

**Year C; Christ the King Sunday**  
**Liturgical Elements**  
**Developed for November 20, 2022**  
Prepared by Pastor Andy Smothers

**Lectionary Texts**

- Jeremiah 23:1-6
- Luke 1:68-79
- Colossians 1:11-20
- Luke 23:33-43

**CALL TO WORSHIP** *(from Jeremiah 23)*

One: The LORD promised to gather the remnant of his flock out of the lands to which he had driven them;

**All: he promised to bring them back to their fold where they would be fruitful and multiply.**

One: He would raise up shepherds over them who would shepherd them,

**All: and they would not fear any longer nor be dismayed nor be found to be missing.**

One: The LORD claimed that the days were surely coming when he would raise up for David a righteous Branch,

**All: and that Branch will reign as king and deal wisely.**

One: He will execute justice and righteousness in the land.

**All: Judah will be saved,**

One: and Israel will live in safety.

**All: He will be called, "The LORD is our righteousness." Let us worship this righteous God!**

**(ALTERNATE) CALL TO WORSHIP** (*from Luke 1*)

One: Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,

**All: for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.**

One: He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets of old,

**All: that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.**

One: Thus he has shown mercy promised to our ancestors,

**All: and has remembered his holy covenant,**

One: the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,

**All: to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.**

One: He gave the world a child,

**All: who was called the prophet of the Most High.**

One: He went before the Lord to prepare his ways;

**All: to give knowledge of salvation to the Lord's people by the forgiveness of their sins.**

One: By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high broke in upon us.

**All: to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace. Let us worship God!**

**(ALTERNATE) CALL TO WORSHIP** (*from Colossians 1*)

One: Jesus, the Son, is the image of the invisible God,

**All: the firstborn of all creation;**

One: for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created;

**All: things visible and invisible,**

One: whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers —

**All: all things have been created through him and for him.**

One: He himself is before all things,

**All: and in him all things hold together.**

One: He is the head of the body, the church;

**All: he is the firstborn of the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything.**

One: For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell,

**All: and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things,**

One: whether on earth or in heaven,

**All: by making peace through the blood of his cross. Let us worship God!**

**CALL TO CONFESSION** *(from Colossians 1)*

Following the ways of Jesus is not always easy. Some moments, we must put our interests aside for God's work and for God's people. Other times, we suffer scorn or persecution from the world. Let us confess when we have not been strong in following the ways of Christ.

**CORPORATE PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(from Colossians 1)*

**Almighty God, giver of strength, the Apostle Paul wishes for the Colossians that they would be made strong through your strength that comes from your glorious power. Use your power, likewise, to strengthen us in this day. Prepare us to endure all that we face with patience. We confess, O Lord, that we have not always been strong, we have not always kept endurance, we have not always been patient. Forgive our sin. We offer our thanks to the Father and for his work in us through his glorious power. Amen.**

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *(from Luke 23)*

The true King of the Jews, our Lord Jesus, was crucified alongside two common criminals — one on his right and one on his left. One of the criminals mocked him, and the other noted this injustice. While they were rightfully under condemnation, he had done nothing wrong. He willingly suffered that we might be forgiven and reconciled to God. Trust in his work and his forgiveness, and be reconciled to God. **Amen.**

**(ALTERNATE) ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *(from Colossians 1)*

God the Father has enabled us 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. Trust in him and his promises. **Amen.**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(from Colossians 1)*

**Merciful God, you have enabled us to share in the inheritance of the saints of the light. You have rescued us from the power of darkness and transferred us into the kingdom of your beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. With our thanksgivings, we offer these tithes so that more may know and benefit from your tremendous gifts. Amen.**

Elements in this document are based on the *New Revised Standard Version* (NRSV). Some portions are direct quotes; though, quotation marks and designations are usually left out for ease of use in bulletins and other worship resources. Usually, the Call to Worship is based upon the Psalm of the day and follows that Psalm very closely but modifying it for a leader vs. congregation responsive setting if necessary. Other elements usually deviate more significantly from the text. While they may quote very short sections, they are generally written in the theme of the text. Elements usually designate the book and chapter from which they are derived.

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