

# Order of Worship

27th Sunday after Pentecost  
November 24, 2024

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## Call to worship (based on Revelation 1:5-6)

What brings us together in this place?

**To worship Christ, who loves us,  
who freed us from our sins by his blood  
and who made us a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father.**

To him be glory and dominion forever and ever.

**Amen.**

Let's prepare our hearts and minds to worship Jesus Christ, our king.

## Call to confession (based on Hebrews 4:15-16, but with a little twist echoing John 18:33-37)

Christ sympathizes with our weaknesses. The one we call King in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Trusting in God's grace, let us confess our sin.

## Prayer of confession

**Lord, however much we call you king, we fail to follow your call to us. We succumb to the political temptations of this temporary world, seeking power and security while you call us to service and hospitality, consuming your creation while you call us to care for it, hating our neighbors, who you call us to love. In our failure to claim you, we identify more with the nations on our passports than with your kingdom.**

**We pray that you reclaim us as your people, forgive us as your children, and continue to be our Lord and our hope for salvation.**

## Assurance of pardon (based on Psalm 93:5, Revelation 1:5)

Hear the good news:

Jesus Christ loves us and has set us free from our sins.

In the name of Jesus Christ, and by the certainty of God's decree,  
Know that we are forgiven!

**Thanks be to God!**



God has poured out love upon us,  
and we have received forgiveness for our sins.  
We can now live in peace!  
May mercy, peace, and love be yours in abundance.

### **Prayer for illumination**

Holy Spirit, we pray that you enter into the hearts, minds, and souls of those who hear these words of Scripture. Illuminate the eternal essence of your being through our hearing of it, and through your power, transform this ink into the stuff of new life. Amen.

### **Scripture readings**

#### **Sermon**

**Affirmation of faith** (excerpts from The Theological Declaration of Barmen)

**Jesus Christ, as he is attested for us in Holy Scripture, is the one Word of God which we have to hear and which we have to trust and obey in life and in death.**

**The Christian Church is the congregation of the brethren in which Jesus Christ acts presently as the Lord in Word and Sacrament through the Holy Spirit. As the Church of pardoned sinners, it has to testify in the midst of a sinful world, with its faith as with its obedience, with its message as with its order, that it is solely his property, and that it lives and wants to live solely from his comfort and from his direction in the expectation of his appearance.**

**Call for the offering** (based on Revelation 1:8)

The Lord God is Alpha and Omega,  
the one who is, who was, and who is to come,  
the Almighty.

All that is, all that was, and all there will be  
belongs to God.  
Let us now return to God in part  
what is God's in whole.

**Prayer of dedication** (a light allusion to Daniel 7:13-14)

Holy One, we pray that you take these gifts of our labor, our wealth, our time, and our lives and use them to express your everlasting kingdom of love in this world. Amen.

**Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer**

To the one who reigns over all creation,  
the Almighty,  
Lord of Peace,  
Lord of Love,  
Lord of Life,  
Lord of Lords,  
King of our Hearts,



King of the Kingdom with No End,  
King of Kings,  
Christ,  
Messiah,  
Anointed One,  
Word of God,  
we name our prayers to you  
trusting that you,  
the Alpha and Omega,  
the beginning and the end,  
hear them and intercede on our behalf.

Hear us as we pray saying,  
Come Lord Jesus,  
hear our prayer

Time for the people to pray/time to lift up specific prayers from your congregation

We lift these prayers  
to the One who is, who was, and who is to come  
saying, **"Our Father..."**

### **Charge and benediction**

Love God,  
Love yourself,  
Love your neighbor.  
Live as a citizen of the Kingdom of Heaven.

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ  
be with your spirit.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!

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Liturgy written by Walter Canter  
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