

November 22, 2020

Christ the King

The Service for the Lord's Day

Music for Gathering Greeting and Opening Prayer

Hymn Sing: No. 304: Easter People, Raise Your Voices
No. 240: Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

*Apostles Creed No. 881

Scripture and Prayers +Tom Roberts/Nancy Copelan

John 20:19-23 +Pew Bible: Swords, 829; Fork Chapel: NT 115

Prayer of Intercession (inspired by John 20:19-31)

The Lord calls us to draw close and examine the wounded hands and feet of the Risen One and to know the depth of his love for us. Let us therefore approach the throne of God in confidence as we pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus, and for all people according to their needs.

Lord our Father, as Jesus entered the locked room to show his disciples the beginning of a new world, so enter our hearts and move us to faith in Jesus as the Risen One. Convince us of the reality and significance of the resurrection, and free us from all manner of fears and phobias. Give us courage in the face of death, knowing that this is the gateway to new resurrected life for those who trust in Christ. Lord, in your mercy... **hear our prayer.**

Be with your church throughout the world so that its preaching and works of love may continue to testify to our Lord's resurrection. Wherever your church is faithless and lacking in courage to do the work that Jesus has given, visit it and build it up with your Spirit. Be with all our pastors so that they may listen well and then speak with Christ's authority. Lord, in your mercy... **hear our prayer.**

Bring peace to all parts of the earth. Wherever nations are at war and people are divided, visit and bring true reconciliation. Especially protect all Christian people in these nations, and help them to influence their country for the good of all. Lord, in your mercy... **hear our prayer.**

Wherever homes are disrupted by anger and bitterness, and wherever relationships are distorted and dulled, visit and bring peace and harmony.

Wherever young people are gathered in your name, visit and guide them with your holy word and wisdom. Lord, in your mercy... **hear our prayer.**

Visit and comfort the sick and suffering too, dear Lord. Heal and strengthen weak bodies, calm and correct confused minds. We pray for those we know with particular needs including those we hold dear in our hearts and those we name before you now: (pause). Support them all with your great love and mercy. Lord, in your mercy... **hear our prayer.**

Heavenly Father, we present these prayers through Jesus Christ our Lord, who is risen from the dead, and who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Pastor's Prayer – Lord's Prayer

Blessing the Offerings – Doxology

Sermon “**Locked In and Loved Out**” +**Dr. Gavalas**

Affirmation of Faith

Where is this Jesus, the one you call Messiah?
Christ is Risen! Christ is here among us!
I do not see him. I don't believe you.
(Louder): Christ is Risen! Christ is here among us!
Let me see his body, his hands and his feet.
We are Christ's body; We are Christ's feet.
You see the suffering in the world? Where is Jesus now?
We are going into the world to be the body of Christ.
Let us go together, let us partner with others.
For we are the body of Christ: let us share the Good News!

*Hymn 364: Because He Lives

*Blessing and Benediction +Dismissal Chorus

“God be with you till we meet again...”

Postlude

Welcome to this Congregation of The United Methodist Church

We pray that you will be blessed of God in this sacred space. If you are a visitor please speak with the pastor as you leave. Thank you.

Liturgists and Scriptures for Next Sunday, Nov. 29

Swords: Louise Hess; Fork Chapel: Carolyn Copelan

Advent Wreath Next Sunday, Nov. 29

Swords: Louise and Ron Hess;
Fork Chapel: Carolyn Copelan and Ray Pittman

December Holiday Food Needs

Swords: Morgan Cares; Fork Chapel: Greene County Food Pantry

cream of mushroom soup; chicken broth; stuffing; beans; corn
cake mix; gelatin; canned pineapples; mandarins; jiffy cornbread mix
gravy; stuffing mix; cranberry sauce; fruit

Bring to your church by December 13

Christmas Eve Communion

Christmas Eve Service of Holy Communion will be different this year. Instead of the traditional congregation service, Rev. Mike Pritchard of New Hope Baptist and I will be in the sanctuary from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. to serve Holy Communion to members of our congregations. You and you and your family are invited to come anytime during the two hour period from 5 to 7 p.m.

We ask that you observe this Order of Worship when you enter the church:

- (1) Pick up an individual communion cup and the devotional and prayer guide for each person with you as you enter the church.
- (2) Take a seat and spend time in personal prayer and meditation.
- (3) When you are ready, open your communion cup, and come to the communion rail and kneel. Give your communion cup to your pastor, who will bless the elements, and then serve you. You may remain at the altar in prayer as long as you desire. (Please place your empty cup in the waste basket and depart in peace.

Advent-Christmas Sermon Series

Advent 1: "We Wait, We Work" Isaiah 64:1-9 and Mark 13:24-37

Advent 2: "The Voice in a Spiritual Wilderness" Isaiah 40:1-11 and Mark 1:1-8

Advent 3: "Good News for Bad Times" Isaiah 61:1-4,8-11

Advent 4: "The Favor of God" 2 Samuel 7:1-11,16 and Luke 1:26-38

Christmas 1: "Shepherds in a Hurry" Luke 2:1-20

Christmas 2: "Fulfillment of Divine Promise" Luke 2:22-40

Christmas 3: "Come, Follow Me Home" Jeremiah 31:7-14 and John 1:18-25