# The Order of Service for Home Worship

## CHRIST THE KING -
## THE FOURTH SUNDAY of THE KINGDOM



**Hymn 1: Crown Him with Many Crowns.**

1. **Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;**
   **Hark, all the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own:**
   **Awake my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,**
   **And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.**

2. **Crown him the Virgin's Son, the God incarnate born,**
   **Whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn;**
   **Fruit of the mystic Rose, as of that Rose the stem,**
   **The Root, whence mercy ever flows, the Babe of Bethlehem.**

3. **Crown him the Lord of love, behold his hands and side,**
   **Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:**
   **No angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,**
   **But downward bends each burning eye at mysteries so bright.**

4. **Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways**
   **From pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise:**
   **His reign shall know no end, and round his pierced feet**
   **Fair flowers of paradise extend, their fragrance ever sweet.**

5. **Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time,**
   **Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.**
   **All hail, Redeemer, hail! For thou hast died for me;**
   **Thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.**

In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen**.
Grace and peace be with you from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

**Father of glory, holy and eternal, look upon us now in power and mercy. May your strength overcome our weakness, your radiance transform our blindness, and your Spirit draw us to that love shown and offered to us by your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ. Amen.**

As we come into the presence of our heavenly Father let us seek his forgiveness of our sins that we may know his peace in our hearts.

Lord Jesus, you show us the way to the Father. **Lord, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you have given us knowledge of your truth. **Christ, have mercy.**
Lord Jesus, you are the Good Shepherd leading us into life. **Lord, have mercy.**

May almighty God have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins and bring us to everlasting life. **Amen.**

**Alleluia, alleluia, glory be to God on high;**
**Alleluia, to the Saviour who has gained the victory;**
**Alleluia to the Spirit, fount of love and sanctity;**
**Alleluia, Alleluia, to the Triune Majesty.**

**Collect:** Eternal Father, whose Son Jesus Christ ascended to the throne of heaven that he might rule over all things as Lord and King: keep the Church in the unity of the Spirit and in the bond of peace, and bring the whole created order to worship at his feet; grant this for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**A reading from the book of Ezekiel** **34. 11-16, 20-24**

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the

weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice. Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**Psalm 95. 1-7**
**Response: O come let us worship and bow down before the God, our Maker.**

O come, let us sing to the Lord;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into the presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! **(R)**

For the Lord is a great God, and a great king above all gods.
In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.
The sea is his, for he made it,
and the dry land, which his hands have formed. **(R)**

O come, let us worship and bow down,
let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker!
For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hands. **(R)**

**A reading from the letter of Saint Paul to the Ephesians** **1. 15-23**
I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love towards all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.
This is the Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel Acclamation:**
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**
Open our hearts, O Lord, to accept the words of your Son.
**Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

**Listen to the Gospel of Christ according to St. Matthew**. **25. 31-46**
**Glory to you, O Lord.**
Jesus said, 'When the Son of Man comes in his glory, and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left. Then the king will say to those at his right hand, "Come, you that are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world; for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, I was naked and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me." Then the righteous will answer him, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food, or thirsty and gave you something to drink? And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you, or naked and gave you clothing? And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?" And the king will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these who are members of my family, you did it to me." Then he will say to those at his left hand, "You that are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels; for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me." Then they also will answer, "Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison, and did not take care of you?" Then he will answer them, "Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me." And these will go away into eternal punishment, but the righteous into eternal life.'
This is the Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

***Meditation.*** **:** *The feast of Christ the King brings the Church's year to a close and with it comes a reminder in the Gospel that the cycle of our own lives on earth will also,*

*one day, reach its conclusion. As Disciples of Christ our sure hope is that when our life in this world comes to an end we will join him in the glory of his eternal Kingdom of Heaven. For the Kingdom of Christ is not of this world, his authority is given to him by God the Father, but through his Church the Kingdom of Christ is manifested in this world. The Church is called to proclaim the truth of God, the truth of Christ and his Kingdom bringing love, joy, peace and hope to a world in need. What the Church is emphasising today is the importance listening to the voice of Jesus and of turning our lives and hearts to God in response to his calling to care for those less fortunate than ourselves, the poor and needy. Today as we celebrate the Kingship of Christ over heaven and earth we celebrate that he has called us into fellowship with him and with one another, that he has called us to work with him in building his Kingdom on earth. He has entrusted this little part of his world to our care and protection. Today we enthrone Jesus, the King of all creation, as King of our own hearts. We thank God that he has revealed to us the truth of his kingdom of life, his kingdom of peace, love, justice and hope. As faithful followers of Christ we pledge ourselves to working with him in building his Kingdom on earth, in proclaiming the truth of his Kingdom of love and in reaching out in need.. This we do in performing small acts of charity which can mean so much, when we reach out to someone in need, the poor, the hungry and the naked. When we bring hope, love, peace of mind to someone the truth of Christ the King is revealed and the boundary of his Kingdom extends further into the world and when Jesus asks the question where we you, we might answer we were there. Amen.*

**Intercessions:**
In the power of the Holy Spirit and in union with Christ let us bring our prayers for the Church and for the world to our heavenly Father.

We pray for the Church throughout the world, for the leaders of the Church among them Mary our Bishop. We pray for the clergy and people of our diocese and for our own parish; may the Church be a faithful sign of Christ's love and compassion for all.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the people of the world, for the victims of violence and oppression, for all suffering the effects of natural disaster and for those suffering from famine or drought; that all people may come to recognise the kingship of Christ and spread his Kingdom by promoting peace and justice for all.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for our own community, for our families, friends and neighbours. We give thanks for all who serve the needs of the vulnerable; May we prepare for the way for the coming of the Kingdom in our homes and our community.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who are in need, for those who are sick, for those who are bereaved, for the lonely and isolated and for all in any kind of need. We hold in our hearts before God those known to us who are in need at this time and all whose names are recorded in our intercession books; may they be strengthened by the Holy Spirit and consoled with the love of Christ.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for all who have died. We remember before God our own departed loved ones and we pray for the recently departed and those whose anniversary of death falls at this time. May they share the eternal glory of heaven in the company of all the saints.
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

We bring all our prayers to our heavenly Father as we pray together:

**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,**
**The power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**The Peace:**
Jesus said, Peace I bequeath to you; my own peace I give you; a peace the world cannot give, this is my gift to you.
The peace of the Lord be with you and with all those whom you love.
**And also with you.**

**Let us pray:**
**God of our pilgrimage, you have willed that the gate of mercy should stand open for those who trust in you: look upon us with your favour that we who follow the path of your will may never wander from the way of life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**The Blessing:**
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

The peace of God which passes all understanding keep your hearts in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Let us go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **In the name of Christ. Amen.**

**Hymn 2: Rejoice the Lord is King!**

1. **Rejoice the Lord is King!**
   **Your Lord and King adore;**
   **Mortals, give thanks and sing,**
   **And triumph evermore.**
   ***Lift up your heart, lift up your voice;***
   ***Rejoice, again I say, rejoice.***

2. **Jesus the Saviour reigns,**
   **The God of truth and love;**
   **When he had purged our stains,**
   **He took his seat above.** ***Lift up your heart…..***

3. **His Kingdom cannot fail;**
   **He rules o'er earth and heaven;**
   **The keys of death and hell**
   **Are to our Jesus given.** ***Lift up your heart……***

4. **He sits at God's right hand**
   **Till all his foes submit,**
   **And bow to his command,**
   **And fall beneath his feet.** ***Lift up your heart….***

*An Order for the Holy Eucharist 2004, material from which is included in this service is copyright © Church in Wales publications 2004*
*The Word of the Lord, copyright © Church in Wales publications 2011. `*