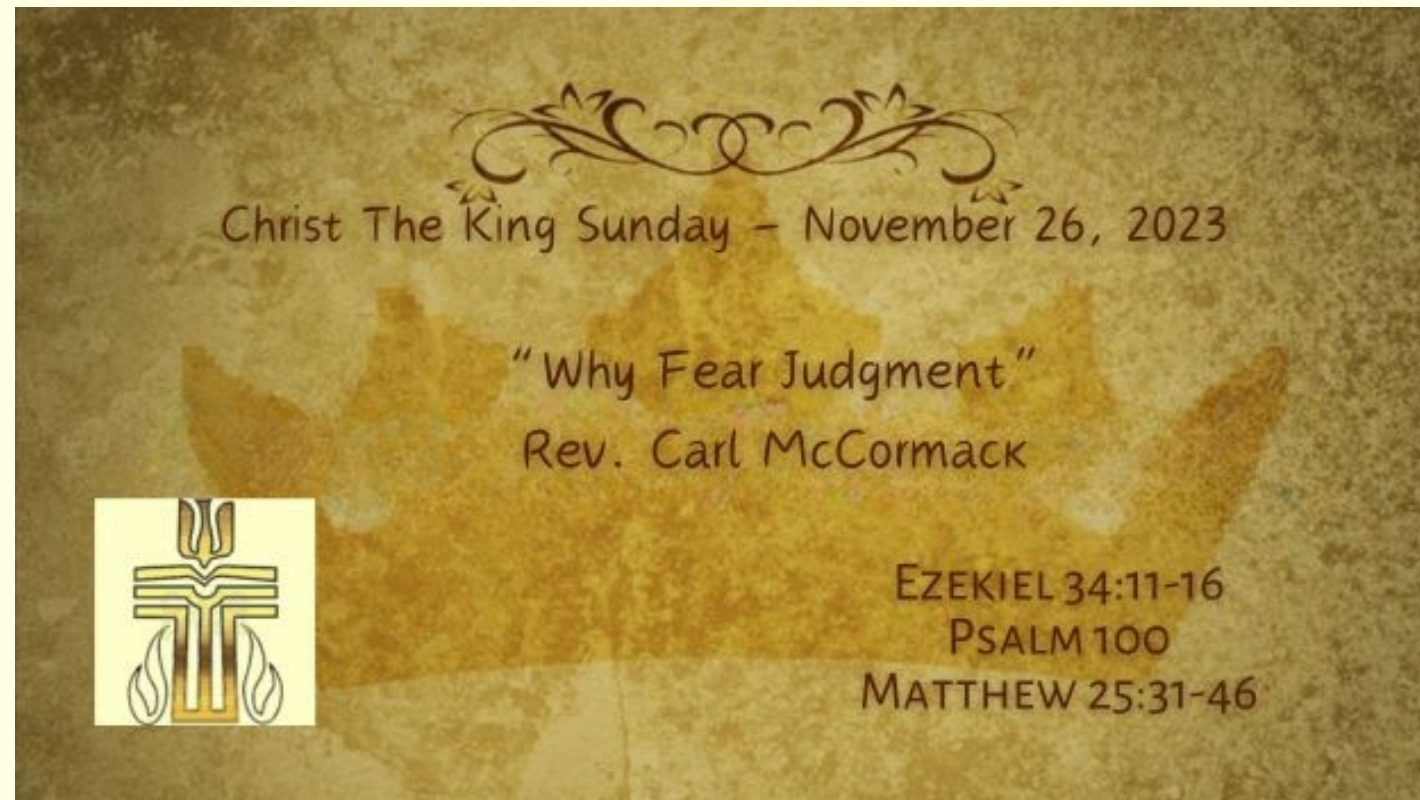


PARK HILL PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
A CONGREGATION OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH (USA)



Christ The King Sunday

November 26, 2023

3520 JFK Blvd. North Little Rock, AR 72116

501-753-9533; parkhillpres@gmail.com

Visit our website at parkhillpres.org

WORSHIP NOTES

Order of Worship

Our order of worship is Reformed and follows centuries of tradition. These are some brief explanations of the various parts of Reformed Worship.

Call to Worship

The “call” expresses God’s invitation to gather as Christ’s body in this place.

Song of Praise

Together we express vocally our praise and thanksgiving to the God of Glory.

Prayer of Confession

Having praised the holiness of God, we must also face the sinful state of the world and of our lives, confessing our unworthiness to enter into God’s presence. Nevertheless we approach God with confidence, trusting in the mercy of Jesus Christ. This is one of the hallmarks of the Reformed tradition.

We Gather At God’s Invitation

Welcome & Announcements Cindy Witherspoon Allen

Welcome from the Pastor

Prelude

*Call to Worship Cindy Witherspoon Allen

We are here not because we have found God, but because God has been seeking us with unrelenting love, and through Jesus Christ is calling us.

Challenging us to accept both the cost and the joy of discipleship, and to serve the whole human family.

But the call is also God’s promise:

A promise of forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace, courage in the struggle for peace and justice, and abundant life in this world and the next.

Together, let us give honor, glory and praise to God in our worship.

*Opening Prayer (Unison) Cindy Witherspoon Allen

Sovereign God, in your steadfast love and faithfulness you relentlessly seek us and gather us in your presence. Help us likewise to seek you, for you have told us where you may be found – not only in places of power and might but in every place where your people cry out in need. As we meet you in this service of worship, send us out to meet you in acts of service, doing justice and sharing your love; through Christ our reigning Lord. Amen.

*Opening Song of Praise #363 “Rejoice, The Lord Is King”

Call to Confession Cindy Witherspoon Allen

Prayer of Confession Cindy Witherspoon Allen

Assurance of Pardon

A declaration of forgiveness proclaims the good news of God’s mercy and offers the assurance of pardon in Jesus’ name. Hearing the words of assurance spoken from the font connects our confession with the grace and cleansing of Baptism, and God’s call to a new way of life in Christ.

Gloria Patri

“Glory to the Father!” This is our response of praise for being forgiven.

Passing the Peace

Our sharing the peace with one another is a sign of reconciliation in Christ.

Prayer for Illumination

A prayer for illumination calls on the Holy Spirit to empower our reading, understanding, proclaiming, and living of God’s Word.

Assurance of Pardon

Rev. Carl McCormack
Friends, believe and proclaim with me the glorious news of the gospel:
In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

#581

*Sharing the “Peace of Christ”

Prayer for Illumination (Unison) Cindy Witherspoon Allen
Lord, open the eyes of our hearts by the power of your Spirit, that we may know the hope to which we have been called in Jesus Christ. Amen.

First Scripture Reading Ezekiel 34:11-16 Cindy Allen
For thus says the Lord GOD: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord GOD. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Scripture & Sermon

The Scriptures bear witness to the Word of God, revealed most fully in Jesus Christ, the Word of God, who “...became flesh and lived among us...” The role of the worshiper is to listen *prayerfully*, actively, and attentively to the Word that is read and proclaimed.

Second Scripture Reading Psalm 100 Cindy Allen
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth.
Worship the LORD with gladness;
come into his presence with singing.
Know that the LORD is God.
It is he that made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
and his courts with praise.
Give thanks to him, bless his name.
For the LORD is good;
his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading Matthew 25:31-46 Rev. Carl McCormack
“When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’ Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’ And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.’ Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you

Affirmation of Faith

Responding to the Word proclaimed, we affirm *our* faith in the holy, triune God..

Offering & Doxology

Christian life is an offering of one's self to God. As those who have been claimed and set free by his grace, we respond with gratitude, offering him our lives, our spiritual gifts, and our material goods, followed with a song of praise.

did not visit me.' Then they also will answer, 'Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?' Then he will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.' And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life."

The Gospel of our Lord, Jesus Christ.
Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon *“Why Fear Judgment”* Rev. Carl McCormack

***Affirmation of Faith (From The Confession of 1967)**

The life, death, resurrection, and promised coming of Jesus Christ has set the pattern for the church's mission. His life as a human involves the church in the common life of people. His service to humanity commits the church to work for every form of human well-being. His suffering makes the church sensitive to all the sufferings of mankind so that it sees the face of Christ in the faces of people in every kind of need. His crucifixion discloses to the church God's judgment on man's inhumanity to man and the awful consequences of its own complicity in injustice. In the power of the risen Christ and the hope of his coming, the church sees the promise of God's renewal of our life in society and of God's victory over all wrong.

*Song of Affirmation #186 “Come Now, You Blessed, Eat At My Table”

Prayers of the People & 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.

Stewardship Moment

Offering/Offertory

Charge & Benediction

We are blessed in order to be a blessing to others. The charge calls the church to go forth as agents of God's mission in the world.

Doxology

#606

Prayer of Dedication

*Song of Joyful Dedication #767 “Together We Serve”

Charge & Benediction

Postlude

Assisting in Worship:
Pastor Carl McCormick
Cindy Witherspoon Allen, as Liturgist
Cindy Witherspoon-Allen, as Greeter
Jennie & Dana Pierce, Ushers
Jo Murry, as Pianist

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Christ The King Sunday—November 26, 2023

9:45am—Pastor Carl—the Bible in 90 Days—Parlor

11am—Worship Service—Pastor Carl McCormack

Monday, November 27, 2023

10:30am—Monday Morning Prayer Group—Conference Room

6:30pm—AR Scottish Dance Society

Tuesday, November 28, 2023

Wednesday, November 29, 2023

4:30—Handbell Choir

Friday, December 1, 2023

7pm—Arkansas Country Dance Society—Steen Hall

First Sunday of Advent—Communion Sunday December 3, 2023

9:45am—Pastor Carl—the Bible in 90 Days—Parlor

11am—Worship Service—Pastor Carl McCormack

PRAYER NOTES—

Recent Members: Howdy Frisby, Rochelle Greenwood, Ann McCollum, Jack McCollum, Diana McCray, Robert (Bob) Miller, Elizabeth Pollard,

Continued Prayers: Patt Bond, Pat Clark, Donna Ellis, Bill Jones, Ginny Jones, Jesse Macom-Teague, Grady Nixon, Wendell Phillips,

Prayers For Friends Of The Church: Judy Barfield, Air Force SMSGT Scott Burris (Phil & Liz Terrell's son, while he is deployed to Kuwait for 6 months), Dana Chadwick, Lynn Chadwick, Charles Clark, Darnell Clark, Jeff Connor, Maisie Frisby (Howdy & Debbie Frisby's granddaughter), Susan Gibbes; Constance Hughes, Travis Kasper, Stephanie Phillips, Dee Pizzalato (Bill Bond's niece), Ralph Pollard (Barbara Biedenharn's brother), Jennifer Willen,

Prayers For Those In Home Confinement: John Atterbury, Ann Cother, Bunn Falls (Johnson County Health & Rehab), Clarksville, Steve Pollard (AR State VA Home), David Rennie, Ann Woods.

Prayers For Those In Grief: For those who are still mourning the loss of a loved one.

In Deepest Sympathy: Please continue to pray for the family of LaVonne Smith, who passed away on Monday, November 6, 2023; and for the family of Barbara Monroe who passed away recently.

*Please contact the church office if you need someone placed on or taken off the prayer notes. Thank you.