



**CHRIST  
the KING  
Sunday**

Welcome To Hillcrest Presbyterian Church

*A Service For The Worship Of God*

Christ The King Sunday

November 26, 2017

We give thanks that God has called us to worship together.

**\*Opening Hymn #306**

**Fairest Lord Jesus**

***A Word of Welcome and Announcements***

**Call To Worship** (Ps. 95: 1, 3 )

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord;

**People: let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

Leader: For the Lord is a great God;

**People: a great ruler over heaven and earth!**

**Unison: Let us celebrate God's love together.**

**Prayer of Invocation (unison)**

**Almighty God, you raised Christ from the dead and established him as Lord over every rebellious power. Give us grace to serve him wisely and faithfully that the world may see his glorious inheritance among the saints and recognize the freedom of joyful obedience in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

**Hymn: "Above All"**

Above all powers  
Above all kings  
Above all nature  
And all created things  
Above all wisdom  
And all the ways of man  
You were here  
Before the world began  
  
Above all kingdoms  
Above all thrones  
Above all wonders  
The world has ever known  
Above all wealth  
And treasures of the earth  
There's no way to measure

What You're worth  
Crucified  
Laid behind a stone  
You lived to die  
Rejected and alone  
Like a rose  
Trampled on the ground  
You took the fall  
And thought of me  
Above all  
  
Above all powers  
Above all kings  
Above all nature  
And all created things  
Above all wisdom

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And thought of me  
Above all

\*Like a rose  
Trampled on the ground  
You took the fall  
And thought of me  
Above all\*

### **Call To Confession**

Leader: If we say we have no sin we deceive ourselves and the Truth of God is not in us.  
Therefore let us confess our sin before God and one another that we may know and experience God's forgiveness in Jesus.

### **Prayer Of Confession**

**Lord Jesus, Judge of the nations,**

**We confess that we have not seen your face among our neighbors in need.**

**We have not shared our food with the hungry;**

**we have not offered clothes to the destitute or shelter to the homeless.**

**We have not welcomed the stranger, nor have we visited prisoners.**

**We have not paid attention to these, your sisters and brothers, and in our neglect we have failed to serve you.**

**Lord, forgive us; open our eyes to recognize your beloved family, and give us the blessing of sincere repentance that we may know the joy of eternal life.**

(Silent Confession) — In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Sisters and brothers hear the good news, as far as the east is from the west and the north from the south, so far has God removed our sin in Christ Jesus.

**People: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God**

**\*Gloria Patri: *Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.***

## **Passing The Peace Of Christ**

Leader: *As a forgiven people, let us share the peace of Christ  
The Peace Of Christ Be With You.*

**People: And Also With You.**

Leader: *Let us turn and greet one another*

**Children's Time** – The children are invited to come forward

**Hymn #299**

**Amen, Amen**

## **Prayers Of The People and Lord's Prayer**

(You are invited to share out loud your prayer concerns and joys)

Leader: Lord in you mercy

**People: Hear our prayer.**

## **Lord's Prayer (in unison)**

**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.**

## **Prayer Response**

Hymn #325 Spirit Divine, Attend Our Prayers

Spirit divine, attend our prayers,  
And make this house your home;  
Descend with all your gracious powers;  
O come, great Spirit, come!

## **Offering** (let us present our Offerings, Tithes and Gifts to the Lord)

Prayer of Dedication

Offertory

\*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him, all creatures here below.

Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

## Special Music

Jennifer McCullough

### Affirmation Of Faith - Nicene Creed (in unison)

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.

## Sermon

Rev. Jack Cormack

## Hymn: I Can Only Imagine

MercyMe

I can only imagine what it will be like  
When I walk, by your side  
I can only imagine what my eyes will  
see  
When you face is before me  
I can only imagine

Surrounded by You glory  
What will my heart feel  
Will I dance for you Jesus  
Or in awe of You be still  
Will I stand in your presence  
Or to my knees will I fall  
Will I sing hallelujah  
Will I be able to speak at all  
I can only imagine  
I can only imagine

I can only imagine when that day  
comes  
When I find myself standing in the  
Son  
I can only imagine when all I would  
do is forever  
Forever worship You  
I can only imagine  
I can only imagine

Surrounded by Your glory  
What will my heart feel

## \*Charge and Benediction

### \*Response

May the love of God be all around us, all around us, everywhere we go.  
May the grace of God shine down upon us, down upon us, and everyone we know.  
This is our prayer as we leave this place with our hearts full of love and grace.  
May the love of God be all around us, all around us, everywhere we go.

Will I dance for You, Jesus  
Or in awe of you be still  
Will I stand in your presence  
Or to my knees will I fall  
Will I sing hallelujah  
Will I be able to speak at all  
I can only imagine hey ya ah  
I can only imagine

Surrounded by Your glory  
What will my heart feel  
Will I dance for You, Jesus  
Or in awe of you be still  
Will I stand in Your presence  
Or to my knees will I fall  
Will I sing hallelujah  
Will I be able to speak at all  
I can only imagine yeah  
I can only imagine

I can only imagine yeah  
I can only imagine

I can only imagine  
I can only imagine\*  
I can only imagine when all I will do  
Is forever, forever worship You  
I can only imagine\*

\*=Those for whom it is comfortable are invited to stand

Rev. Jack Cormack  
Jennifer McCullough  
Jo Lynne Palmerton

Pastor  
Director of Music  
Pianist

### Ushers

Dianne Hutchins      Jason Hutchins  
Justin Hutchins      Jossie Hutchins

### In Our Prayers

Our homebound: Harold Hiser, Gusta Zweerink, Wayne & Gladys Zweerink,

### Celebrating a Birthday

Diane Meester, December 1

### SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 26

Hanging of the Greens following worship

### WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 29

Advent Series, 6:00pm  
Choir, 7:00pm

### THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 30

Meals on Wheels,  
Big Whiskey's Fundraiser, 6:00-10:30pm

### SUNDAY, DECEMBER 3

Hanging of the Greens Service  
Communion

Van Driver: Jason Hutchins  
Nursery: Cindy Covey  
Sound: Brian Hill  
Building Monitor: Randy Zweerink

### Ongoing Missions:

Food Pantry  
Meals on Wheels  
Rare Breed meals  
Ronald McDonald House meals



### Food Pantry Needs

Corn                      Crackers  
Jello                      Soup

The Outreach Committee collects coats during the winter months to be distributed to the needy. Children's items are especially needed. The collection bin is in the Health Ministry Room.

### Crosslines Toy Store

#### Share a Toy—Share the Joy!

Hillcrest has for many years helped with this project. This year, the campaign last through Sunday, December 10th. Rae Jean Palmerton is the coordinator for the toy store event and will be glad to receive your cash donations to do shopping if you'd rather not.

Hillcrest will be helping with all ages this year. You may donate an appropriate new toy or gift for any child or teen. Please leave gifts unwrapped and do not remove the price tags.

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### Exercising our gratitude muscles

Expressing gratitude isn't just a good thing to do; it also appears to be good for us! Indiana University researchers found that participants who performed gratitude-focused writing exercises felt uplifted, and were more likely to express gratefulness through generosity, even weeks later. Furthermore, brain scans revealed increased gratitude-related activity even months down the road (New York Magazine).

Though the study was small, we seem to have a "gratitude muscle" that can be strengthened through exercise. If so, there may be more than we thought to the popularity of gratitude journals and Mom's insistence that we write thank-you notes. Not to mention the biblical call to "give thanks to the LORD, for he is good" (1 Chronicles 16:34, for example).

Might God have hardwired us for gratitude — not only at Thanksgiving but year round — because it's good for us as well as for those we thank? To that, we respond, "Thanks be to God!"

## The Nicene Creed

In the first three centuries, the church found itself in a hostile environment. On the one hand, it grappled with the challenge of relating the language of the gospel, developed in a Hebraic and Jewish-Christian context, to a Graeco-Roman world. On the other hand, it was threatened not only by persecution, but also by ideas that were in conflict with the biblical witness.

In A.D. 312, Constantine won control of the Roman Empire in the battle of Milvian Bridge. Attributing his victory to the intervention of Jesus Christ, he elevated Christianity to favored status in the empire. "One God, one Lord, one faith, one church, one empire, one emperor" became his motto. The new emperor soon discovered that "one faith and one church" were fractured by theological disputes, especially conflicting understandings of the nature of Christ, long a point of controversy. Arius, a priest of the church in Alexandria, asserted that the divine Christ, the Word through whom all things have their existence, was created by God before the beginning of time. Therefore, the divinity of Christ was similar to the divinity of God, but not of the same essence. Arius was opposed by the bishop, Alexander, together with his associate and successor Athanasius. They affirmed that the divinity of Christ, the Son, is of the same substance as the divinity of God, the Father. To hold otherwise, they said, was to open the possibility of polytheism, and to imply that knowledge of God in Christ was not final knowledge of God.

To counter a widening rift within the church, Constantine convened a council in Nicaea in A.D. 325. A creed reflecting the position of Alexander and Athanasius was written and signed by a majority of the bishops. Nevertheless, the two parties continued to battle each other. In 381, a second council met in Constantinople. It adopted a revised and expanded form of the A.D. 325 creed, now known as the Nicene Creed.

The Nicene Creed is the most ecumenical of creeds. The Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) joins with Eastern Orthodox, Roman Catholic, and most Protestant churches in affirming it. Nevertheless, in contrast to Eastern Orthodox churches, the western churches state that the Holy Spirit proceeds not only from the Father, but from the Father and the Son (Latin, *filioque*). To the eastern churches, saying that the Holy Spirit proceeds from both Father and Son threatens the distinctiveness of the person of the Holy Spirit; to the western churches, the *filioque* guards the unity of the triune God. This issue remains unresolved in the ecumenical dialogue



### Advent Reflection Series

Advent season is quickly approaching. To help us grow deeper in our experience of God's presence during this very special time of the year, I am offering a series, Advent Reflections, around the book, "God Is In The Manger" by Dietrich Bonhoeffer. You are welcome to purchase the book (Amazon has it for about \$10.00) or I will have a copy of each weeks devotional readings. We will meet in the Library on Wednesday evenings at 6:00pm (November 29, December 6, 13, 20) and will be finished before choir practice at 7:00pm