Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation – M

.....Colossians, Luke 23
WESTMINSTER ABBEY/Jeremy Bankston, arr.
© 2018, MorningStar Music, 60-7040
SATB, opt. Congregation, opt. 2 Trumpets, Timpani

Coronation – ME Colossians

Craig Courtney
© 1986, Beckenhorst Press, BP 1273
2-Part Mixed, Keyboard, opt. Horn, or Brass (4)

Crown Him With Many Crowns – E Col., Luke 23

DIADEMATA/Richard Proulx, arr.
© 2000, GIA Publications, G-4985
SATB, Organ, opt. Brass, Timpani, Percussion

God Alone Be Praised: Ad Lucem – M Psalm 46

Zebulon M. Highben
© 2016, Augsburg Fortress, 978-1-5064-4720-9
SAB, Piano, Violin or Oboe

God Is Our Refuge – ME Psalm 46

Allen Pote
© 1986, Hope Publishing, A 583
SATB, Keyboard, opt. 2 Trumpets
(also available in SSA and SAB)

King of Glory, King of Peace – E Colossians

Gerald Near
© 1989, Aureole Ed. AE 11
SATB, Organ

Let All the World in Every Corner Sing – E... Psalm 46

Paul M. Vasile
© 2009, MorningStar Music, 50-6405
Unison, Keyboard

Now the Heavens Begin to Whisper – E Luke 1

SUO GAN/Thomas Keesecker, arr.
© 2017, Augsburg Fortress, 978-1-5064-2610-5
SAB, Piano

Rejoice, the Lord is King – E Colossians, Luke 23

Malcolm Archer
© 1995, GIA Publications, G-RA604
SATB, Organ

Ride On, King Jesus – M Luke 23

African-Am Spiritual/Alice Parker & Robert Shaw, arr.
© 1963, Lawson-Gould, LG51106
SATB, a cappella

-- Youth and Children --

Come Forth! Come One! Come All! – M Colossians

Mark Roseberry/Douglas Nolan, arr. (with *MADRID*)
© 2017, Hal Leonard, 00248928
SAB, Piano

A Child Will Lead the Way – E Jeremiah

Lynn Shaw Bailey
© 2010, Lorenz Corporation, 10/4040L
Unison/2-Part, Keyboard, Percussion

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL (Prayers, Poems, Quotes & Liturgies)

*Jesus, your boundless love to me
no thought can reach, no tongue declare;
dwell in my heart eternally,
and reign without a rival there.
O Jesus, nothing may I do,
but seek my joy in serving you.*

— PAUL GERHARDT, 1653
“*Jesus, Thy Boundless Love to Me*”
translated by John Wesley, 1739

OPENING PRAYER

(based on Psalm 46 and Jeremiah 23:1-6)

In a world held captive by fear, O God, you provide refuge and strength, a way to free our hearts and minds from all that unsettles us. At a time when it is easy to get lost in the cacophony of hostile discourse, you speak to us as a gentle shepherd guiding your sheep into folds of peace and justice. Calm us now, as we are still before you. Cleanse us through the gentle breath of your Spirit. Guide us to a more peaceful and just place, that we might share these sacred gifts with all around us and thus give witness to your sovereignty in our lives and world. In the name of the Prince of Peace, our Good Shepherd, Jesus the Christ, we pray, amen.

—Christopher C.F. Chapman*

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Heart of my own heart, whatever befall, still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

from "Be Thou My Vision," Ancient Irish Poem
Translated by Mary E. Byrne, 1905

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ACT OF PRAISE

(based on Colossians 1:11-20; Mark 8:27-29, Revelation 1:8 and 7:12)

- Leader: Jesus asks, "Who do people say that I am?"
People: His disciples answer, "John the Baptist; and others, Elijah; and still others, one of the prophets."
- Leader: Today we add, "Just a man, a wise teacher, a misguided fool."
People: A leader who reflects my values, a savior who acts according to my terms."
- Leader: But then Jesus asks, "But who do you say that I am?" And we reply –
People: God's beloved Son in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.
- Leader: The image of the invisible God, the firstborn of creation.
People: The One in whom all things were created, the head of the church.
- Leader: "Who do you say that I am?" Jesus asks.
People: The One in whom the fullness of God was pleased to dwell.
- Leader: The Alpha and the Omega, the Lamb of God, the One who reigns forever and ever.
People: Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(based on Luke 23:43 and Philippians 2:1-11)

We celebrate your reign today, O Christ, while resisting it every way we can. You empty yourself and take the form of a slave while we puff ourselves up and seek status and recognition. You lay down your life to save the world while we guard our every privilege with passion and conviction. You conquer through sacrificial love while we seek influence and power. Forgive our hypocrisy and stubborn resistance. Cleanse us of all that holds us back from trusting you. Empower us with your love that we may find strength in weakness, courage to sacrifice, and wisdom to realize that nothing that really matters can be coerced or controlled. Amen.

UNISON PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

(adapted from Luke 1:78-79)

By your tender mercy: may the dawn from on high break upon us to give light, and to guide our feet into the way of peace. Amen.

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*The strangest of monarchs,
with no worldly power,
both lamb and child,
alert us to your presence
in the vulnerable and young,
the hungry and the thirsty,
the strangers and the shivering,
those who are ill,
and those who are in prison,
and in the exchange
of the simplest of gifts,
heartfelt and from the heart,
let us realize your domain among us.*

—JIM COTTER, *Unfolding the Living Word*, 2012

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BENEDICTION

Go forth into the day following, trusting, and proclaiming the peace of the Lord in all things, and in all circumstances. And may the love of God reign in your hearts now, and evermore. Amen.

* Thanks to Dr. Christopher C.F. Chapman for contributing to this week's prayers and liturgies.

Warren Howell, editor