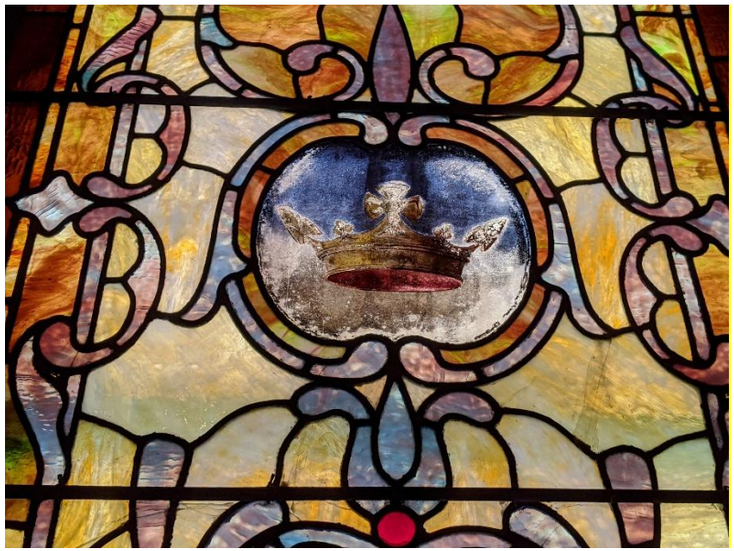
Covenant United Presbyterian Church

107 Staley Ave. Butler, PA 16001
724-287-7731 covenantoffice@zoominternet.net
Worship with us on YouTube.com/@CovenantTV1813



The Crown stained glass window,
In the sanctuary of 230 E. Jefferson St., Butler, PA

Christ the King Sunday
with Pledge Card Dedication
November 22, 2026

Pastor: Rev. John C. R. Silbert
Worship Leader: Rev. Bob Mathias
TV Producer: Brian F Graff, C.P.
Musician: Melanie Rodgers
Choir Director: Chrystal Sircely

~ Order of Worship ~

** = Please stand, as able

The Gathering

PRELUDE & ANNOUNCEMENTS

**CALL TO WORSHIP

Pastor:	The gates of the Lord are open to all;
People:	**Come before God with thanks!**
Pastor:	The courtyard of the Lord welcomes all the earth;
People:	**Bless God's holy name.**
Pastor:	The pastures of the Lord are places for all to dwell!
People:	**Shout with praise, all the earth, because God is good;**
Pastor:	God's steadfast love endures forever.
People:	**God's faithfulness lasts from generation to generation.**

**OPENING PRAYER

**HYMN 385 *All People That on Earth Do Dwell* OLD 100TH

INVITATION TO CONFESSION & CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sovereign King, you are seated far above all rule, authority, power, and dominion. You own the earth and everything in it, yet we confess that we struggle to submit our lives to your reign. We want you as our Savior, but we hesitate to let you be our King. We treat our financial pledges as optional tips rather than acts of loyalty to your throne. We enter your gates with complaints and worry rather than thanksgiving. Forgive us for our small visions of your Kingdom. Forgive us for the times we treat your church as a consumer item rather than the body that fills all in all. Light up the eyes of our hearts today. Remind us who you are, so that our lives, our calendars, and our checkbooks may joyfully bow to your cosmic authority. In your holy and royal name, we pray. Amen.

A TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION & ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Christ our King has put all things under His feet and has been given as head over all things for the church, which is His body. He does not rule with tyranny, but with restorative love and complete forgiveness.

People: **By His stripes we are healed; by His sovereignty we are secure.**

Pastor: Step into the joy of His kingdom today—your sins are entirely forgiven!

People: **Thanks be to God! Amen!**

**RESPONSE C54 *To God Be the Glory* MY TRIBUTE

To God be the glory, to God be the glory,
To God be the glory for the things He has done.
With His blood He has saved me; With His pow'r He has raised me.
To God be the glory for the things He has done.

**THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Leader: Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts. To this peace we were called as members of a single body. The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

People: **And also with you.**

The Word

**ILLUMINATION 260 v.4 *Alleluia! Sing to Jesus* HYFRYDOL

Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;
Alleluia! born of Mary. earth your foot-stool heaven your throne.
As within the veil you entered, robed in flesh, our great high priest;
here on earth both priest and victim in the eucharistic feast.

HT LESSON Psalm 100 *Unison Reading* *Pew Bible P.481*

All Lands Summoned to Praise God -A Psalm of thanksgiving.

1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
2 Serve the Lord with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.

3 Know that the Lord is God.
It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving
and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him; bless his name.

5 For the Lord is good;
his steadfast love endures forever

Leader: This, is the Word of the Lord. People: **Thanks be to God!**



NT LESSON Ephesians 1: 15 – 23 *Pew Bible P.949*

Leader: Here ends the reading of the Epistle. People: **Praise be to You, O Lord!**

CANTICLE 49 V.4 *The God of Abraham Praise* LEONI

You have eternal life implanted in the soul;
your love shall be our strength and stay, while ages roll.
We praise you, living God! We praise your holy name:
the first, the last, beyond all thought, and still the same!



MESSAGE

Grateful Hearts Raised to Christ Our Glorious King!

PASTOR JOHN

**AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Nicene Creed (Ecumenical)*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father; through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who has spoken through the prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Eucharist

PRESENTATION OF TITHES, OFFERINGS, GIFTS & PLEDE DEDICATION CARDS

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Rejoice, the Lord is King!* ~ Shackley

**DOXOLOGY 647 *Give Thanks* GIVE THANKS

Give thanks with a grateful heart; give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we're given Jesus Christ, the Son. (x2)
And now, let the weak say, "We are strong";
let the poor say. "We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!" (x2)
Give thanks. Give thanks.

**THE INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

THE GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.
People: **And also with you.**
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**
Celebrant: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe . . . (The prayer continues) . . . Therefore, we praise you,

joining our voices with the servants around heaven's throne and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

Congregation: *Holy, Holy, Holy* SETTING THREE

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.

Celebrant: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Born as king in David's line, he lived with the lowly and cared for the least of your children. … (The prayer continues) … With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice dedicated to your service. Great is the mystery of faith:

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

Celebrant: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. … (The prayer continues) … Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

People: **Amen.**

Celebrant: As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION

**THE COMMUNION *(seated; follow pastor's instructions)*

**THE RESPONSE AND PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

HYMN 535 *Bless the Lord, O My Soul* BLESS THE LORD

Celebrant: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

People: **And all that is within me, bless God's holy name!**

Celebrant: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

People: **And forget not all God's benefits.**

Celebrant: Let us pray:

All: Blessed are you, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe, for you have satisfied our souls with this feast of your grace. Keep us faithful in your service until your realm of glory comes; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Sending

**HYMN 268 *Crown Him with Many Crowns* DIADEMATA

**THE CHARGE & BENEDICTION

**POSTLUDE



Church Notices:

Wait! Don't Go Yet!

Join us for food & conversation in Fellowship Hall.
Thanks to *Connie Swartzfeger & Grace Sechler* for hosting today!

Mission

Trinity Food Pantry
Nov 22 & 29 Pasta/Rice Sides & Canned Meats

Calendar

Nov 29 Advent I: Hope
Dec 6 Advent II: Peace & Church Christmas Luncheon – Bring a fun wrapped gift!
Dec 11 7:00 PM *Kings of Kings* - movie for the family
Dec 13 Advent III: Joy
Dec 20 Advent IV: Love & Noisy Offering of Loose Change
Dec 24 4:00 PM Christmas Eve Worship (Preludes begin at 3:45)
Dec 27 11:00 AM Christmastide Carols Worship Service

Christmas Memorial Plants

Order Deadline Wed. Dec. 2 12:00 Noon – Bring to church office WITH payment.



Please Pray for:

Virginia Williams, Gina's mother, for healing physically & emotionally after a fall & concussion;

Mike Woods, neighbor of Gina's mother, facing a risky surgery this Friday;

Jennifer, co-worker of Connie Swartzfeger, diagnosed with pancreatic cancer;

Carrie, co-worker of Connie Swartzfeger, facing cancer

Tom Deluga, Lynn Deluga's Father-in-Law, had a stroke while visiting this past week.

David Muir, husband of Pastor John's cousin, Kendra, awaiting test results for a throat condition;

Betty Butler, on the mend from a touch of pneumonia;

Janie & Lowell Wetzell, long-time church members, both with health issues;

Zoanne Weckerly, Melanie Rodger's Mother, for healing & transitions;

Elaine Nucci, has returned to work after eight weeks off due to shoulder surgery!

Roberta, long-time friend of Elaine, recovering from cancer surgery

Jane Faulkner, Ann Morrison's sister in CA, with continuing housing concerns and **Scotty McAliley,** Ann's cousin in Marietta, Georgia, continuing bi-weekly chemo-therapy for the remainder of her life.

HIS KINGDOM IS FOREVER

Background of Christ the King Sunday

This is a medieval feast which uses the metaphor of "king" -- a powerful one in those days -- to describe the role of Jesus. Today the implications of kingship are harder for us to comprehend, though our fascination with the British royalty suggests that we still like royal families – even though we don't quite understand the particulars inherent in royal leadership.

In reality, the kingdom which Jesus preached was the kingdom of his Father in heaven, a kingdom of forgiving love with no royal trappings at all, a kingdom which had always been there but which now (through Jesus) was beginning to be recognized for the first time.

Christ announces a Kingdom which is *coming*, but in some sense is *already here*. We pray “Come, Lord Jesus, Come!” believing that we must also work here and now to build up the kingdom of Christ on earth as we wait for his return.

Matthew 25: 37 – 40

S I C K Y T S R I H T F
T S A E L L R G U N G A
H T R U L Y I N F O N M
E A A E V A G I O S I I
N N T M B R H K O I H L
D R O L Y M T M D R T Y
D E M O C L E W T P O N
D W T H A T O M I U L A
R S A W H J U S T L C K
I N D I D E S E H T L E
N A N R S V I S I T E D
K G W E H T T A M E H T
W H E N R E G N A R T S

Word List

SOMETHING RIGHTEOUS WELCOMED STRANGER CLOTHING VISITED THIRSTY MEMBERS MATTHEW PRISON HUNGRY FAMILY ANSWER TRULY THESE NAKED LEAST DRINK WILL WHEN THEN THEM THAT TELL SICK NRSV LORD KING JUST GAVE FOOD YOU WHO SAW ONE HIM DID ARE AND MY

