

3. All that kills abundant living, let it from the earth be banned;
Pride of status, race, or schooling, dogmas that obscure your plan.
In our common quest for justice may we hallow life's brief span,
May we hallow life's brief span.
4. You, Creator God, have written your great name on humankind;
For our growing in your likeness bring the life of Christ to mind,
That by our response and service earth its destiny may find,
Earth its destiny may find.

CLOSING PRAYER (in unison)

The king is among us, disguised as the least of us. We carry his message to all who need to hear it, and treat the people we meet as if they are Jesus. As we do, we find that his reign has come and is already with us. We go now as citizens of Christ's kingdom. Amen.

POSTLUDE

“”

Dana Moody



Today's service is being broadcast on Facebook Live at 11:00 am. You can access the service through the Oaklette Church Group on Facebook. You can also access the sermon through the Oaklette UMC Facebook page. If you are unable to use Facebook Live a link can be sent to you by email after the Facebook Live Worship has been recorded, but we will need your email address to do this. The Facebook Live service will also be downloaded to our website on Monday morning.

The flowers on the altar today are presented to the glory of God by Jerome Dickinson in honor of his birthday on November 27th.

The Food Basket on the altar is presented to the glory of God by Nancy Hefsel and Jane Billingsley in loving memory of our dear Mother, Lou Bean, on her birthday, November 30th.



Oaklette United Methodist Church

"God's Body in this Community"

"Oaklette United Methodist Church through worship, education, and outreach, seeks to make the gospel of Jesus Christ real, as we minister to all people."

November 26 2023 ~ 11:00 A.M.

Christ the King Sunday



*Welcome in the name of our Lord. A nurturing and well-supervised nursery is available for infants and young children. A Crying Room is also available. Please ask the greeter for further assistance and direction to these rooms.
[†] = Invites persons to stand as they are able.*

THE MORNING WELCOME

-Rev. Ned Alderman

PRELUDE

“”

- Dana Moody

MESSAGE FOR GROWING CHRISTIANS

CENTERING PRAYER (in unison)

Lord Jesus, when did I see you hungry? When did I see you thirsty? When did I welcome you, or clothe you, or take care of you, or visit you? Have I ignored your claim upon my time, my attention, my resources? Open my eyes; melt my heart; enlighten my understanding. Let me see you in the world, welcome you as my brother, and serve you as my Lord, with the family you acknowledge as your own: the poor, the stranger, the sick, and the prisoner. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“Jesus Shall Reign”

#157

**1. Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run;
His kingdom spread from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.**

**2. To Jesus endless prayer be made, and endless praises crown his head;
His name like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.**

**3. People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.**

**4. Blessings abound where'er he reigns; all prisoners leap and loose their chains;
The weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.**

5. Let every creature rise and bring honors peculiar to our King;
Angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen!

MORNING PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Lay Reader: With sincere and repentant hearts, let us name our sins against Christ and one another.

People: Lord Jesus, Judge of the nations: We confess that we have not seen your face among our neighbors in need. We have not shared our food with the hungry; we have not offered clothes to the destitute or shelter to the homeless. We have not welcomed the stranger, nor have we visited prisoners. We have not paid attention to these, your sisters and brothers, and in our neglect we have failed to serve you.

Lord, forgive us; open our eyes to recognize your beloved family, and give us the blessing of sincere repentance that we may know the joy of eternal life with you and all the saints in this world and in the world to come. Amen.

Lay Reader: Brothers and sisters, God seeks the lost sheep and feeds them with justice. Forgiven and freed, turn, then, and live in Christ, our Lord.

THE LORD’S PRAYER (in 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANTHEM “” - Chancel Choir

SCRIPTURE READING - Matthew 25:31-46 [CEV]

When the Son of Man comes in his glory with all his angels, he will sit on his royal throne. The people of all nations will be brought before him, and he will separate them, as shepherds separate their sheep from their goats.

He will place the sheep on his right and the goats on his left. Then the king will say to those on his right, “My father has blessed you! Come and receive the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world was created. When I was hungry, you gave me something to eat, and when I was thirsty, you gave me something to drink. When I was a

stranger, you welcomed me, and when I was naked, you gave me clothes to wear. When I was sick, you took care of me, and when I was in jail, you visited me.”

Then the ones who pleased the Lord will ask, “When did we give you something to eat or drink? When did we welcome you as a stranger or give you clothes to wear or visit you while you were sick or in jail?”

The king will answer, “Whenever you did it for any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you did it for me.”

Then the king will say to those on his left, “Get away from me! You are under God’s curse. Go into the everlasting fire prepared for the devil and his angels! I was hungry, but you did not give me anything to eat, and I was thirsty, but you did not give me anything to drink. I was a stranger, but you did not welcome me, and I was naked, but you did not give me any clothes to wear. I was sick and in jail, but you did not take care of me.”

Then the people will ask, “Lord, when did we fail to help you when you were hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in jail?”

The king will say to them, “Whenever you failed to help any of my people, no matter how unimportant they seemed, you failed to do it for me.” Then Jesus said, “Those people will be punished forever. But the ones who pleased God will have eternal life.”

THE RESPONSE TO THE SCRIPTURE READING

Lay Reader: This is the Word of God for the people of God.
People: Thanks be to God.

SERMON “No Second Thoughts” Rev. Ned Alderman

†HYMN OF RESPONSE “For the Healing of the Nations” #428

1. For the healing of the nations, Lord, we pray with one accord;
For a just and equal sharing of the things that earth affords;
To a life of love in action help us rise and pledge our word,
Help us rise and pledge our word.
2. Lead us forward, into freedom; from despair your world release,
That, redeemed from war and hatred, all may come and go in peace.
Show us how through care and goodness fear will die and hope increase.
Fear will die and hope increase.

PARTNERS IN MINISTRY TODAY

Members of the Church

Nursery Care Providers: Donna & Julian Baker

Lay Reader: Debbie Rippard

Organist/Director of Music: Dana Moody

Prayer Partner: Brenda Swoope

Audio-Visual Operator: Ericka Litten

Facebook Live Recorder: Bright Tsevi

Greeter: Joanne Rooks

Pastor: Rev. Ned Alderman

Administrative Assistant: Eileen Ballance

Financial Secretary: Edna Bess

Coastal Virginia Dist. Superintendent: Rev. Dr. Cecelia R. Brooks

Resident Bishop, Richmond Area: Bishop Sue Hauptert-Johnson