

# Welcome to Watsonville First United Methodist Church

## Christ the King Sunday

Sunday, November 26, 2023, 10 am

**We welcome all visitors today!** Thank you for being here and gracing us with your presence. Please fill out the “**Visitation Card**” found in the pew and either place it in the offering plate or deposit into the *Suggestion Box* back in the narthex.

### Words of Meditation

“God loves by becoming us. God comes to us as our lives.”

~ Richard Rohr

*(\*Please stand if you are able)*

**Prelude**

*All Hail, King Jesus*

Marina Thomas

**Bringing in the Light**

**Welcome & the Life of the Church**

Rev. John Song

**\*Passing of Peace** (Wave to your neighbors near you with “**Peace of Christ be with you.**”)

**\*Call to Worship** (Responsive)

Leader: Come to Christ, that living stone,  
rejected by the world, but in God’s sight chosen and precious.

People: **We have responded to Christ’s call,  
to follow the Way of Christ,  
to be Christ’s presence on earth.**

Leader: Once we were lost people, but now we are God’s people,  
called out of the darkness into God’s marvelous light.  
Therefore we sing in praise the Church in all ages:

People: **Blessed be your name, O God, our Redeemer.  
By your mercy we have been born anew to a living hope  
through the resurrection of Jesus Christ into new life.**

**\*Gathering Song**

*Tell Me the Stories of Jesus*

#277

**Children’s Time**

**“Who Is Jesus Christ?”**

Pastor John

Jesus Christ, You are my Lord

You abide in me (v. 2) I abide in you

**Epistle Reading**

**Colossians 1:15–20**

*The Universal Salvation of All Creation*

“He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation; for in him all things in heaven and on earth were created, things visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominations or rulers or powers—all things have been created through him and for

him. He himself is before all things, and in him all things hold together... For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him God was pleased to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.”

Leader: The word of God for the people of God.

**People: Thanks be to God!**

### **Special Music**

Marina Thomas, Piano Solo

### **Message**

**“A Reflection on the Christ the King Sunday ”**

Rev. John Song

### **Unison Prayer of Confession**

Blessed are you, Lord God, for you have visited and redeemed your people. Your Savior has conquered death and is exalted above every power in heaven and earth where he reigns. We sing our thanksgiving and offer our praise to your majestic name.

Yet in our stubborn ways we have defiled the very things which you brought into being. We say we follow Christ as our head, but we have fractured the unity of his body, the Church. By schism, we are torn apart and claim labels of superiority over one another. We close our minds and deny the faith of those who should be our brothers and sisters. For our foolishness, for our prejudice, for the damage we have done, we ask forgiveness of our sins that we might share in the inheritance of the saints of light.

By the power of your Holy Spirit, knit together once more your Church. Grant that your Church might honor you with a united purpose of proclaiming grace and freedom to all the world. Make us prophets of the Most High.

In this day we exalt Christ as our King, we remember the many who are lifted up in other ways. We have named for one another and for you those about whom we are most concerned. Look with mercy on those who are nailed to crosses of pain and suffering, from those forces which destroy the body, affect the mind and drain the spirit. Give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death. Remember all these, and us, in your realm of light.

Execute righteousness and justice in the land and save us, your children, for we pray in the name of Christ our King. Amen.

### **Prayer of Assurance (pastor)**

There was an infinite chasm between us and God.

When we offered our confession, God crossed over and found us.

### **Hymn**

*Jesus Loves Me*

#191

### **Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings**

Leader: Let us respond to this word of grace and hope by the giving of our tithes and offerings, which support the varied ministries of the Watsonville First United Methodist Church, mission at home and throughout the world.

### **Offertory**

*O Worship the King*

Marina Thomas

### **Presentation of Offering**

**\*Hymn to the Trinity**                      *Gloria Patri* (Glory to the Father)                      #70

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.

**\*Offertory Prayer** (In unison)

God of all generations, as we worship today, we offer our whole selves to you, all that we have and all that we are. We pray that you will help us be bold in our mission and in our witness. We pray this in the name of our Savior and Redeemer, Christ our Lord. Amen.

**\*Recessional Song**                      *Heralds of Christ*                      #567

**\*The Apostles' Creed**

[The Apostles' Creed is a summary of what the Church teaches, and of what Christians together believe, rather than a detailed statement of individual and personal belief. Saying the Creed binds Christians together as a believing community, across different traditions and practices. As we say the Creed, we join Christians past and present, and from all over the world, in proclaiming our common faith.]

*The Apostles' Creed*                      #881

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the Virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried;  
he descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
the holy Universal Church,  
the communion of saints,  
the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body,  
and the life everlasting.  
Amen.

[\*This ends Live Streaming]

**Prayers of the People**

- a. Sharing of Joys & Concerns (Please raise your hand & mic will be given to you)
- b. Pastoral Prayer

**The Lord's Prayer/Padre Nuestro** (You are invited to pray in the language of your choice)

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.

## Postlude

*Come Thou Almighty*

Marina Thomas

*We warmly invite everyone to a **Thanksgiving Potluck** in the Social Hall.*

## Worship Leaders

Ministers	Each one of us
Pastor	Rev. John Song
Pianist	Marina Thomas
Choir Leader	Carmelita Abenoja
Liturgist	Mark Sorensen
Greeters	Harry & Clarice Wiggins
Head Usher	Marieta Flores
Tech Team	Antonio Pantaleón, Lucila Pantaleón, Elizabeth Reitano
Nursery Attendants	Tatyana Martinez, Julissa Solis

## Calendar for the Week

Sun., Nov. 26	10:00 am	<b>Christ the King Sunday Service</b>
	11:10 am	<b>Thanksgiving Potluck &amp; Christmas Decoration Party</b>
Mon., Nov. 27		<b>No Sewing Group Today</b>
Wed., Nov. 29	4:30 pm	<b>Wed. Bible Study</b> , St. Stephen's room
Sun., Dec. 3	10:00 am	<b>First Sunday of Advent</b> with <b>Holy Communion</b>
	11:10 am	Coffee Hour, Social Hall

## *Opportunities!*

### ***Thanksgiving Potluck & Christmas Decoration Party***

TODAY @ 11:10 am, sanctuary & social hall

### ***Hanging of the Greens***

**Next Sunday, Dec. 3 on the First Sun. of Advent**

\*We invite all children to attend and help hang ornaments on Christmas tree while we all sing our favorite Christmas carols. **Advent calendars** will be given out to all children and youth.

### **Weekly Wed. Bible Study!**

**Every Wed. from 4:30 pm – 5:30 pm**, St. Stephen's room

We will be studying the *Gospel of Luke* and *Acts* led by Pastor John.

Bring your Bible. Don't have one? We'll provide you.

*All are welcome!*

Church Website: [watsonville1stumc.org](http://watsonville1stumc.org)

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Office Hours: Tue-Thu 9 am – 5 pm, Fri 9 am – 12 pm (Closed for lunch 12-1 pm)

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