

Gather Us, O God



Advent to Gather
Advent Together

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November 22, 2020

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

Prelude

“Crown Him with Many Crowns” (arr. Jim Brickman)

Annette Nolan

Pastoral Welcome

Call to Worship for Reign of Christ Sunday

L: Holy is the Creator of the heavens and the earth
Of sunlight and starlight, forest and ocean.
Holy is the composer of the songs of birds and the power of thunderstorms.
Let all creation sing praise!
Holy is the Christ who was born in a stable
Who knelt down in the dust to wash feet.
Holy is the One whose crown was formed of twisted thorns.
Let all creation sing praise!
Holy is the Spirit who confounds the powerful,
Who lifts up the silenced and forgotten.
Holy is the love that breaks the rules of empire.
Let all creation sing praise!

(adpt. from Cara Heafey. worshipwords.co.uk)

Confession and Forgiveness

L: It is in our confession . . . let us make our confession, first in silent prayer.

Silence for reflection and self-examination.

L: Sovereign God,
**we confess we have given idols power over us,
the idols of power and wealth, fame and security.
We confess we have fallen into the ways of this world
and have forgotten our kindred in Christ.
We have lost sight of the reign of God here on earth,
and instead have allowed the idols of the world to rule over us.
Forgive us.
Call us into your reign, to declare that you are the One who has power over us
because your power is love. Call us to love our neighbors as ourselves,
and to work for justice, show mercy, and love one another
in the name of Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen.**

P: Jesus came to us not to reign like a worldly king, but to serve us, and to show us that the way of God is the way of love. Jesus said the first would be last and the last would be first. Jesus called us to become humble and serve one another, and that the most important commandment was to love God and to love our neighbor as ourselves. This is the way of our Sovereign God. Go, knowing you are forgiven, and love and serve one another, especially our neighbors in need, as Christ serves us. Amen.

(written by Rev. Mindi and posted on the Rev-o-lution blog.)

Sharing the Peace

L: The peace of the Lord be with you.

C: **And also with you.**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

Prayer of the Day

The First Reading

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

The Holy Scripture

Matthew 25:31-46

The Message

Pastor Ward

Song of the Day

“Majesty”

Prayers of the Faithful

*At the end of each petition, the Leader will say, “**Lord in your mercy,**” and the Congregation will respond, “**hear our prayer.**”*

Holy Communion

The Lord’s Prayer (spoken)

SENDING GOD’S PEOPLE

Benediction

Dismissal

L: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Sending Song

“Lord, I Lift Your Name on High”

Annette Nolan