

Reign of Christ, Proper 29A

(Sunday before Advent)

Color: White

Scriptures: [Scripture linked to NRSV at Oremus Bible Browser]

[Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24](#) (*The Lord's promise: to shepherd the people*)

[Psalm 100](#) (*We are God's people: the sheep of God's pasture; enter with thanksgiving*)

or [Psalm 95:1-7a](#) (*We are the people of God's pasture, the sheep of God's hand*)

[Ephesians 1:15-23](#) (*The reign of Christ*)

[Matthew 25:31-46](#) (*The coming King and judge; as you did to the least, you did to me*)

Themes: God as Shepherd, Praise, Reign of Christ, Servanthood, Thanksgiving

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 morning's scriptures or themes.

[All Creatures of Our God and King](#) (*LASST UNS ERFREUEN*) Psalms, Reign of Christ

[All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name!](#) (*CORONATION; DIADEM; MILES LANE*) Ephesians

[All People That on Earth Do Dwell](#) (*OLD HUNDREDTH*) Psalms

[At the Name of Jesus](#) (*KING'S WESTON*) Matthew, Reign of Christ

[Come, Thou Almighty King](#) (*ITALIAN HYMN*) Psalms, Ephesians, Reign of Christ

[Come, Ye Thankful People, Come](#) (*ST. GEORGE'S WINDSOR*) Psalms, Matthew, Thanksgiving

[Crown Him With Many Crowns](#) (*DIADEMATA*) Ezekiel, Ephesians, Matthew

[Give Thanks](#) (*GIVE THANKS*) Ezekiel, Matthew, Thanksgiving

[Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun](#) (*DUKE STREET*) Ezekiel, Ephesians, Reign of Christ

[Let All Things Now Living](#) (*ASH GROVE*) Psalms, Thanksgiving

[Now Thank We All Our God](#) (*NUN DANKET*) Psalms, Thanksgiving

[Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven](#) (*LAUDA ANIMA*, [Goss]; *LAUDA ANIMA* [Andrews]) Ezekiel, Reign of Christ

[Rejoice, the Lord is King](#) (*DARWALL*) Ephesians, Reign of Christ

[The King of Love My Shepherd Is](#) (*DOMINUS REGIT ME; ST. COLUMBA*) Ezekiel, Reign of Christ

[You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd](#) (*PICARDY*) Ezekiel, Ephesians, Reign of Christ

ANTHEMS

E = Easy, M = Moderate, MD = Moderately Difficult
(Offering Music for Christ the King/Reign of Christ AND for Thanksgiving)

Be Thou My Vision - M.....Ephesians
SLANE/Heather Sorenson, arr.
© 2012, Hal Leonard, 35028337
SATB, Piano (opt. Oboe, Violin, Cello)

Beautiful Savior - EMatthew
ST. ELIZABETH/Robert Hobby, arr.
© 1989 MorningStar Music, 60-9002
SATB, opt. Congregation, Flute, Organ

Coronation - MEEphesians
Craig Courtney
© 1986, Beckenhorst Press, BP1273
2-Part Mixed, Keyboard, opt. Horn, Brass (4)

Let All the World in Every Corner Sing - EEph.
Paul M. Vasile
© 2009, MorningStar Music, 50-6405
Unison, Keyboard

Let All the World In Every Corner Sing - MDEph.
Ralph Vaughan Williams/Craig Courtney, arr.
© 2010, Beckenhorst Press, CU1001
SATB, Piano (4-Hands)

Make a Joyful Noise Unto the Lord - MDPsalms
William Mathias
© 1965, Oxford University Press, 9780193856240
SATB, Organ

Open the Eyes of My Heart
with Be Thou My Vision - E.....Ephesians
Paul Baloche/*SLANE*/Mark Hayes, arr.
© 2014, Lorenz, 10/4514L
2-Part Mixed, Keyboard

Psalms 100 - M.....Psalms
René Clausen
© 1986 Mark Foster, MF 917
SSA, Piano (4-hands), opt. Chamber Orchestra

Psalms 100 (Jubilate Deo) - EPsalms
Robert N. Roth
© 1972 E. C. Kirby, 81071
Unison, Organ

Ride On, King Jesus - MMatthew
Negro Spiritual/Alice Parker-Robert Shaw, arr.
© 1963, Lawson-Gould, 51106
SATB, A Cappella

Sing a Song of Thanks - METhanksgiving
Antonio Vivaldi/Hal H. Hopson, arr.
© 1987, H. Flammer, D-5383
SAB, Keyboard

We Gather Together - M.....Thanksgiving
John Ness Beck, arr., quoting *KREMSE*
© 1977, Beckenhorst Press, BP1047
SATB, opt. Solo, Keyboard

When the Poor Ones - MEMatthew
Miguel Manzano/David Cherwien, arr.
© 2010, MorningStar Music, 50-5425
SATB, Guitar

– Youth and Children –

Now Thank We All Our God - E.....Thanksgiving
NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT/Michael Rosewall, arr.
© 2006, Augsburg Fortress, 9780800623852
2-Part Mixed, Piano

I Give You Thanks - E.....Thanksgiving
Jody W. Lindh
© 1991 Choristers Guild, CGA-561
Unison, Piano, opt. Percussion, Synthesizer, Bass

ADDITIONAL MATERIAL (Prayers, Poems, Quotes & Liturgies)

A king knocks on the doorkeeper's door and laughing, leads everyone out to a table.

—JALALUDDIN RUMI (1207-1273)
The Essential Rumi, Coleman Barks, paraphrase

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Inspired by Psalm 2, Ezekiel 34, Matthew 25, and Psalm 100)

Why do the nations conspire,
and the peoples plot in vain?

Our hope is in Christ our King.

The sheep are scattered in doubt and fear;

Our hope is in Christ our King.

The least of these are waiting for justice;

Our hope is in Christ our King.

Make a joyful noise to the Lord;

Our hope is in Christ our King.

God has made us, and we are His;

Our hope is in Christ our King.

Let us enter His gates with thanksgiving,
and His courts with praise;

Our hope is in Christ our King.

— Dalen C. Jackson*

GATHERING PRAYER

Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
from our fears and sins release us; let us find our rest in thee.
Born thy people to deliver; born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us forever; now thy gracious kingdom bring.

— CHARLES WESLEY (1707–1788)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(after Matthew 25)

God our shepherd, we confess that we have sinned against
you with our minds, our bodies, our tongues, by our actions,
and by our inaction. We have used our strength to take
advantage of those who are weaker; we have failed to offer
relief to the hungry, the destitute, the sick, the prisoners. We
are not worthy to inherit your kingdom. In your steadfast love
and faithfulness, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we
might be your people, the sheep of your pasture, and walk in
your ways, giving thanks and blessing your name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

(Inspired by Psalm 100, Ezekiel 34)

Our God, whose steadfast love endures forever, offers mercy now even to us. Our God, whose faithfulness extends to all generations, is faithful now to forgive us, to bring us back into his fold, to bind up our injuries, and to strengthen us in our weakness. Amen.

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*O blessed Jesus,
give me stillness of soul in Thee.
Let Thy mighty calmness
reign in me;
rule me, O King of Gentleness, King of peace. . . .
By Thine own deep patience,
give me patience.
Make me in this and all things
more and more like Thee. Amen.*

—JOHN OF THE CROSS (1542–1591)

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I was struck recently by Jesus saying to Pilate, “My kingdom is not of this world,” and thinking how many million times each second people pray, “Thy kingdom come.” Do we really want the radical reversal of all our assumed values that that ‘world’ would entail?

— SISTER JANE, SLG, *Loving God Whatever*

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BENEDICTION/SENDING

(Inspired by Ephesians 1)

And now may the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, give us a spirit of wisdom and revelation; may God enlighten the eyes of our hearts; may we know the hope to which God has called us; and may we experience the immeasurable greatness of God’s power for us who believe.

*Thanks to Dalen C. Jackson for contributing this week’s prayers and liturgies.

Warren Howell, editor