Order of Service at the United Reformed Church
November 22, 2026 9:30 am
Christ the King Sunday

APPROACHING GOD

Prelude — Let All Things Now Living — traditional Welsh Melody

(Let all things now living a song thanksgiving
to God the creator triumphantly raise.
Who fashioned and made us, provided and stayed us,
who guideth us on to the end of our days.
We too should be voicing our love and rejoicing
with glad adoration our thanks let us raise.
'Til all things now living unite in thanksgiving
to God in the highest, hosanna and praise!)

Word for 2026: **Practice.**
People: *May we practice becoming.*

Salutation
Grace and peace from God the Father and Jesus Christ.
Amen.

Call to Worship
Come, let us worship Christ, whose reign is unlike any earthly kingdom.
A reign not built on power and privilege, but on justice, mercy, and love.
Come, let us worship the One who identifies with the hungry, the stranger, the sick, and the imprisoned.
The One who calls us to see dignity and worth in every person.
Today, we celebrate the reign of Christ, whose kingdom is already among us.
May our worship reflect our faith, and may our lives reveal the love of Christ!
Let us worship God!

*Opening Hymn (Blue Book #345) — Crown Him With Many Crowns

Call to Confession
We proclaim Christ as sovereign, yet too often live as though the concerns of Christ's kingdom are someone else's responsibility. We celebrate love but hesitate to practice it. We pray for justice but sometimes fail to recognize injustice before us. Let us come before God with humility, confessing the distance between what we proclaim and how we live.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)
God of justice and mercy, We confess that we have not always recognized your presence among us. We have overlooked the hungry, turned away from the stranger, and remained comfortable when others were suffering. We have sometimes confused faithfulness with familiarity, and compassion with convenience. Forgive us for the ways we have made your kingdom smaller than your love. Open our eyes to see what we have missed. Open our hearts to welcome those we have excluded. And strengthen our hands to serve with courage, humility, and compassion. May our lives reflect the reign of Christ, not only in what we believe, but in what we practice. Amen. (a moment for silent confession)

Words of Assurance
Hear the good news! The reign of Christ is not established by our perfection, but revealed through God's grace, mercy, and transforming love. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored, and invited to begin again.
Thanks be to God! We are forgiven, we are loved, and we are called to live differently. Amen!

Passing the Peace
The peace of Christ be with you! **And also with you.**

HEARING GOD'S WORD

Hymn of Preparation (Red LUYH Book #300) — Come Now, You Blessed, Eat at my Table

**Please remain seating*
Prayer for Illumination
Scripture Reading — Matthew 25:31-46
The Word of God, for the People of God!
Thanks be to God!
Sermon — Christ Will Come Again in Glory

RESPONDING TO GOD

Offertory — For These Blessings — Natalie Sleeth

Gracious God, for every blessing we would bring Thee thanks always.
Every gift Thy love expressing to Thy children day by day,
Father, Father, for Thy blessings great and small.
Give Thee now our thanks unending for these blessings, one and all.

Help us live, forever sharing from the plenty we receive.
That the world may know Thy caring, and in Thee in truth believe.
Lord, most holy, for Thy blessings great and small.
Give Thee now our thanks unending for these blessings, one and all.

Nancy Tanis, contralto

*Doxology — Tune (Old Hundreth)
*Prayer of Dedication
*Affirmation of Faith

Prayers of The People and The Lord's Prayer

Announcements

*Closing Hymn (Red LUYH Book #398) — Sing to the Lord of Harvest
*Benediction (Blue Book #522) — The Lord Bless You and Keep You

Postlude — Over the Stars there is Rest — Abt, arr. Schreiner

Our Invitation
Welcome to United Reformed Church! As we join together in prayer, song, and praise to God, we pray that the blessings and fellowship you find here will enrich your life. *If you are physically able, an asterisk (*) indicates an invitation to stand.* Bold text signifies opportunities for the congregation to read and respond responsively.
Pastor Office Hours: Wednesday 5-7 PM; Sunday 10:30 AM-12:30 PM
Church Office Hours: Mon, Tue, Thurs 9AM-2PM; Wed 3-7 PM

Church Staff
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United Reformed Church
Sunday Worship

November 22, 2026