

November 22, 2020

## ***Reign of Christ Sunday***

### **CONGREGATIONAL WORSHIP GUIDE**

Prelude: Grace Ramley: His Eye is on the Sparrow

Welcome & Lighting of the Christ Candle – Pastor Beth Hoyt

Opening Hymn: Come, Ye Thankful People, Come

Come, ye thankful people, come; raise the song of harvest home.  
All is safely gathered in, ere the winter storms begin.  
God, our Maker, doth provide for our wants to be supplied.  
Come to God's own temple, come; raise the song of harvest home.

All the world is God's own field, fruit in thankful praise to yield,  
Wheat and tares together sown, unto joy or sorrow grown.  
First the blade, and then the ear, then the full corn shall appear.  
Lord of harvest, grant that we wholesome grain and pure may be.

Even so, Lord, quickly come to thy final harvest home.  
Gather thou thy people in, free from sorrow, free from sin,  
There forever purified, in thy presence to abide:  
Come, with all thine angels, come; raise the glorious harvest home!

Call to Worship: Ruth Wittorff

Leader: O come, let us sing to the Lord.

**People: Let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!**

Leader: For the Lord is a great God;

**People: A great ruler over heaven and earth!**

Opening Prayer: Ruth Wittorff

Almighty God, you raised Christ from the dead and established him as Lord over every rebellious power. Give us grace to serve him wisely and faithfully that the world may see his glorious inheritance among the saints and recognize the freedom of joyful obedience in Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Hymn of Preparation: We Believe

Worship House

Prayer of Confession: Pastor Beth Hoyt

**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.**

*Silent Prayer*

The Passing of the Peace

Pastor: The peace of Christ be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Hymn: "Glory Be to the Father" with Grace Ramley accompanying

Glory be to the Father, to the Son and the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be.

World without end. Amen. As it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be. World without end.

Amen.

Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen. Amen.

Scripture Reading: Ephesians 1:15-23 Ruth Wittorff

Sermon: Pastor Beth Hoyt

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer: Pastor Beth Hoyt

***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.**

Hymn: Now Thank We All Our God

Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,  
Who wondrous things hath done, in whom this world rejoices;  
Who, from our mothers' arms, have blessed us on our way  
With countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
With ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us;  
And keep us in God's grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God, who reigns in highest heaven,  
To Father and to Son and Spirit now be given;  
The one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore,  
The God who was, and is, and shall be ever more.

Giving of our Tithes and Offerings

Pastor Beth Hoyt

*Checks can be mailed to the church at 838 Jefferson Street, Red Bluff, CA 96080, or you may use the tithes and offering link at the top of our Facebook page, or on our web page: pcrb.org. We also invite you to prepare and mail in your pledge card. You will find one in the announcement section of this Worship Guide.*

Offertory: Grace Ramley

Prayer of Thanksgiving: Ruth Wittorff

Almighty God, we give you thanks and praise for your love in Jesus Christ our Lord. Accept our offering in union with Christ's offering for us. Confirm in us the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, that we may testify to the sovereignty of his love. Through Christ, with the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

The Doxology

with Grace Ramley accompanying

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

Benediction: Pastor Beth Hoyt

**May God who seeks the lost keep you; may God who brings back the wandering heart uphold you; may God who binds up the injured heal you; may God who strengthens the weak empower you, now and forever.**

Changing of the Light: Pastor Beth Hoyt

Closing Hymn: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Worship House

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## **Prayer Requests from Your Church Family**

*Pastor Beth is not reading prayer requests aloud during our Facebook service out of respect for the privacy of church members. However, she invites you to email your prayer requests to [pastorbeth@pcrb.org](mailto:pastorbeth@pcrb.org) to have them included here. Please pray for the following needs in our congregation:*

Rickie French – this gentleman called the church office seeking our prayers. He has one leg and is living on disability insurance and finding it hard to make ends meet after money is taken out of his check for Medicare. He asked only for prayer.

Pat Scott's daughter in law's mom is out of the hospital and in rehab in Anderson. She has acute osteoarthritis and needs physical therapy to increase her strength so she can take care of herself at home. No heart problems now. Pray for recovery of strength and ability to care for herself at home.

Janet & Jim Capel – Janet's sister passed away. Only six months ago Janet lost her brother. Please pray for them during this time of grief.

Jackie Morris as she recovers from shoulder surgery.

Kathy Sibert's daughter, Shannon, battling advanced breast cancer.

Missy Iverson's daughter, Evelyn, had breast cancer surgery on October 16<sup>th</sup> and now begins radiation.

Carol Boone's daughter-in-law, Stacy, who is struggling with Stage 4 cancer.

Bettie Jacobs, recovering from knee replacement surgery and is now home!!! Hurray! She is doing well. Pray that she will have a full recovery.

Greg Avilla and Gretchen Sherman and their team, as they begin working on the "Re-opening Plan" for our church. The plan will first be submitted to Session for approval and then to the County.

Larry Carper, Prayers of Thanksgiving! Larry is beginning to get more movement in his knee as he continues his physical therapy and recovery from knee replacement surgery. Continue to pray for his progress.

Forest Rios who is struggling with kidney problems.

Our county, our state, our nation, our world as we continue to deal with Covid 19 and election results. Thanksgiving for promising vaccines on the horizon.

## Announcements

**Election of Church Officers:** This year you may return the mail-in ballot at the end of this announcement section, vote in person at our walk-through communion service on December 6<sup>th</sup>, or vote electronically. An electronic ballot will be emailed out in the next couple of weeks – when it is prepared. Only church members can vote, and we appreciate each of you taking time to cast your ballot as this is an important part of our shared life together. We are grateful to the nominating committee, chaired by Nicki Carper, for their hard work in recruiting the officers for election.

**Pastor Beth's Schedule:** Pastor Beth will be taking Thanksgiving Week off. In an emergency, please contact your Deacon Moderator, Larry Carper at 530-526-4545. Larry will activate the deacons to be of help.

**Advent Begins Next Sunday!!! Do you have your Advent book?** November 29<sup>th</sup> is the first Sunday of Advent, and once again, under the direction of Nicki Carper, and with the editing support of Nicki Carper and Karen Borrer, your church family has prepared an advent devotional book for your use! Every day of advent you will read a devotion written by a different church member. This has become a beloved tradition that helps us to feel connected during the advent season. We still have copies left at the church if you didn't have a chance to pick one up. Dave is glad to help you do that when he is working, noon – 4:00 Monday – Friday.

**Your On-line Service:** In an effort to serve you better you can now access our online service on Facebook, YouTube or directly on our web page [www.pcrb.org](http://www.pcrb.org). Please note that no matter where you access the service it will take you to the YouTube service. This gives the service a bit of a different look on Facebook – it appears as a YouTube link, but it is the exact same service. You can find a link to both our Facebook page and our YouTube page on our web page: [www.pcrb.org](http://www.pcrb.org). The Worship Guide is also posted on both Facebook and on our web page.

**Oak Hill Cemetery Luminary Service is December 6<sup>th</sup>:** Bonnie Pettey invites you to give her a call (529-9596) if you would like to participate in the Luminary Candlelight Program at Oak Hill this year. Those who are able will mark the graves of church members who have died during our 160 years of history on Saturday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at noon. Then on Sunday, December 6<sup>th</sup> we will return to place luminaries on the graves at 4:00 p.m. as we give thanks to God for those who went before us in the faith. The community of Red Bluff is invited to this event, and many families attend to place luminaries on the graves of loved ones at the beginning of the Christmas season. This is the time of year when many are especially missing those who have died. Due to pandemic restrictions, this year the Red Bluff High School choir will not sing, and refreshments will not be served. Social distance and facemasks will help keep everyone safe and the event has been approved by the county, meeting all health requirements.

**Next Walk-Through Courtyard Communion Service will be December 6<sup>th</sup>. (Please note: in case of inclement weather, we will not meet.)**

Our next Courtyard Communion service is scheduled for December 6<sup>th</sup>, the first Sunday of December. You are invited to drop by between 11:00 and noon. This will be a quiet, worshipful time with a focus

on the sacrament of communion and the advent season. With the ever-increasing amounts of Covid 19 all around we will be again wearing facemasks and carefully adhering to social distancing requirements.

As a part of this Courtyard Communion service you will be invited to consider making a financial donation to the following worthy causes:

- The Church Nursery (it has been scrubbed, painted, and has a new floor—we would like to purchase a few items still needed – *please note: we cannot accept donations of toys.*)
- The Salvation Army (they will provide food baskets to needy families in December.)
- The Deacon Fund (we receive a deacon offering the first Sunday of every month.)
- The Christmas Joy Offering—a denominational offering that helps the families of church workers during crisis times and supports Presbyterian schools and colleges equipping communities of color.)

Please join us for this meaningful time together, hosted by your deacons.

### The Christmas Joy Offering



The Christmas Joy Offering has been a cherished Presbyterian tradition since the 1930s. The Offering distributes gifts equally to the Assistance Program of the Board of Pensions and to Presbyterian-related schools and colleges equipping communities of color. The Assistance Program provides critical financial support to church workers and their families. Presbyterian-related schools and colleges provide education and leadership development while nurturing racial and ethnic heritage. This has been a Presbyterian commitment for nearly 140 years.

We will receive the Christmas Joy offering on December 6<sup>th</sup> at our Courtyard Communion Service.

**Have you turned in your pledge card?** It's not too late – but we would appreciate receiving it soon as we need to finalize our budget for 2021. There are extra pledge cards beside the Advent Books, when you first come into the office wing, or use this one:

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Estimate of Giving Card</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>I am the vine, you are the branches.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>John 15:5</b></p> <p><b>Yes!</b> I want to help support the work of my church. I estimate that during the next year I will give to my church:</p> <p>\$ _____ per week, or \$ _____ per month,</p> <p>Or \$ _____ per year.</p> <p>Name _____</p> <p>Address _____</p>
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# **The Election of the Officers of The Presbyterian Church of Red Bluff**

The Nominating Committee submits the following names to be elected as officers in our church:

Elders, Class of 2023: \*Gregg Avilla, \*Dorothy Reed, Leonard Stohler  
\*Trustee

Deacons, Class of 2023: Sue Corry, Peggy Wright, Gayle Meisner, Bonnie Pettey

Deacons, Class of 2021: Chet Wood, Sherry King

Endowment Committee, Class of 2023: Wes Combes

Vacancies, which are open to nominations from the floor include: One Elder, Class of 2023 and one Deacon, class of 2023. To nominate someone “from the floor,” you must be an active member of this church. You must first contact the individual you would like to nominate to make sure they are willing to serve. This person must be an active member of this church and meet the basic criteria of service. According to our Book of Order, for a deacon this means being a person of spiritual character, honest repute, exemplary life, brotherly and sisterly love, sincere compassion and sound judgment (G-2.0201) and for an elder this means a person of wisdom and maturity of faith, demonstrated skills in leadership and being compassionate in spirit (G2.0301). You may contact Gretchen Sherman or Nicki Carper with your nomination from the floor, and a separate ballot will then be sent out whereby the congregation will vote on your nominee.

## **What is the difference between elders and deacons?**

*Diaconal ministry is focused on compassion and service. The Deacons oversee the congregation's witness to the love of Jesus Christ for the poor and lonely, the deprived and oppressed. They organize our ministries of care for the sick and the bereaved, and seek to strengthen the bonds of fellowship and commitment within the church community. They meet the first Tuesday of every month, currently via Zoom.*

*Elders in service on the Session are the governing body of the congregation. They are charged with ministries of discernment and governance. They are responsible for the life and ministry, the program and staff of the congregation. Ruling Elders establish the budget and set the missional priorities for the congregation's life. Elders meet the third Tuesday of the month, currently via Zoom, and often chair or serve on one additional committee, overseeing a part of our programming.*

# Ballot

Motion: The approval of the full slate of individuals to serve as elected officers in our church:

Elders, Class of 2023: \*Gregg Avilla, \*Dorothy Reed, Leonard Stohler  
\*Trustee

Deacons, Class of 2023: Sue Corry, Peggy Wright, Gayle Meisner, Bonnie Pettey

Deacons, Class of 2021: Chet Wood, Sherry King

Endowment Committee, Class of 2023: Wes Combes

**I approve** \_\_\_\_\_

**I disapprove** \_\_\_\_\_

**I am a member of this church: yes** \_\_\_\_\_ **no** \_\_\_\_\_

*(Optional) My nomination from the floor (see criteria on previous page):*

Elder \_\_\_\_\_

Deacon \_\_\_\_\_

***You must be a member of the church to fill out this ballot and vote. You must be a member of the church to serve as either an elder or a deacon.***

*Please mail this to the church or return at our next Courtyard Communion Service on December 6<sup>th</sup>.*