

**Erwin Presbyterian Church**

**Reign of Christ Sunday**

 November 26, 2023

11:00 a.m.

105 N. Elm Ave., Erwin, TN 37650 \* 423-743-3431\* erwinpresbyterianchurch.com

Prelude *Meditation on “Germany”* arr. Albin C. Whitworth

Ethan Thomas, organist

**Welcome and Announcements** The Rev. Diana Moore

Introit *Christ, We Do All Adore Thee* Green Hymnbook #230

**\*Call to Worship (Psalm 100)** Mike Reese

Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth.
**All: Worship the Lord with gladness;
 come into God’s presence with singing.**
Leader: Know that the Lord is God.
**All: The Lord made us
 and we belong to our Creator;
 we are God’s people
 and the sheep of God’s pasture.**
Leader: Enter God’s gates with thanksgiving
 and the courts of the Lord with praise.
**All: Give thanks to God; bless God’s name.**

Leader: For the Lord is good;
**All: God’s steadfast love endures forever
 and God’s faithfulness to all generations.**

**\*Hymn** *All People That On Earth Do Dwell* Red Hymnbook # 24

**Call to Confession (from Ezekiel 34:11-12)** Mike Reese

Leader: Thus says the Lord our God: “I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out the scattered sheep, so I will seek out my people.” Trusting that God is indeed seeking us, let us confess our sin together:

*(Let us pray)*

**Prayer of Confession** Mike Reese

**All: Shepherding God, you have called to us, but we have not answered. You have sought us out, but we have continued to wander. You have tenderly gathered us together and cared for us, but we have not extended that same care and mercy to**

**others. Forgive us. Remind us. Teach us. Set us free from sin that we might turn toward your love and justice for the whole world. Guide us so that, tentative step after tentative step, we may walk your way. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon (from Ezekiel 34:15-16)** Mike Reese

Leader: Thus says the Lord our God: “I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down. 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.”

**All: The relentless grace of Jesus Christ always finds and forgives us. Thanks be to our ever-seeking God! Amen.**

(*Please take a moment of silent confession)*

Leader: we pray all these things in the name ofour savior, Jesus Christ.

**All: Amen.**

**\*Gloria Patri**  Red Hymnbook, #546

**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 of the Peace** The Rev. Diana Moore

Pastor: Jesus said, “My peace I give to you. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not let them be afraid.” May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

**All: And also with you.**

Pastor: Please take a moment to greet one another and share the peace of Christ.

**First Scripture Reading 1 Chronicles 16: 8-12, 23-36** Mike Reese

**8**O give thanks to the Lord, call on his name,
    make known his deeds among the peoples.
**9**Sing to him, sing praises to him;
    tell of all his wonderful works.
**10**Glory in his holy name;
    let the hearts of those who seek the Lord rejoice.
**11**Seek the Lord and his strength;
    seek his presence continually.
**12**Remember the wonderful works he has done,
    his miracles and the judgments he uttered . . .

**23**Sing to the Lord, all the earth.
    Tell of his salvation from day to day.
**24**Declare his glory among the nations,
    his marvelous works among all the peoples.
**25**For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;

For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;
    he is to be revered above all gods.
**26**For all the gods of the peoples are idols,
    but the Lord made the heavens.
**27**Honor and majesty are before him;
    strength and joy are in his place.

**28**Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples,
    ascribe to the Lord glory and strength.
**29**Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;
    bring an offering and come before him.
Worship the Lord in holy splendor;
**30**    tremble before him, all the earth.
    The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved.
**31**Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice,
    and let them say among the nations, “The Lord is king!”
**32**Let the sea roar and all that fills it;
    let the field exult and everything in it.
**33**Then shall the trees of the forest sing for joy
    before the Lord, for he comes to judge the earth.
**34**O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good,

 for his steadfast love endures forever.**35**Say also, “Save us, O God of our salvation,
    and gather and rescue us from among the nations,
that we may give thanks to your holy name
    and glory in your praise.
**36**Blessed be the Lord, the God of Israel,
    from everlasting to everlasting.”

Then all the people said “Amen!” and praised the Lord.

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Anthem** *Hymn of Promise*

**Prayer of Illumination** The Rev. Diana Moore

**Second Scripture Reading 2 Corinthians 9: 6-15** The Rev. Diana Moore

**6**The point is this: the one who sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and the one who sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. **7**Each of you must give as you have made up your mind, not regretfully or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. **8**And God is able to provide you with every blessing in abundance, so that by always having enough of everything, you may share abundantly in every good work. **9**As it is written,

“He scatters abroad; he gives to the poor;
    his righteousness endures forever.”

**10**He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. **11**You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us, **12**for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God. **13**Through the testing of this ministry you glorify God by your obedience to the confession of the gospel of Christ and by the generosity of your partnership with them and with all others, **14**while they long for you and pray for you because of the surpassing grace of God that he has given you. **15**Thanks be to God for his indescribable gift!

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Sermon** *Give Thanks* The Rev. Diana Moore

**\*Declaration of Faith (The Apostles’ Creed)** Mike Reese

Leader: Let’s confess our faith.

**All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God’s only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayer of the People**  The Rev. Diana Moore

***The Lord’s Prayer***

**All: 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.**

**Invitation to the Offering** Mike Reese

Leader: Jesus calls us to reach out and care for our neighbors in need. One way we do that is together as the church: the corporate body of Christ. Let us offer our gifts to God for God’s work in our community.

**Offertory Music *Jesus Shall Reign***

**\*Doxology** *Give Thanks* Green Hymnbook # 170

**Give thanks with a grateful heart;
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we’re given Jesus Christ, the Son.
Give thanks with a grateful heart;
give thanks to the Holy One;
give thanks because we’re given Jesus Christ, the Son.

And now let the weak say,
“We are strong;”
let the poor say,
“We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!”

And now let the weak say,
“We are strong;”
let the poor say,
“We are rich because of what the Lord has done for us!”
Give thanks.
Give thanks.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication** Mike Reese

Generous God, we bless your name because you have called us and claimed us and sent us into the world to do your will. Receive now this offering, both of our money and our lives. Through these gifts, may the hungry be fed, the thirsty quenched, the naked clothed, and the stranger welcomed. In Jesus’ name we pray.

**All: Amen.**

**\*Hymn** *Now Thank We All Our God*Red Hymnbook # 9

**\*Benediction**

**Benediction Response** *Shalom*

**Shalom to you now, shalom, my friends.**

**May God’s full mercies bless you, my friends.**

**In all your living, and through your loving,**

**Christ be your shalom, Christ be your shalom.**

**Postlude** *Lead On, O King Eternal* arr. Edward Broughton

Ethan Thomas, organist

*\*Responses with an asterisk indicate standing. Please stand as you are able.*

**Announcements**

* **Special Student Advent Class ─** (December 3, 10, 17, and 24): Youth will meet in the Scout Hall. There will also be one off-site lesson to observe and discuss nativity scenes. See Sarah Shults for more information.
* **The Birth of Jesus through Middle Eastern Eyes**─(December 3, 17, and 24): In this three-week Advent series, Rev. Dr. Ramy Marcos who grew up in the Middle East will bring a fresh reading to the Christmas story in its original biblical context.
* **Youth Activity December 10** ─ (Sunday) Immediately following service, our youth will go to Johnson City for lunch and bowling.
* **New Members' Class**: Erwin Presbyterian Church is planning to hold a new members' class that will discuss the essential elements of our faith and church membership. If you are interested in becoming a member at EP Church, please contact Rev. Marcos.
* **December 2 ─** (Saturday): Church decoration for Christmas
* **December 10 ─** (Cantata Sunday 11 a.m.): *Walk in the Light*  by Lani Smith
* **Food Collection ─** Items for November are canned chicken and tuna.
* **Elder of the Month** ─ Frank Gentry

**Sources for Worship Liturgy**

The liturgy is from The Presbyterian Outlook and was written by the Rev. Ginna Bairby.

**Welcome Visitors**: Welcome! If you are visiting please fill out one of the green visitor’s cards from the pew and put it in the offering plate. We are glad you are here! Hope to see you again soon!

**Contact Information**

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**Office hours** **M-Th, Sun:** 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.  **M-Th:** 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.