

November 24, 2024
Liturgical Color – White

Christ the King

Slackwood Presbyterian Church
2020 Brunswick Avenue
Lawrenceville, NJ 08648

John 18:33-37

Then Pilate entered the headquarters again, summoned Jesus, and asked him, “Are you the King of the Jews?” Jesus answered, “Do you ask this on your own, or did others tell you about me?” Pilate replied, “I am not a Jew, am I? Your own nation and the chief priests have handed you over to me. What have you done?” Jesus answered, “My kingdom does not belong to this world. If my kingdom belonged to this world, my followers would be fighting to keep me from being handed over to the Jews. But as it is, my kingdom is not from here.” Pilate asked him, “So you are a king?” Jesus answered, “You say that I am a king. For this I was born, and for this I came into the world, to testify to the truth. Everyone who belongs to the truth listens to my voice.”

Embracing God. Extending Welcome. Celebrating All.



Sunday, November 24, 2024

10:30 a.m.

--ORDER OF WORSHIP--

As a consideration to all who seek to worship this morning, please turn off or mute cell phones and other electronic devices.

Bell of Invitation
Welcome & Announcements

OUR APPROACH TO GOD

Call to Worship

L: The LORD is king! Let the earth rejoice!

P: Let the many coastlands be glad!

L: The heavens proclaim God's righteousness,

P: and all the peoples behold his glory.

L: Light dawns for the righteous

P: and joy for the upright in heart.

L: Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous,

P: and give thanks to his holy name!

All: As God's thankful people, let us worship God!

*Hymn #307 CWM RHONDDA
"God of Grace and God of Glory"

*Call to Confession

*Prayer of Confession (*In Unison*)

O Holy God, we acknowledge that we fail to obey the greatest commandments to love you with our whole heart, mind, soul, and strength, and to love others as we love ourselves. We continually miss thy kingdom's goal for your will to be done on earth as in heaven. We are blinded by our own wants and desires that we lose sight of you. We desire control and want to be the ruler of all aspects of our lives instead of listening to the cries of those in need and the movement of the Spirit. Forgive us, O God. Grant us wisdom to realize and acknowledge our shortcomings and grant us courage to repent and change our ways. (*Moment for personal prayer.*) Amen.

*Words of Assurance

*Glori Patri (#581)

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.

(Following the time of confession children 3 through 10 may leave for Sunday School.)

HEARING OF THE WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Scripture Reading -- Psalm 132:1-12

The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God.**

Anthem "Look at the World" John Rutter

Second Reading – John 18:33-37

The Word of the Lord/**Thanks be to God.**

Sermon The Rev. Walter DeGunya

*Affirmation of Faith (*From the Confession of 1967*)

Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as a heavenly city, the household of God, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast, and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents God's triumph over all that resists the divine will and disrupts God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to the present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.

*Hymn #301 "Let Us Build a House" TWO OAKS

RESPONSE TO THE WORD

Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer

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.

Call for the Offering
Offertory

*Doxology (#606)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
praise God, all creatures here below;
praise God above, ye heavenly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

*Hymn #643

NUN DANKET ALLE GOTT

“Now Thank We All Our God”

*Charge and Benediction

DEPART TO SERVE

**Those who are able may stand.*

Christ's Ministers in the World: All members of the church

Pastor: The Rev. David Bowman

Director of Music: Dr. Shelley Sanders Zuckerman

Liturgists: Emma & Kate Moore

Welcome to everyone who is worshipping this morning. If you are visiting, we hope you will feel very welcome and that you will stay for refreshments and conversation in fellowship hall.

The Peace Candle in the Chancel is lit to remind us of the gift of Christ's peace and our call to be peacemakers.

Pastor Bowman's contact information:

Email: dfbsbv@gmail.com or Telephone: 732.547.3480

Announcements

Reminder: If you have not already returned your 2025 pledge card and time and talent survey, please do so.

The Adult Forum meets Sundays at 9:00 a.m. via Zoom. The link is in the Saturday announcements email.

Sunday School for Middle & High School Youth is held each Sunday at 9:15 a.m.

The **Worship Committee** will meet following worship this morning.

This year's **Advent Social** will be at the home of Andy & Debbie Pratt on Friday, December 6. Let's be kind to our hosts and let them know how many to expect. The sign-up sheet is on the table in fellowship hall.

On Sunday, December 8 following the morning service of worship there will be a brief prayer service out in front of the church in recognition of Human Rights Day.

A **Blue Christmas** service of worship will be held in the sanctuary on Thursday, December 19 at 6:00 p.m. This will be a service of comfort for anyone feeling the loss of a loved one, job, home, health, loss of any kind, knowing that losses are particularly difficult during festive holidays.

Next Sunday, December 1, will be the **First Sunday in Advent**. Again this year, worshippers are invited to bring a **nativity** to display in the windows of the sanctuary. There will be a card for you to write your name and something about the nativity that makes it special to you.

Those people and places remembered in last Sunday's morning prayer are: Ann, Lorna and Clement, David, Emma, Olive, Ava Harper, Neil, Beth, Joan, Doug, Sharon, Ben, Michael, Jonathan,

Samantha, Brooke, unhoused, unemployed and underemployed, those impacted by violence and war, those impacted by climate, the marginalized, our country, Romona, Kim, Jacqui, Jimmy, MJ & Richard, Debi, Carrie, Mary, Carol, Marilyn, Mylan, Theresa, Jill, John, MaryBeth, Francine, Johnny, Bobby Joe, Bryan, Paige, Isabella, Melissa, Jim, Jillian, Gianna, Lana & Joshua, Olivia & Anthony, JD, Deb and Scott.

Slackwood's Mission Statement

Slackwood Presbyterian Church is a diverse, caring Christian community: guided by scripture, committed to loving God, loving our neighbors as we love ourselves and sharing Christ's love with all people.

Slackwood's Vision Statement

We envision glorifying and serving God by being an example to each other, the community, and the world through:

- vibrant worship,
- faithful prayer,
- relevant study,
- joyful fellowship,
- compassionate service.

We strive to build a safe community that embraces:

- all ages,
- people of color,
- the LGBTQIA+ community,
- people with disabilities,
- other marginalized people.