



*"Making Joyful Noise," drawing by Susan Murtaugh, c. 2016*



**CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY  
and Day of Thanksgiving**

*November 22, 2020 ✦ 10:00 a.m.*

## Christ the King Sunday: The Last Sunday in Ordinary Time

“From amidst diversified and often warring creeds: over a vast span of history: in the language of many a tribe and many a nation: out of the mouths of the learned and simple, the lowly and great: despite oceans of bloodshed, and torturing inhumanities, and persecutions unspeakable—the single voice of a greater Humanity rises confidently to heaven, saying “We adore Thee, who are One and who art Love: and it is in unity and love that we would live together, doing Thy will.”

— Victor Gollancz

### GATHERING

*The Holy Spirit gathers us in unity on the first day, the day of Christ's resurrection*

Prelude

*Dr. Patricia Snyder, organ*

Welcome

Greeting

*One:* The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

*Many:* **And also with you.**

Call to Worship

*One:* “In his days justice shall flourish,  
and peace, till the moon fails.”

*(Psalm 72:7)*

*Many:* **In his days justice shall flourish  
and the voices of those who are oppressed will be heard.  
The poor will receive enough on which to live,  
and the rich will share gladly  
the abundance they have received at the hand of God.**

*One:* “In his days justice shall flourish,  
and peace, till the moon fails.”

*Many:* **The wolf will lie down with the lamb:  
the fierce will give way to the tame,  
the powerless will contain the power of the mighty.**

*One:* “In his days justice shall flourish,  
and peace, till the moon fades.”

*Many:* **God will give judgment to the King,  
to the One who comes in the name of the Lord  
to establish peace and justice  
with integrity and with mercy.**

Hymn — “Come, Ye Thankful People, Come”

*this bulletin, pg. 5*

## Prayer of the Day

*One:* Let us pray.

*Many:* **Demanding God,**

**you call us to account for the use of your gifts:  
pull down the storehouses of accumulated greed  
which impoverish people and despoil the earth;  
put our hands to work  
sowing the seeds and reaping the growth  
of justice, thanksgiving, and praise;  
through Jesus Christ, the King of the harvest. Amen.**

## News from our Life Together

### WORD

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*God speaks to us in scripture reading, preaching, and song*

**Interlude** — “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd”

*this bulletin, pg. 6, vss. 1 & 2*

### Prayer for Illumination

**Scripture Reading** — Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

Because Israel’s kings proved to be bad shepherds, Ezekiel declares that the Lord will assume the role of shepherd in Israel. The Lord will also set over them a shepherd-messiah, “my servant David,” who will feed and care for the people.

**Scripture Reading** — Matthew 25:31-46

Jesus compares himself to a king who moves among his subjects to see how he is treated: what is done for the least of those who belong to his family is truly done for him.

**Interlude** — “You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd”

*this bulletin, pg. 6, vss. 3 & 4*

**Sermon**

*The Rev. Matthew Emery*

### RESPONSE

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*We begin our lives of responding to the gospel in prayer and offering*

### Responding with our Gifts

**Give online:** Go to [www.storrsconchurch.org](http://www.storrsconchurch.org) and click the green “Give now...” button.

**Text:** Text “StorrsCongChurch” to 73256, followed by your gift amount (i.e. “StorrsCongChurch \$100”) to access online giving via text message.

*Those participating via Zoom are welcome to submit prayer petitions (joys and concerns) during this time via the Chat feature in Zoom.*

### An Offering Thought

"And the king will answer them, 'Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me.'"— Matthew 25:40

When our thankfulness translates into action and service to "the least of these," we may never fully realize the ripple effects. How might you show gratitude to God in tangible ways that lift up your neighbor in need?

**OFFERTORY MUSIC**      *Quartet: Cathy Jeffers, Audrey Rivetta, Cooper Clark, Jonah Garcia*  
"For the Beauty of the Earth" by Rutter

For the beauty of the earth, For the beauty of the skies,  
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies, over and around us lies  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise

For the beauty of the hour, Of the day and of the night  
Hill and vale and tree and flower, Sun and moon and stars of light, Sun and moon and stars of light  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise

For the joy of human love, Brother, sister, parent, child  
Friends on earth and friends above, For all gentle thoughts and mild, For all gentle thoughts and mild  
Lord of all, to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise

### The Prayers of the People, *ending with* The Lord's Prayer

**Many:** 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 glory forever. Amen.

## SENDING

*God blesses us and sends us forth in mission for the world*

**Hymn** — "Now Thank We All Our God"

*this bulletin, pg. 7*

### Benediction

**Postlude** — "Now Thank We All Our God" by Karg-Elert

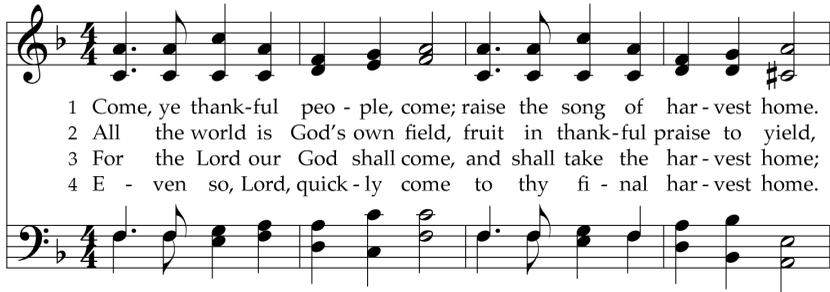
*Dr. Patricia Snyder, organ*

## Notes and Acknowledgements

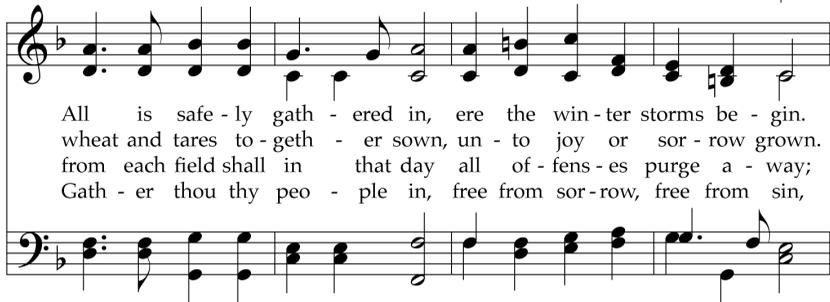
### Acknowledgements:

- Call to Worship adapt. from "The Return of the King: A liturgy" in Ruth Burgess, ed., *Candles & Conifers: Resources for All Saints' and Advent*, ©2005, pub. Wild Goose Resource Group, Iona Community, Scotland.
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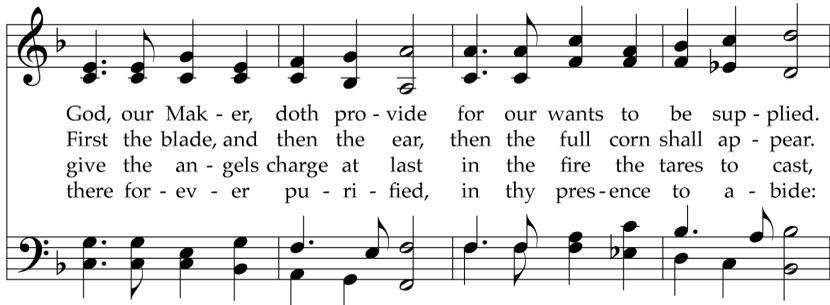
## 367 Come, Ye Thankful People, Come



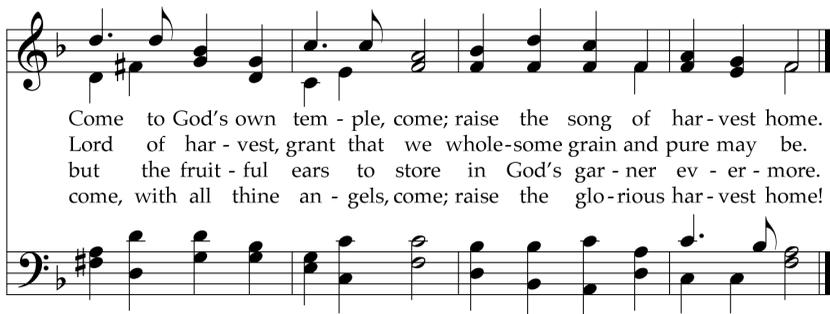
1 Come, ye thank-ful peo - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.  
 2 All the world is God's own field, fruit in thank-ful praise to yield,  
 3 For the Lord our God shall come, and shall take the har - vest home;  
 4 E - ven so, Lord, quick - ly come to thy fi - nal har - vest home.



All is safe - ly gath - ered in, ere the win - ter storms be - gin.  
 wheat and tares to - geth - er sown, un - to joy or sor - row grown.  
 from each field shall in that day all of - fens - es purge a - way;  
 Gath - er thou thy peo - ple in, free from sor - row, free from sin,



God, our Mak - er, doth pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied.  
 First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall ap - pear.  
 give the an - gels charge at last in the fire the tares to cast,  
 there for - ev - er pu - ri - fied, in thy pres - ence to a - bide:



Come to God's own tem - ple, come; raise the song of har - vest home.  
 Lord of har - vest, grant that we whole - some grain and pure may be.  
 but the fruit - ful ears to store in God's gar - ner ev - er - more.  
 come, with all thine an - gels, come; raise the glo - rious har - vest home!

Despite its familiar Thanksgiving associations, the real concern of this text is to recall the harvest imagery Jesus used to describe the fulfillment of God's sovereignty. The tune name commemorates the royal chapel where the composer was organist for forty-seven years.

# You, Lord, Are Both Lamb and Shepherd 274

Capo 5: (Am) (F) (C) (Em) (Am) (A7)  
 Dm B<sup>b</sup> F Am Dm D7

1 You, Lord, are both Lamb and Shep-herd. You, Lord, are both  
 2 Clothed in light up - on the moun-tain, stripped of might up -  
 3 You, who walk each day be - side us, sit in pow - er  
 4 Wor - thy is our earth - ly Je - sus! Wor - thy is our

(Dm) (G) (C) (F) (Em) (Dm) (Am)  
 Gm C F B<sup>b</sup> Am Gm Dm

prince and slave. You, peace-mak - er and sword-bring - er  
 on the cross, shin - ing in e - ter - nal glo - ry,  
 at God's side. You, who preach a way that's nar - row,  
 cos - mic Christ! Wor - thy your de - feat and vic - tory;

(B<sup>b</sup>) (F) (E) (A/C<sup>#</sup>) (Dm)  
 E<sup>b</sup> B<sup>b</sup> A D/F<sup>#</sup> Gm

of the way you took and gave. You, the ev - er - last - ing  
 beg - gared by a sol - dier's toss, you, the ev - er - last - ing  
 have a love that reach - es wide. You, the ev - er - last - ing  
 wor - thy still your peace and strife. You, the ev - er - last - ing

(Am) (G) (Am) (Dm) (Em) (Am)  
 Dm C Dm Gm Am Dm

in - stant; you, whom we both scorn and crave.  
 in - stant; you who are both gift and cost.  
 in - stant; you, who are our pil - grim guide.  
 in - stant; you, who are our death and life.

When it was first published, the author called this text "Christus Paradox," because so many attributes of Christ stand in tension with each other. Mindful of the works of Søren Kierkegaard, she drafted it on a commuter bus after "a particularly bad day" of prison ministry.

## 643 Now Thank We All Our God

1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voice,  
 2 O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
 3 All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,

who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;  
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
 to Father and to Son and Spirit now be given:

who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way  
 and keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
 the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,

with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.  
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.  
 the God who was, and is, and shall be evermore.

Although this hymn is often used on large and festive occasions, its first two stanzas had much humbler beginnings: they originated as a family table prayer during the Thirty Years' War (1618–1648). These words have been associated with this tune since the mid-17th century.

**A Note on Giving:** We welcome and encourage your financial generosity in support of the Storrs Congregational Church UCC! Giving back to God and God's mission through the life of this church is a part of your gratitude towards God and your faithful stewardship of all that God has entrusted to you.

- **Mail:** You can mail your check or money order to us at the church office
- **Drop-off:** You can drop off cash, checks, or money orders at the church office during the week.
- **Online Bill Pay:** Most banks and credit unions offer an “online bill pay” in their online account access. All you need to do is set up the church as another payee in that system, and your bank or credit union will print a check and mail it to us at no cost—you don't even need to find a stamp!
- **Online or text via ACH debit from a checking or savings account:** By using our website giving portal (go to [www.storrsconchurch.org](http://www.storrsconchurch.org) and click the green “Give now...” button), you can make an auto-debit from your checking or savings account. (Note that we are assessed a small processing fee, 1% of the contribution, plus 35¢ per transaction. You will be given the option—and it *is* optional—when you make your contribution to add a small amount to offset the 1% processing fee.)
- **Online or text via Debit Card or Credit Card:** By using our website giving portal (go to [www.storrsconchurch.org](http://www.storrsconchurch.org) and click the green “Give now...” button), you can charge your contribution to a debit card or credit card. (Note that we are assessed a small processing fee, 3% of the contribution, plus 35¢ per transaction. You will be given the option—and it *is* optional—when you make your contribution to add a small amount to offset the 3% processing fee.) If using a *credit* card, know that we as a church do *not* want you to add to any debt load in order for you to contribute, as that's not good stewardship! If using a *credit* card, please make sure, for your own sake, that it's a card for which you pay off the balance each month.

If you have any questions about how to make a contribution, or about your giving history, feel free to contact our Collector, Donna Latincsics (contact info available through the church office).

**We envision our community as a welcoming, historic, and progressive Christian community.** We are an Open and Affirming congregation: Believing that each of us is unique and blessed with special talents from God, each a creation of God's love, alike and yet different, we open our doors and our ministry to *all*. We accept into full participation in the life of this Church: people of any age, economic status, gender, marital status, race, sexual orientation, and physical, emotional and mental capability. As a community, we will work to put aside all prejudices and to affirm and promote the worth and dignity of each person.

## STORRS CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*We share in God's love by growing in faith,  
courageously seeking justice, and generously caring for all people.*

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