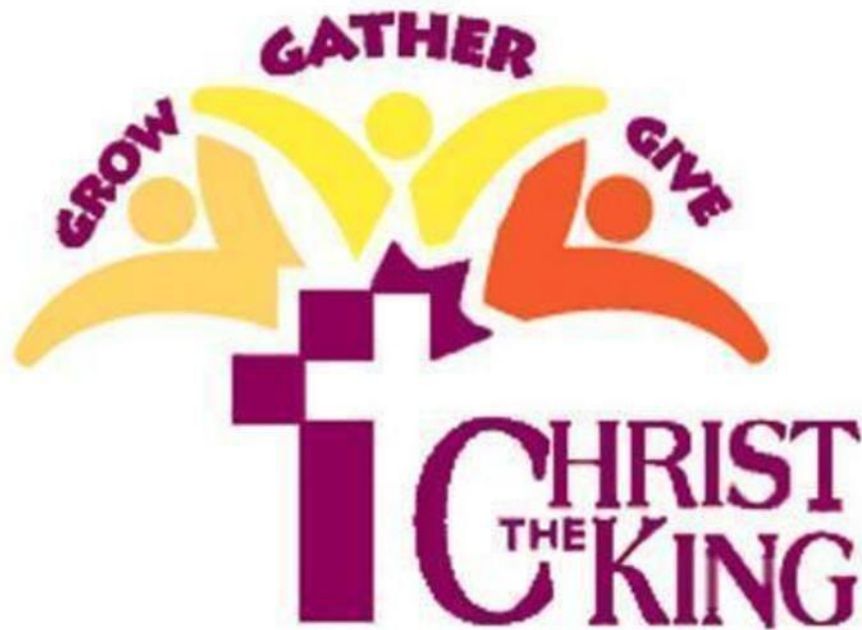


The United Church of Christ of Robesonia

301 West Penn Avenue, Robesonia, PA 19551

*No matter who you are,
or where you are on life's journey,
you're welcome here.*



*Welcome to our Combined
10:15am Worship Service
In-Person & Streaming Online*



November 20, 2022
24th Sunday after Pentecost
Christ the King Sunday
10:15 a.m.

Welcome

*May God's loving presence be very real to you,
and may you receive strength and guidance today
That will enable you to handle life's challenges.*

Children's Bulletins

Crayons and activity bulletins are available in the narthex.
The activities match today's Bible readings and are designed for 3-6 & 7-12 year olds.

Biblias en Español

Biblias Bilingües en Español y Inglés están disponible en el vestíbulo narthex en la mesa de visitantes azul.
(*Bilingual Bibles in Spanish & English are available in the narthex hallway on the blue visitors' table.*)

Nursery

Persons of all ages (including children) are very welcome to participate in the entire worship service. For an additional option, we have supervised nursery for 0-8 year olds, located on the first floor.

Junior Worship

On the 2nd and 3rd Sunday of the month, following the mini message, the option of "Junior Worship" is offered downstairs for elementary age children to learn more about today's scripture lessons with fellow youth.

Restrooms

Restrooms are located both on the first and second floors to the left of the elevator.

Changing Tables

All four of our restrooms have changing tables. Each restroom has two "child care protection seats" to keep toddlers safe and secure while their parents use the restroom.

Water Fountains

For the safety of all, our water fountains are disabled during the pandemic.

Sunday School & Adult Faith Formation Classes

Classes for all ages are held at 9:00am.

Sunday Worship

Sunday Worship is held at 10:15am.

Prayer and Care

If you would like to add yourself or someone else to the prayer list, or request a pastoral call, please call or email the church office. You are welcome to take home with you a copy of *Our Daily Bread* daily devotional booklet, located on a table in the narthex hallway.

Looking for a Church to Call Home

If you are looking for a new church family home, we would be happy for you to consider St. Paul's or Zion United Church of Christ. For more information about St. Paul's, Zion, and the UCC, we invite you to talk with our pastors, an usher, a greeter, or any member of our churches.

More Information...

Additional literature about our missions, ministries, and fellowship opportunities is located on the **Blue Visitor Table** in the narthex hallway, or contact us using the contact information on the front page of this bulletin.

Please let us know if we can be in prayer with you or if there is any way in which we can help make your worship experience more meaningful.

*{Symbols used in this bulletin: * = if able please stand; ♪# = Red Hymnal Page; ♪# = Blue Hymnal Page}*



Free WiFi

Virtual Worship Service

Online: [Live Stream](#) at sprucc.org - Live or Watch & Listen Later on [St. Paul's UCC YouTube Channel](#)
[Facebook Live](#) (St. Paul's) at <https://www.facebook.com/www.sprucc.org/> - Live or Watch & Listen Later
[Phone Stream](#) at 1-888-649-5770 - Live or Listen Later

If you have any access problems, please let us know at 610-621-5770 or Office@sprucc.org

We Gather

*We are coming together as a community of faith to worship our God,
and provide for one another our love, support, and care.*

*Please Do Not move the red ribbons or sit where they are placed.
They are there for your safety and the safety of those around you to help designate social distancing.*

A TIME OF GATHERING

RINGING OF THE BELL

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*{If you have not already done so,
please sign and pass the pew welcome pad
to the person next to you.}*

PRAYER BEFORE WORSHIP ② *(Unison)*

O God our shepherd, we worship to you with gladness, for you have gathered us as your beloved flock. You have sent a mighty Savior, who has demonstrated among us the power of love. Send your Spirit now to remind us of your gifts and to strengthen us for our tasks. May we show our loyalty to Christ by the way we live every day. Amen.

BELL PRELUDE

“Praise and Alleluia”

by Arnold Sherman

{Those who are able, please rise}

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

W&R #106

One License #A-728042

Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper.

*INVOCATION

Leader: In the name of God the Father, and of God the Son, and of God the Holy Spirit.

ALL: Amen.

*CALL TO WORSHIP ②

Leader: By the tender mercy of our God, we meet for worship.
God has brought the dawn of a new day for our joy.

**People: God is our refuge and strength in times of trouble.
God is our guide and inspiration when things go well.**

Leader: God gives light to those who live in the shadows.
God offers stillness amid the turbulence of our times.

**People: We live in covenant with God, who gives us the best.
In thanksgiving to God, we are eager to do our best for others in return.**

We Repent

This is a time to confess our wrongdoings and neglects, ask for God's mercy, admit our need for God's forgiving grace, hear the assurance of our forgiveness, and then give God our thanks and praise.

*CALL TO CONFESSION ② (Leader)

Come, all who dwell in the shadow of death, whose ways are not God's ways, whose works scatter and destroy rather than gather and build up. God summons us to a time of repentance and reconciliation. Let us admit our unfaithfulness that we might be restored to the flock.

*CONFESSION OF SIN ② (Unison)

O Lord, many times you have rescued us. Yet we continue to wander away from your vision for us. We claim to be followers of Jesus, but we do not speak up and bear witness when he is mocked, misunderstood, or misrepresented. We do not respond when he summons us from the perilous byways we have chosen. Our words and deeds deny the faith we proclaim. God of all nations, deliver us from misplaced loyalties and unacknowledged sin. Forgive our foolish ways. Amen.

*SILENT PRAYERS OF CONFESSION

{A time to silently offer our personal prayers of confession}

*SUNG PRAYER FOR MERCY

"Kyrie"

Red #518

Leader (<i>spoken</i>):	Lord, have mercy upon us.
People (<i>sung</i>):	Lord, have mercy upon us.
Leader (<i>spoken</i>):	Christ, have mercy upon us.
People (<i>sung</i>):	Christ, have mercy upon us.
Leader (<i>spoken</i>):	Lord, have mercy upon us.
People (<i>sung</i>):	Lord, have mercy upon us.

Public Domain

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON ② (Leader)

Jesus Christ has claimed for us God's forgiveness and restoration to full partnership. Christ's promises are for today as well as for unknown tomorrows. We have been Rescued from enemy hands, that we might serve God without fear. We are citizens of God's kingdom, where Jesus reigns in the triumphant power of love. Give joyful thanks to God, who has enabled you to share in the inheritance of the saints. **Amen.**

*CALL TO PRAISE ⑩

Leader: Steadfast love surrounds those who trust in the LORD. Be glad in the LORD and rejoice, shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

People: **O Lord, be upon us, even as we hope in you and sing you our praise.**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, you heav’nly host.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

(Please be seated)

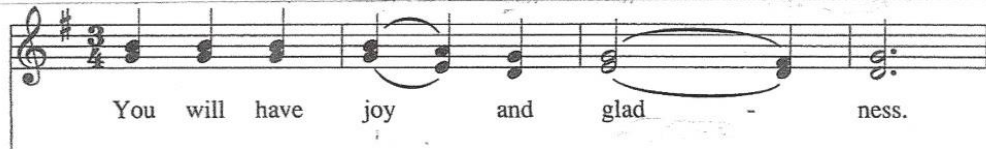
We Hear the Word of God

We seek to learn more about God’s love and grace, and how we are to live our lives as disciples of Jesus Christ. The Bible is our primary text on faith, which we consider to be scripture - sacred writings. We believe the Bible to be the “inspired word of God.” Gospel (which means “Good News”) refers to Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John, which are Christians’ most central books of the Bible.

Proclamation of Scripture

New Testament Song: [Luke 1:68-79](#) Canticle NCH 733

Leader: Let us praise God with canticle of Zechariah...



Leader: “Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,

People: for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them.

Leader: God has raised up a mighty savior for us

People: in the house of his servant David,

Leader: as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,

People: that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us.

{Sung response}: You will have joy and gladness.

Leader: Thus God has shown the mercy

People: promised to our ancestors,

Leader: and has remembered his holy covenant,

People: the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham,

Leader: to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies,

People: might serve him without fear, in holiness before him all our days.

{Sung Response}: You will have joy and gladness.

Leader: And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;

People: for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,

Leader: to give knowledge of salvation to his people

People: by the forgiveness of their sins.

Leader: By the tender mercy of our God,

People: the dawn from on high will break upon us,

Leader: to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death,

People: to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

5 **{Sung Response}: You will have joy and gladness.**

New Testament Letter: [Colossians 1:11-20](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

GOSPEL LESSON: [Luke 23:33-43](#)

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN

“Rejoice, the Lord is King”

*W&R #342
Public Domain*

MINI-MESSAGE

*{Children may return to their pews and remain for the rest of worship,
or 0-8 year olds may go downstairs to nursery,
or on the 2nd & 3rd Sundays of the month, elementary age children may go downstairs at this time
for the additional option of “Junior Worship”}*

CHILDREN’S SONG “PRAISE HIM”

**Praise him, praise him, praise him in the morning, praise him at the
noontime.**

Praise him, praise him, praise him when the sun goes down.

Serve him, serve him, serve him in the morning, serve him at the noontime.

Serve him, serve him, serve him when the sun goes down.

SERMON

We Respond with Thanks

*We have heard God's call and have come and worshiped,
we have confessed our sins and been assured of our forgiveness, we have
learned more about God's grace and God's will. We now respond by
re-affirming our faith in God,
praying with and for one another, trusting in God's providence in our world, and
giving of ourselves for the sake of the mission and ministry of Jesus Christ.*

{Those who are able, please rise}

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: *The Apostle's Creed*

**I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.**

**And in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended to the dead;
on the third day he rose again,
ascended into heaven,
and is seated on the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
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.**

(Please be seated)

CALL TO PRAYER

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us pray....

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: O God, our true life, to serve you is freedom, and to know you is unending joy. We worship you, we glorify you, we give thanks to you for your great glory. Abide with us, reign in us, and make this world into a fit habitation for your divine majesty, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
United with your saints across time and place, we pray for our shared world.

A brief silence.

We pray for your church. Embolden denominations and faith-based organizations in creative and collaborative ministries and increase our work for the sake of the gospel. Lord, in your mercy,

7 People: receive our prayer.

Leader: We pray for the earth. Protect waterways from pollution and animal habitats from destruction. We pray for Union Canal; Schuylkill River; Furnace, Spring, Tulpehocken, Cacoosing, and Manor Creeks; Blue Marsh and Lake Ontelaunee; and underground springs, wells, aquifers, and waterways. Guide us in careful stewardship of waters, plant life, and animals. Lord, in your mercy,

People: receive our prayer.

Leader: We pray for the nations of the world. Instill in every leader's heart a desire for justice and peace. Support the work of international collaborations that seek the goals of health and joy for all people. Lord, in your mercy,

People: receive our prayer.

Leader: We pray for all who are undermined or oppressed. Amplify the voices of the unheard and break open stubborn systems of injustice. Bring about your righteousness and fill us all with your redeeming light. Lord, in your mercy,

People: receive our prayer.

Leader: We pray for this congregation. Guide our pastors, elders, deacons, trustees and committee leaders and nurture new leaders with fresh ideas. Give this congregation a spirit of discipleship and service. Lord, in your mercy,

People: receive our prayer.

Leader: We give thanks for all who have died in the faith. Console us who mourn and comfort us with the beautiful promise of life in your kingdom. Lord, in your mercy,

People: receive our prayer.

Leader: Accept these prayers, gracious God, and those known only to you; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, in whose name we pray....

LORD'S PRAYER (*Unison*)

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.

SUNG PRAYER RESPONSE *"Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"*

♪ *Red #501*

Hear our prayer, O Lord;

Hear our prayer, O Lord;

Hear our prayer, O Lord,

And grant us Thy peace. Amen.

{Ushers assemble at rear of sanctuary}

We Are Sent Out

*In response to God's love and grace,
we go out into the world to share God's Good News
through our words and actions.*

*COMMISSION ②

Leader: Rejoice in the tender mercy of our God.

Give thanks for the one who demonstrated God's love.

People: Christ has looked favorably on us and redeemed us.

Christ has prepared the way for us to go.

Leader: Be still and know that the LORD is God.

Let the Good Shepherd lead you day by day.

People: We will not fear or be dismayed.

The LORD is our refuge and strength, our help in trouble.

Christ is our Savior, who welcomes us to God's kingdom,

and we will seek to welcome others to know his grace.

ALL: Amen.

*BENEDICTION

*THREE FOLD SUNG AMEN

Red #558

Public Domain

*SENDING HYMN

"Crown Him with Many Crowns"

E&R #176

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Reprinted at the back of the bulletin on colored paper.

*{During the hymn, today's Greeters & Ushers may return to the rear of the sanctuary,
to help greet after worship.}*

*{Acolyte carries the light back into the world, leading us,
as we now go to carry God's light and love back into the world.}*

POSTLUDE

TIME OF FELLOWSHIP



The Flow of the Worship Service

Our worship service has an intentional order to it. The flow of worship is called the liturgical movement. The movement reminds us weekly of our journey in faith of moving from being separated from God by sin, to being restored by God's grace as disciples of Christ. It is based on the sixth chapter of the Biblical book of Isaiah.

- (1) God welcomes us and invites us
- (2) We respond to God's call by worshiping Him
- (3) We confess our need for God's forgiveness and grace
- (4) We are assured of God's forgiveness and grace
- (5) We learn more about God's will through scripture, song, and sermon
- (6) We grow closer to God and one another through prayer
- (7) We give God thanks by offering our time, talent, and treasure
- (8) God sends us into the world to share His love and grace with others



Worship Service Resource Credits

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 - ② *Gathered By Love* by Lavon Baylor. (1994). United Church Press; Cleveland, OH.
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 - ⑦ *Lecturn Resource*. (2014). Logos Productions, Inc.; Grove Heights, MN.
 - Edmonds, Robert Lee (Editor). (2008). *In Our Own Way; Living a Scouting Life Through Faith; A Handbook of Prayer and Devotion*. Dallas, TX: Red Honor Press
 - ⑧ Reprinted with Permission from *Lecturn Resource*. 2014. Logos Productions, Inc., Inver Grove Heights, MN.
 - Miller, Earl D. (1994). *Consecrating Stewards*. Ohio Conference, United Church of Christ.
 - ⑨ The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz
 - The Rev. Mary Etta Mest
 - *Occasional Services; A Companion to the Lutheran Book of Worship*. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress. (1982).
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Pastor & Teacher: The Rev. Dr. Benjamin Motz - PastorMotz@sprucc.org - 610-621-5770 (O)

Pastor & Teacher: The Rev. Mary Etta Mest - mestme@aol.com - 610-659-2775 (C)

Music Minister: The Rev. Robert Masenheimer

Bell Choir Director: Miriam Borkert

Office Secretary: Geri Gammel - Office@sprucc.org - 610-621-5770 (O)

Church Secretary: Janice Conner - 610-781-4825 or 717-933-8910

Sextons: Michael Pastor & Terry Pastor

St. Paul's United Church of Christ

301 West Penn Avenue; Robesonia, PA 19551

610-621-5770 *** office@sprucc.org

www.SPRUCC.org

Consistory President: Sheri Rowe

Consistory Vice President: Elsa Wertz

Consistory Secretary:

Treasurer: Terry Pastor

Acting Financial Secretary: Terry Pastor

Zion United Church of Christ

PO Box 97; Womelsdorf, PA 19567

www.1Zion.org

Consistory President: George McLain

Consistory Vice President: Cory Putt

Consistory Secretary: Yvonne Rentschler

Treasurer: George McLain 717-628-1875 or

610-507-7865

Financial Secretary: Janice Conner

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Password (for both): iamheretoserve

Website's Link to **Upcoming Eve**



About Today

Church Season: Pentecost –which is the season of the church in mission. It is the time between the ascension of Christ and his second coming, which is the time we are presently living in today, and as such is the longest season of the church year. The day of Pentecost is the birthday of the Christian Church.

Color of the Paraments (cloths on the altar and pulpit):

White – symbolizing the purity of the Kingdom of God, which we inherit through the grace of God and our baptism in Christ.

Green – the color of growing life, symbolizing the life God brings and the growth of the church, especially through our mission work

The suggested scripture lessons are from the Revised Common Lectionary (RCL), which selects passages throughout the Bible over a three year cycle. The RCL is the most common lectionary used by Christian churches. We are in **Year C**, which emphasizes the Gospel of Luke.

The Bible is in two sections: Old Testament - OT (scripture prior to Christ's birth), located in the first 2/3 of the Bible; and New Testament - NT (about Christ & early church). The first four books of the NT are called the "Gospels," which Christians consider the most central books of the Bible; the rest of the NT takes place after his ascension into heaven.

This Sunday, November 20, 2022 -- Lectionary Reading for Christ the King Sunday

Luke 1:68-79

Psalm 46

Colossians 1:11-20

Luke 23:33-43

Psalm 46

This OT song expresses confidence in God's protecting care in the midst of whatever trouble comes.

The Letter of Paul to the Colossians

This Epistle (letter) (NT) to the gentile church in Colossae, was perhaps written in the mid-60s A.D. to deal with a controversy within this church and to support the teaching and leadership of Epaphras as their minister, who is also the founder of this congregation. Persons were drifting away from being centered in the word of truth of the gospel, and instead were following deceitful philosophy, familiar traditions, and Greco-Roman notions of celestial powers. This letter reasserts the importance of turning to Christ, who is the sole head of the church, which is his body, and the need for the members of the congregation to devote themselves more fully to prayer. Paul was a Christian, Jew, Pharisee, Roman citizen, and church leader, who had a direct encounter with Jesus Christ on the road to Damascus after Jesus' ascension into heaven. Paul wrote more of the NT than any other person.

The Gospel According to Luke

The Gospel of Luke and the Acts of the Apostles is attributed to Luke "the beloved physician," written around 59-90 A.D. (C.E.). Not having met Jesus personally, Luke undertook the task of "investigating everything carefully from the very first, to write an orderly account" of Jesus Christ, "so that you may know the truth concerning the things about which you have been instructed."

Next Sunday, November 27, 2022 -- Lectionary Reading for the First Sunday of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5

Psalm 122

Romans 13:11-14

Matthew 24:36-44



November 20, 2022

Thanksgiving Thoughts

"If God gives such attention to the appearance of wildflowers—most of which are never even seen—don't you think he'll attend to you, take pride in you, do his best for you? What I'm trying to do here is to get you to relax, to not be so preoccupied with getting, so you can respond to God's giving. People who don't know God and the way he works fuss over these things, but you know both God and how he works. Steep your life in God-reality, God-initiative, God-provisions. Don't worry about missing out. You'll find all your everyday human concerns will be met.

- Matthew 6:30-33 (from THE MESSAGE)

As a preacher, it shouldn't surprise you that I am a lover of words. I constantly listen to podcasts on my phone as I walk our dogs throughout the day, and because of those dogs I'm always looking down to see where and what they are sniffing at or what they are doing their business on. The words clog my ears with politics, culture, history, and a few odd and ends interests and my eyes are mostly on the dogs, as they explore the world through their noses. Still, I think even before we started adding dogs to our household, I was prone to looking down when I walked, watching my steps, being careful, being prudent, worrying that I might trip and fall.

But I've missed a lot because my gaze is naturally turned downward out of caution. There are moments when I look up and I am just stunned by what I am missing, the beauty I was missing because my eyes were focused elsewhere. Jesus points to the wildflowers in this

passage from the Sermon on the Mount, but it was the trees bursting into red and orange flames that I almost missed out once again this year. It's good thing to be cautious, to be responsible, to make plans, to carry doggy bags and clean up after your dogs, but, according to Jesus, it is a better thing to look up at this big, beautiful messy world, and trust that God will take care of us, of others, and all of this world. In seeing the small ways God shows up to care for all creation, in the flowers, in the now trees, I am reminded that I too am taken care of. Every time I look up, I am reminded that God has this, whatever it is, and for that I am thankful. May God bless you during this season of thanksgiving and praise.

- Rev. Kevin J. McLemore

Associate Conference Minister for Search & Call



Abuse Prevention Considerations: Keeping Your Ministry Safe

Wednesday, November 30, 2022 @ 2pm EST

Featuring: Christy Schiller – Vice President of Account Services, Praesidium.

Failure to discover a sex offender can affect those in your care, your reputation, financial stability, and trust within the community. Join us on



November 30th at 2 p.m. EST to learn about targeted solutions that will strengthen your ministry's abuse prevention efforts.

Register at:

<https://www.insuranceboard.org/abuse-prevention-considerations/>

All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name! 106

N.C. F C Dm C $\frac{F}{A}$ C7 Dm $\frac{F}{C}$ C7 F

1 All hail the power of Je - sus' name! Let an - gels pros - trate fall;
 2 Ye cho - sen seed of Is - rael's race, ye ran - somed from the fall,
 3 Let ev - ery kin - dred, ev - ery tribe on this ter - res - trial ball,
 4 O that with yon - der sa - cred throng we at his feet may fall!

C(no3) F C(no3) $\frac{F}{A}$ F C F $\frac{C}{E}$ Dm $\frac{C}{G}$ G C

bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all;
 hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all;
 to him all maj - es - ty as - cribe, and crown him Lord of all;
 We'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown him Lord of all;

F $\frac{F}{A}$ F C Dm $\frac{F}{A}$ B \flat $\frac{F}{C}$ Csus C F

bring forth the roy - al di - a - dem, and crown him Lord of all!
 hail him who saves you by his grace, and crown him Lord of all!
 to him all maj - es - ty as - cribe, and crown him Lord of all!
 we'll join the ev - er - last - ing song, and crown him Lord of all!

WORDS: Edward Perronet (1726-1792); adapt. John Rippon (1751-1836)
 MUSIC: Oliver Holden (1765-1844)

CORONATION
 8.6.8.6.8.6.

342 Rejoice, the Lord Is King!

C G/B C Am Em F C Bdim C G

1 Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!
 2 Our Sav - ior, Je - sus, reigns, the God of truth and love;
 3 His King - dom can - not fail, he rules both earth and heaven;
 4 Re - joice in glo - rious hope for Christ the Judge shall come

C Am G/B D G/B C G/D D7 G

Re - joice, give thanks, and sing, and tri - umph ev - er - more:
 when he had purged our stains, he took his seat a - bove:
 the keys of death and hell are to our Je - sus given:
 to gath - er all his saints to their e - ter - nal home:

C F Bdim Am C Bdim C F/A

Lift up your heart, lift up your voice!

C F Bdim C Dm C G C

Re - joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

Our Lord Jesus Christ

MATTHEW BRIDGES, 1851

S. M. D.

DIADEMATA
GEORGE J. ELVEY, 1868*Joyously, but with great dignity*

1. Crown Him with man - y crowns, The Lamb up - on His throne;
2. Crown Him the Lord of love; Be - hold His hands and side,
3. Crown Him the Lord of peace; Whose power a scep - ter sways
4. Crown Him the Lord of years, The Po - ten - tate of time;

Hark! how the heaven-ly an - them drowns All mu - sic but its own:
Rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, In beau - ty glo - ri - fied:
From pole to pole, that wars may cease, Ab-sorbed in prayer and praise:
Cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, In - ef - fa - bly sub - lime:

A - wake, my soul, and sing Of Him who died for thee, And
No an - gel in the sky Can ful - ly bear that sight, But
His reign shall know no end; And round His pierc - ed feet Fair
All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For Thou hast died for me: Thy

hail Him as thy match-less King Through all e - ter - ni - ty.
down-ward bends His burn-ing eye At mys - ter - ies so bright.
flowers of Par - a - dise ex - tend Their fra-grance ev - er sweet.
praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail Through-out e - ter - ni - ty. A-MEN.