

**Opening Hymn: Crown him with many crowns**

Crown him with many crowns,  
the Lamb upon his throne;  
hark, how the heavenly anthem drowns  
all music but its own:  
awake, my soul, and sing  
of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King  
through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of love;  
behold his hands and side,  
those wounds yet visible above  
in beauty glorified:  
no angel in the sky  
can fully bear that sight,  
but downward bends his burning eye  
at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of peace,  
whose power a sceptre sways  
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,  
and all be prayer and praise:  
his reign shall know no end,  
and round his pierced feet  
fair flowers of paradise extend  
their fragrance ever sweet.

Crown him the Lord of years,  
the Potentate of time,  
Creator of the rolling spheres,  
ineffably sublime:  
all hail, Redeemer, hail!  
for thou hast died for me;  
thy praise shall never, never fail  
throughout eternity.

*Diademata 147 AMNS*

**The Collect**

Eternal Father,  
whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven  
that he might rule over all things as Lord and King:  
keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit  
and in the bond of peace,  
and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet;  
who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever.

**The New Testament Reading**

A reading from the Letter of St Paul to the Colossians.

Brothers and sisters: may you be made strong with all the strength that comes from his glorious power, and may you be prepared to endure everything with patience, while joyfully giving thanks to the Father, who has enabled you 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.

He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together. He is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, so that he might come to have first place in everything. For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, by making peace through the blood of his cross.

This is the word of the Lord.

*Colossians 1: 11–20*

**Thanks be to God.**

**Gospel Acclamation: In the Lord I'll be ever thankful**

In the Lord I'll be ever thankful, in the Lord I will rejoice!

Look to God, do not be afraid; Lift up your voices the Lord is near. Lift up your voices the Lord is near.

*Taize Community*

**The Gospel**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Hear the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Luke.

**Glory to you, O Lord.**

When they came to the place that is called The Skull, they crucified Jesus there with the criminals, one on his right and one on his left. Then Jesus said, 'Father, forgive them; for they do not know what they are doing.' And they cast lots to divide his clothing. And the people stood by, watching; but the leaders scoffed at him, saying, 'He saved others; let him save himself if he is the Messiah of God, his chosen one!' The soldiers also mocked him, coming up and offering him sour wine, and saying, 'If you are the King of the Jews, save yourself!' There was also an inscription over him, 'This is the King of the Jews.' One of the criminals who were hanged there kept deriding him and saying, 'Are you not the Messiah? Save yourself and us!' But the other rebuked him, saying, 'Do you not fear God, since you are under the same sentence of condemnation? And we indeed have been condemned justly, for we are getting what we deserve for our deeds, but this man has done nothing wrong.' Then he said, 'Jesus, remember me when you come into your kingdom.' He replied, 'Truly I tell you, today you will be with me in Paradise.'

This is the Gospel of the Lord.

*St Luke 23: 33–43*

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**The Creed:**

Let us declare our faith in the living God.

**We believe in God the Father, from whom every family in heaven and on earth is named.**

**We believe in God the Son, who lives in our hearts through faith, and fills us with his love.**

**We believe in God the Holy Spirit, who strengthens us with power from on high.**

**We believe in one God; Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**Offertory Hymn: Christ it the King**

Christ is the King, O friends rejoice!  
Brothers and sisters, with one voice  
make all men know he is your choice:  
Alleluia!

The first apostles round them drew  
thousands of faithful men and true,  
sharing a faith for ever new:  
Alleluia!

Then magnify the Lord and raise  
anthems of joy and holy praise  
for Christ's brave saints of ancient days:  
Alleluia!

O Christian women, Christian men,  
all the world over, seek again  
the Way disciples followed then:  
Alleluia!

Christ through all ages is the same;  
place the same hope in his great name,  
with the same faith his word proclaim:  
Alleluia!

Let Love's unconquerable might  
God's people everywhere unite  
in service to the Lord of light:  
Alleluia!

*Vulpus (Gelobt sei Gott) 345 NEH*

**Anthem: Christus factus est**

Christus factus est pro nobis obediens usque ad  
mortem, mortem autem crucis.

Propter quod et Deus exaltavit illum,  
et dedit illi nomen, quod est super omne  
nomen.

*Christ became obedient for us to death,  
even death on a cross.*

*Therefore God also highly exalted him  
and gave him the name that is above every name.*

*Anton Bruckner (1824–96)  
Philippians 2: 8–9*

**Communion Hymn: Alleluia, sing to Jesus!**

Alleluia, sing to Jesus!  
his the sceptre, his the throne;  
alleluia, his the triumph,  
his the victory alone:  
hark, the songs of peaceful Sion  
thunder like a mighty flood;  
Jesus out of every nation  
hath redeemed us by his blood.

Alleluia, not as orphans  
are we left in sorrow now;  
alleluia, he is near us,  
faith believes, nor questions how:  
though the cloud from sight received him,  
when the forty days were o'er,  
shall our hearts forget his promise,  
'I am with you evermore'?

Alleluia, bread of angels,  
thou on earth our food, our stay;  
alleluia, here the sinful  
flee to thee from day to day:  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners,  
earth's Redeemer, plead for me,  
where the songs of all the sinless  
sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia, King eternal,  
thee the Lord of lords we own;  
alleluia, born of Mary,  
earth thy footstool, heaven thy throne:  
thou within the veil hast entered,  
robed in flesh, our great High Priest;  
thou on earth both Priest and Victim  
in the Eucharistic Feast.

*Hyfrydol 271 NEH*

**Dismissal: Christ triumphant, ever reigning**

Christ triumphant, ever reigning,  
Saviour, Master King!  
Lord of heaven, our lives sustaining,  
hear us as we sing:  
Yours the glory and the crown,  
the high renown, the eternal name!  
Word incarnate, truth revealing,  
Son of Man on earth!  
power and majesty concealing  
by your humble birth:  
Yours the glory and the crown,  
the high renown, the eternal name!

Suffering servant, scorned, ill-treated,  
victim crucified!  
death is through the cross defeated,  
sinners justified:  
Yours the glory and the crown,  
the high renown, the eternal name!  
Priestly king, enthroned for ever  
high in heaven above!  
sin and death and hell shall never  
stifle hymns of love:  
Yours the glory and the crown,  
the high renown, the eternal name!

So, our hearts and voices raising  
through the ages long,  
ceaselessly upon you gazing,  
this shall be our song:  
Yours the glory and the crown,  
the high renown, the eternal name!

*Guiting Power 612 AM*