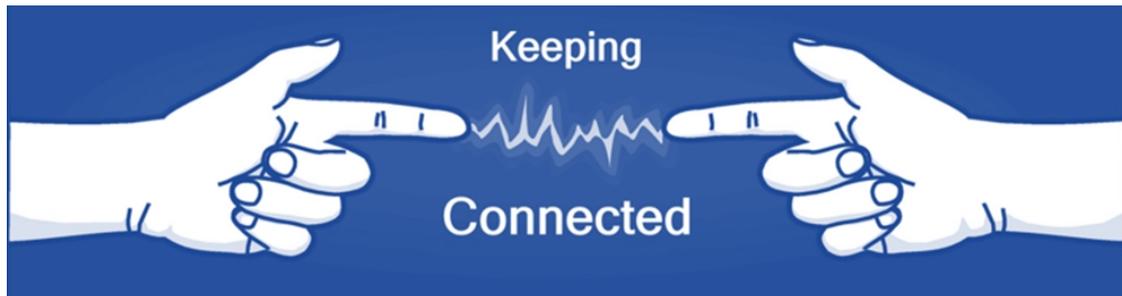


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For Sunday November 22 2020
The Reign of Christ

Visit us on the [WWW](#) - [Facebook](#) - [YouTube](#)



The Church's New Year Starts Next Week on the First Sunday of Advent

Stay tuned for learning opportunities and resources to enrich your spiritual journey through December to the celebration of the birth of our Lord on December 25.

Attending Church from Home

Not everyone is able or comfortable to attend church in person on Sunday mornings these days. But anyone with an internet connection can "tune in" to a recorded version of the service on our YouTube channel.

In acknowledgement of the diverse nature of our congregation, Sunday liturgy

is an amalgam of elements from the *Book of Common Prayer* and the *Book of Alternative Services*. An Order of Service for each Sunday's service is posted on our website in What's New every week on Friday so you can participate as if you were there.

Just follow these links:

[ST PAUL'S YOUTUBE CHANNEL](#) - for a recoded version of Sunday's service, usually available by early afternoon on a Sunday.

[ST PAUL'S WEB SITE](#) - for the Order of Service in *What's New*.

Volunteers are needed on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00.p.m. beginning November 20th to Dec 23rd to look after the **Salvation Army Kettle Campaign** at Patrice's Grocery Store.

If you are interested, please call Caroline Klickerman at 613-256-3314

A Message from Rev. Jonathon

The Kingdom of God

November is "Kingdom Season" in the liturgical calendars of many churches. It is a time to reflect on the Kingdom of God on earth and in heaven.

Jesus talks a lot about the Kingdom of God in the Gospels*. Many of our Sunday Gospel readings over the summer months included parables that Jesus told about the Kingdom of God.

But what exactly is the Kingdom of God? It isn't a geographical location, like an earthly kingdom. But it does have a King, and His name is Jesus Christ. The Kingdom of God is more like a state of being, or a way of living our lives, that recognizes the supremacy of Jesus Christ as our Lord.

This has always been a controversial idea. To the Jewish people in New Testament times, God was their ultimate King, and they could not understand that Jesus could be both God and human at the same time. To King Herod, a Jew



collaborating with the Romans as an administrator in Israel, Jesus was presented a challenge to his legitimacy as leader. To the Romans occupying the Holy Land, the Emperor Tiberius was the ultimate power of the Roman Empire, a god-like being. And so it has been down through the ages. The Kingship of Jesus Christ has always presented a problem and a threat to those in power who would rather see themselves as the ultimate authority.

As Christians have always claimed that Jesus is their Lord, this has often led to conflict with civil authorities. They believed that if Christians were loyal to Jesus, they could not be loyal to secular or non-Christian governments. At various times and places throughout history, Christians have been regarded with suspicion as having dual loyalties, or worse, being enemies of the state. This has led to countless persecutions and martyrdoms of Christians.

In Canada, we don't need to worry about being considered traitors by the government because of our beliefs (although unfortunately this is not the case for millions of Christians living in other countries around the world today).

But the question of the Kingship of Jesus Christ is still a controversial idea, even in a country like Canada. While we may not be facing political persecution because of our beliefs, the idea that "Jesus is Lord" is again counter-cultural in society, where individual rights and freedoms are elevated as the highest ideal.

This is not to say that I don't believe in individual rights and freedoms. I do. And I strongly support them. But it is to say that as Christians we are going against the mainstream culture by claiming that Jesus is our Lord, essentially surrendering our freedom and choosing to live under the authority of Jesus Christ.

This surrendering to Jesus and to His will is not a one-time event. It is an ongoing process that we live with and sometimes struggle through. But as we do

so, we begin to grow and mature spiritually. It is a process that we begin at our baptism when our parents and godparents (or ourselves if we were baptized as adults) make a promise that we will "grow into the full stature of Christ".

As we surrender to Jesus and His will, He becomes our Lord and our King. And when we live under His authority and according to His will, we begin to experience what it is like to live in the Kingdom of God. I is as if we are dual citizens; citizens of Canada but also citizens of the Kingdom of God.

And that is what we celebrate this week on Christ the King Sunday (also known as the Reign of Christ Sunday); that we, as Christians, are living under Christ's authority. And that as we do so, the Kingdom of God is established more and more in our lives and the world around us.

* The Gospel of Matthew uses the synonymous term "The Kingdom of Heaven", as this Gospel was written for Jewish Christians and there is a strong Jewish tradition of not using the name of God directly.

Invitation from the Diocese - Today 4 Tomorrow

PARTNER WITH US NOW - NEEDED ARE

PARISH AMBASSADORS

Your parish is invited to be an Ambassador for **Giving Tuesday** to support the Community Ministries and the people they serve. These Today 4 Tomorrow partners are five social services agencies: Centre 454, Cornerstone Housing for Women, Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre, St Luke's Table and The Well. They do so much to build a community of hope for people struggling with poverty, homelessness, food insecurity and mental health issues. Daily life is challenging at the best of times for people doing what they can every day to survive. For the most at risk people, these challenges are now compounded by Covid-19.

**#GIVING
TUESDAY**
December 1st, 2020

Jesus said, "Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me." Matthew 25:40

Together we can make a difference in people's lives. Here's how you can help.

- Sign up to be a Building a Community of Hope Ambassador by emailing today4tomorrow@ottawa.anglican.ca
- Post the Giving Tuesday information you will receive on your parish's website, print it in your Sunday bulletin on November 22nd and 29th, and share it on your Facebook page and through e-blast to your parishioners.

Visit <https://www.todayfortomorrow.ca/give-hope> to make a donation

To learn more about Building a Community of Hope click on this link <https://www.todayfortomorrow.ca/view-event>



WWW.TODAYFORTOMORROW.CA

[CLICK HERE](https://www.todayfortomorrow.ca) to link to the Today4Tomorrow web site.

READINGS FOR THIS SUNDAY

Reign of Christ

Click on a reading to see the text from the
New Revised Standard Version (NRSV) on the Bible Gateway

First reading: [Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24](#)

Psalm: [Psalm 100](#)

Second reading: [Ephesians 1:15-23](#)

Gospel: [Matthew 25:31-46](#)



Your prayers are requested for people everywhere as the second wave of the pandemic sweeps around the globe, asking for an increase in our love and care for everyone around us.

In the World. Pray for the Church of Bermuda (Extra-Provincial to the Archbishop of Canterbury). In our Companion Diocese, The Diocese of Jerusalem and the Middle East, we pray for Emmanuel Church, Ramleh, Israel. We pray for the ministry of SchoolBox at home in indigenous communities and in Central America.

In Canada. Pray for the Secretary General and staff of the Anglican Communion Office and for the members of the Joint Anglican-Lutheran Commission.

In our Diocese. Pray for the Rt. Rev. Shane Parker, our bishop and Michael Bird, our assisting bishop; Emmanuel, Arnprior - The Reverend Cathy McCaig; St. Luke's Table, (one of our Diocesan Community Ministries) and its Executive Director Rachel Robinson; the chaplain to the Ottawa Police Service, The Reverend Canon Robert Heard..

In Our Community. We ask God's blessing on local faith communities and on their ministries and, we pray for the people and leaders of this town of Almonte and the surrounding communities that the Lord will help us contribute to its well-being. We pray for the staff, volunteers, clients and patrons of the non-profit organization, The Hub.

In Our Parish. We pray for Jonathon, our priest, for ourselves and for each other. We ask for God's healing and comfort for Richard Lewis, Murray Pierce and Ted MacDonald.

We ask for God's blessing on our member Jack and Eloise Caverson, Harry and Sandra

Code, Tom and Jo Coleman, Nancy Deschênes, and Jack and Jo-Ann Donaldson.
We remember our neighbors, especially Assad, Alsit, Lana and Elias.

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**“Wireless communication is nothing new.
I’ve been praying for 75 years!”**

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