

RALEIGH MORAVIAN CHURCH
NOVEMBER 22, 2020
REIGN OF CHRIST (CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY)
11:00 AM

Watchword for the Week

God says, "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." Ezekiel 34:16

PRELUDE *Crown Him with Many Crowns* arr. M Hayes
Sara Montgomery

WELCOME the Rev. Barbara M. Styers

OPENING HYMN *All Hail the Pow'r of Jesus' Name* MBOW 403
Molly Sharp, singer

SCRIPTURE READING Ephesians 1:15-23 Beverly Vaughn

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

CHILDREN'S MOMENT Jami Vandock

HOMILY the Rev. Barbara M. Styers

ANTHEM *I, the Lord of Sea and Sky* (Hymn 641) Daniel L. Schutte
Youth Choir Jim White, director
Anna Glymph, Emma Williard, Miles Frazier, Evie Myers, Amanda Toy, Jackie Conrad

Great is the Lord,

And greatly to be praised!

Let the people of the Lord praise the holy and righteous One. On the Day of the Lord, justice will roll on like a river, and righteousness like a never-failing stream.

Almighty God, we lift our hearts to you; and our eyes are fixed upon your unchanging glory. We rejoice in the promise of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ in power and majesty.

We give thanks to you, Redeemer God, for our Lord Jesus Christ, who came in quietness and humility, but who will come again with power and for all to see. Our Lord Jesus' coming again is a two-edged sword. It comforts us, convinces us anew that your grace is beyond measure. Yet it also confronts us, compels us to recognize our own unrighteousness. Let us put aside our false pride, confess our sins, and receive your affirming love.

Gracious Father, we confess that all too often we do not think of our coming King. We do not live our lives in the expectant and obedient waiting to which your word summons us. Too often we do not live with the sense of urgency for the task you have set before your church. We put off bringing the gospel to the world and living out your kingdom's values of justice and righteousness. Forgive us, loving Lord. Cleanse us and fill us with your Spirit and with power, so that at Christ's triumphant return we may be counted worthy to stand before you with people of all tongues and nations. Amen.

Thanks be to God, who has loved us from the beginning, and who promises that if we confess our sins, he is faithful and just and will forgive us our sins and will purify us from all unrighteousness.

Our sovereign Lord will wipe away the tears from all faces; he will remove the disgrace of his people from the earth. In that day we will say, "Surely this is our God; we trusted in him, and he saved us. Let us rejoice in his salvation."

We believe that our Lord Jesus, who ascended into heaven after his resurrection, will come again in the same way.

The Lord himself will come from heaven with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trumpet call of God; and the dead in Christ will rise first. After that, we who are still alive will be caught up together with them to meet the Lord. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

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When Christ returns, he will establish justice and righteousness in the earth. He will bring to fulfillment the kingdom of God, and he will reign as King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

In that day, at the name of Jesus every knee will bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the father.

CLOSING HYMN

Crown Him with Many Crowns

MBOW 405

CLOSING REMARKS/BENEDICTION

For this reason I bow my knees before the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth takes its name. I pray that, according to the riches of his glory, he may grant that you may be strengthened in your inner being with power through his Spirit, and that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith, as you are being rooted and grounded in love. I pray that you may have the power to comprehend, with all the saints, what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, so that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

Now to him who by the power at work within us is able to accomplish abundantly far more than all we can ask or imagine, to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus to all generations, forever and ever. Amen. (Ephesians, 3:14-21)

POSTLUDE

Coronation

arr. T. Fields