

Holy Trinity Anglican Church Metcalfe  
FEAST OF CHRIST THE KING / THE REIGN OF GOD  
November 20, 2022  
Reverend Michael Fleming

Fr. Michael: As we gather today on this the feast of Christ the King or the Reign of God, we acknowledge that the land upon which we live and worship is part of the unceded territory of the Anishinaabe people.

People: **May we live together in a spirit of reconciliation and the stewardship of all God's creation.**

Fr, Michael: Around the world this day, the Christian Church celebrates the Feast of Christ the King or the Reign of God. Jesus Christ, friend of the poor, the meek and the merciful, has been enthroned above all authority and power in this world and in the world that is to come.

People: **Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth, serve the Lord with gladness and come into his presence with song.**

Fr. Michael: God has placed everything under Christ's wounded feet, appointed the one who wore a crown of thorns as the supreme head of the Church, his body. People: **Enter his gates with thanksgiving, come into his courts with praise, give thanks and praise his loving name!**

Celebrant: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: As community called and gathered under the peaceable reign of God, we pray, Almighty God,

All: **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Fr. Michael: And now with all the saints gathered here on this earth and all the saints in heaven, we say Glory to God in the highest,

All: **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.**

Fr. Michael: Almighty and everlasting God, whose will it is to restore all things in your well-beloved Son, our Lord and King; grant that all the people of this good earth, now divided and enslaved by sin may be freed and brought together under his gentle and loving rule; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and forever.

All: **Amen**

Fr. Michael: O God, our heavenly Father give to us a vision of our world as you have made it; a world where the weak are protected and no one goes hungry or is poor; a world in which the benefits of civilized life are shared and everyone can enjoy them; a world in which different races, nations, cultures and creeds live in tolerance, mutual respect and honouring; a world in which peace is built with justice, where lions and lambs lie down in green pastures together and your justice is guided and empowered by love. We pray this in the name of the One who is Lord of lords and King of kings, Jesus your Son. **Amen** (re:Worship 2021)

Reader: A Reading From The Prophet Jeremiah

Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture! says the Lord. Therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who shepherd my people: It is you who have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. So I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the Lord. Then I myself will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the lands where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply. I will raise up shepherds over them who will shepherd them, and they shall not fear any longer, or be dismayed, nor shall any be missing, says the Lord. The days are surely coming, says the Lord, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In his days Judah will be saved and Israel will live in safety. And this is the name by which he will be called: "The Lord is our righteousness."

JEREMIAH 23:1-6

The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Reader: Caring God, guide us this morning to affirm that we can make a difference in this world. Help us to reach out to those who are lonely, uncertain or lost and let your love bless what we do. Help to remember that you reach out to us also and that your tender mercy embraces each of one us for which we are thankful and grateful.

All: **Amen** (Gill Le Fevre 2020 adapted by RMF)

Reader: Our psalm for this day is Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,

All: **a very present help in trouble.**

Reader: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,

All: **and though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea;**

Reader: Though its waters rage and foam,

All: **and though the mountains tremble at its tumult.**

Reader: The Lord of hosts is with us;

All: **the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Reader: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,

All: **the holy habitation of the Most High.**

Reader: God is in the midst of her; she shall not be overthrown;

All: **God shall help her at the break of day.**

Reader: The nations make much ado, and the kingdoms are shaken;

All: **God has spoken, and the earth shall melt away.**

Reader: The Lord of hosts is with us;

All: **the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Reader: Come now and look upon the works of the Lord,

All: **what awesome things he has done on earth.**

Reader: It is he who makes war to cease in all the world;

All: **he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear, and burns the shields with fire.**

Reader: "Be still, then, and know that I am God;

All: **I will be exalted among the nations; I will be exalted in the earth."**

Reader: The Lord of hosts is with us;

All: **the God of Jacob is our stronghold.**

Reader: God is with his people; he dwells in our midst. Help us to listen and lean into the Word so we may sing praises and give glory to the One who came among us.

**Amen**

Reader: A Reading from the Letter Of Paul To The Colossians May you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints in the light. He has rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers - all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross. COLOSSIANS 1:11-20

The Word of the Lord

People: **Thanks be to God**

Reader: Gracious God, as your beloved children we pray that you would give us spiritual gifts so that we would know your will in all things and so that the way we live

would honour and please you and bear fruit in the lives of those around us. This we pray in Jesus' name.

**Amen**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ according to Matthew [Matthew 21: 1-11]

People: **Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

As they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two disciples, saying to them, "Go to the village ahead of you, and at once you will find a donkey tied there, with her colt by her. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that the Lord needs them, and he will send them right away." This took place to fulfill what was spoken through the prophet: "Say to Daughter Zion, 'See, your king comes to you, gentle and riding on a donkey, and on a colt, the foal of a donkey.'" The disciples went and did as Jesus had instructed them. They brought the donkey and the colt and placed their cloaks on them for Jesus to sit on. A very large crowd spread their cloaks on the road, while others cut branches from the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds that went ahead of him and those that followed shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David!" "Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" "Hosanna in the highest heaven!" When Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred and asked, "Who is this?" The crowds answered, "This is Jesus, the prophet from Nazareth in Galilee."

Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.

People: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ**

Homily

Fr, Michael: As we embrace our call to be kingdom- people, we affirm, I believe in God, All: **the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He 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, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again 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.**

Reader: God, help us to welcome those who come to live among us... for all those who have fled from oppression and persecution, remembering those in Ukraine who wander in search of peace and hope; help us to offer to them and all others who are victims of hatred or genocide safe harbours in the storm.

People: **God help us to welcome those who stand among us and seek you in us.**

Reader: For those seeking justice and reconciliation, who seek a better life and a better place to grow and be nurtured.

People: **God help us to welcome those who stand among us and seek you in us.**

Reader: For those who come seeking places to set down roots of new life, new hope, new dreams and for those who reach out in concern and love, offering hands and hearts to make their dreams become realities. We pray for the Church, remembering especially at this time Shane, our Bishop; Anne, our Metropolitan; Linda, our Primate; as well as The Anglican Council of Indigenous Peoples, Interim National Indigenous Bishop Sidney Black, Sacred Circle Events, and the ministry of reconciliation. We also pray for Emmanuel, Arnprior and The Reverend Simone Hurkmans and for the chaplain to the Ottawa Police Service, the Reverend Canon Robert Heard

People: **God help us to welcome those who stand among us and seek you in us.**

Reader: Let us remember now those who are broken, alone, lost, lonely or fear-filled; those who are suffering in mind, body or spirit, especially Richard, Robin, Marjorie, Howard, Irene, Beth, Roy, Zachariah, Sarah, Jeanette, and Cheryl. Help us to hear their cries and respond with your grace and love.

People: **God help us to welcome those who stand among us and seek you in us.**

Reader: Loving God, you call us to create hospitable and safe communities. Help us to overcome any fear or anxiety that we may have for those who come among us seeking a new vision of faith and the assurance that they are loved. Give us the courage and the imagination to respond to all who come among us with your loving hand of hope.

People: **God help us to welcome those who stand among us and seek you in us.**

**Amen**

Fr. Michael: Let us stand before the Lord and one another and be one in the Spirit and one in the Lord as we confess,

People: **Sovereign Lord, we confess that we have given things and idols power over us, the idols of power and wealth, fame and security. We confess that we have fallen into the ways of this world and have forgotten our kindred with and in Jesus. We have lost sight of the Reign of God here on this good earth and instead have allowed the idols to rule over us. Forgive and call us to your reign, to declare that You are the One who has power over us because your power is Love. Call us to love our neighbours as we love ourselves for this is the Kingdom way and help us to work for justice, to show mercy and to love without condition.**

Fr. Michael: Jesus came among us not to rule as a king above us but to serve us and to show that the way of the Lord is the way of love. Jesus said that the first would be last and the last shall be first and called us to be humble and to serve one another. The most important commandment he said was to love one another as neighbours. This is the way of the Sovereign Lord. Know now that you are forgiven and love and serve one another as signs and representatives of the One who serves us, our Friend and Brother Jesus. **Amen**

And may the peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Fr. Michael: Eternal God, by your grace you have raised us up and enthroned us with Christ in the heavenly realms. Receive all that we offer you today and lead us in those good works for which you have created us. We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord.

**Amen**

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Fr. Michael: We give you thanks holy and gracious God, creator of all things, ruler of heaven and earth, sustainer of life; for you are the source of all goodness, rich in mercy and abounding in love; you are faithful to your people of every generation and your word endures forever. Therefore, with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, we glorify your holy name, evermore praising you and saying,

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

Fr. Michael: We praise you merciful Father, not as we ought but as we are able, because in your tender love you gave the world your only Son in order that the world might be saved through him. He made you known by taking the form of a servant, healing the sick, liberating the oppressed and reaching out to the lost. Betrayed, reviled and nailed to the cross, he confronted the power of sin and disarmed it for ever. In his offering of himself he became the perfect and sufficient sacrifice for the sin of the whole world. Redeemed by Christ, we have been adopted as your children; by your pardon, you have made us, your sons and daughters, to praise you.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus, at supper with his friends, took bread, gave you thanks, broke the bread, gave it to them and said, "Take and eat; this is my Body broken and given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper, he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, He gave it to them and said, "Drink this all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant which is shed for you and for many of the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

In obedience to him and with grateful hearts, we approach your holy table, remembering our Saviour's sacrifice and rejoicing in his victory. Confident in his sovereign purpose, we declare our faith:

People: **Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.**

Fr. Michael: Send your Holy Spirit on us that as we receive this bread and this wine we may participate in the body and blood of our Lord Jesus and feed on him in our hearts by faith with thanksgiving. May we be renewed in his risen life, filled with his love, and strengthened in our will and resolve to serve others; and make our lives a pure and

holy sacrifice, acceptable to you, knitting us together as one in your Son Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit be all honour and glory, world without end. **Amen.**

Fr. Michael: And now, as Jesus has gifted to his Church, so we pray, Our Father, who art in heaven,

People: **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.**

Fr. Michael: Jesus said, "I am the bread of life which has come down from heaven."

People: **Give us this bread for evermore.**

Fr. Michael: Jesus also said, "I am the vine, you are the branches."

People: **May we dwell in him as he lives in us.**

Fr. Michael: The gifts of God for the children of God.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Celebrant: The body of Christ

People: **Amen**

Fr. Michael: Father, may we honour your name not by paying lip service but by trusting in the vision it speaks of and the way of life it calls for. May we honour it and you by following you, speaking into the Word with our actions and showing who it is we have chosen to follow. May we love in your name, speak in your name, care in your name, be willing to touch the outcast, feed the hungry, remember the sick, visit the imprisoned, clothe the naked, and give water to the thirsty in your name. **Amen**

Celebrant: Glory to God,

All: **whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen**

Fr. Michael: May God who comes to us in the things of this world bless our eyes and be in our seeing. May Christ, who looks upon us with deepest love, bless our eyes and widen our gaze. May the Spirit who perceives what is and what is yet to be, bless our eyes and sharpen our vision. And may the Sacred Three, Father, Son and Spirit, bless our eyes, our hearts and our hands now and cause us to see you here and now. **Amen**

Worship follows the Holy Eucharist in the Book of Alternative Services.

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