Anglican Church
Ipswich Anglican Community

REIGN OF CHRIST



Icon of Christ King of Kings (Greece, c. 1600)

St Paul's Church • Ipswich
22 November 2026

GATHERING IN GOD'S NAME

Processional Hymn: *We have a gospel to proclaim [TIS 245]*

The Invocation

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

Blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever.

The Greeting

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.

And also with you.

Welcome & Acknowledgement of Country

Kid's time with God

Scripture Sentence

O shout to the Lord in triumph all the earth. Serve the Lord with gladness and come before his face with songs of joy.

Psalm 100:1

Prayer of Approach

Almighty God,
to whom all hearts are open
all desires known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name,
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

Confession

God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy, welcoming sinners and inviting them to the Lord's table.

Silence may be kept.

Let us confess our sins in penitence and faith, confident in God's forgiveness.

Merciful God,
our maker and our judge,
we have sinned against you
in thought, word and deed,
and in what we have failed to do:
we have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves;
we repent and are sorry for all our sins.
Father, forgive us.
Strengthen us to love and obey you
in newness of life;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Absolution

Almighty God,
who has promised forgiveness to all who turn to him in faith,
pardon you and set you free from all your sins,
strengthen you in all goodness
and keep you in eternal life,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

The Hymn of Praise, *Gloria in excelsis*

Glory to God in the highest,
and peace to God's people on earth.
Lord God, heavenly King,
almighty God and Father,
we worship you, we give you thanks,
we praise you for your glory.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
you take away the sin of the world:
have mercy on us;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father:
receive our prayer.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High
Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect

Stir up, we pray you, O Lord,
the wills of your faithful people,
that they, plenteously bringing forth the fruit of good works,
may by you be plenteously rewarded;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen**.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First Reading

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.
Hear the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 100

O shout to the Lord in triumph, all the earth:
serve the Lord with gladness,
and come before his face with songs of joy.
[2] Know that the Lord he is God:
it is he who has made us and we are his;
we are his people and the sheep of his pasture.
[3] Come into his gates with thanksgiving,
and into his courts with praise:
give thanks to him, and bless his holy name.
[4] For the Lord is good, his loving mercy is for ever:
his faithfulness throughout all generations

Second Reading

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.

Hear the word of the Lord,

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Hymn: *Christ is the King! O friends rejoice [TIS 246]*

The Gospel

Matthew 25.31-46

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St Matthew.

Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.

'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 Lord Jesus Christ.

SERMON

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Let us together affirm the faith of the church.

We believe in one God,
the Father, the almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made
of one being with the Father;
through him all things were made.
For us and for our salvation
he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son
is worshipped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.
We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

The celebrant says.

Beloved friends, today we pray as people filled with hope in the glorious reign of Christ our King. Let us speak boldly to God, trusting in His mercy, power, and justice.

The intercessor continues

O God of grace, we lift your Church into your loving arms: Make her a beacon of Your justice, peace, and reconciliation. May Your people, wherever they find themselves, celebrate our unity in Christ. Strengthen her leaders to speak truth to power, rooted in love. We long for the day when the walls that divide us crumble, and we stand shoulder to shoulder, hand in hand, proclaiming that Christ is our King forever.
Lord, in Your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

O Lord, King of all creation: We cry out for your healing in this world. Where hatred festers, plant seeds of love and forgiveness. Where greed destroys, may generosity prevail. Where leaders falter, raise up men and women who serve the common good without fear or favour. Transform this broken world, O Lord, into your glorious kingdom of justice and peace, a place where dignity is restored to all Your children.
Lord, in Your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

O God of compassion and hope, we bring before you all who suffer: Lift up those who are crushed by injustice and oppression. Comfort those who carry heavy burdens of poverty, illness, or grief. Inspire us, O Lord, to be Your hands and feet, bringing hope, healing, and restoration wherever it is needed. Remind every soul that while pain may endure for a night, joy comes with the dawn in Your kingdom where every tear will be wiped away.
Lord, in Your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

O King of love, rule in our hearts: May your Spirit burn brightly in us, turning fear into courage, apathy into compassion, and despair into hope. Empower us to be your instruments of peace in a world yearning for Your light. Lord, we praise you, for you are the King we long for, the King who walks with us, who stoops to lift up the fallen, and who reigns in majesty.
Lord, in Your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

O God, grant that with the saints of all nations, tribes, and languages, we may boldly proclaim your reign.

Please join me as we pray the Ipswich Anglicans Prayer together:

God of new beginnings,
bless our Ipswich Anglican community
with a fresh vision for the future,
with generous hearts to love one another,
and with courage for the changes we now embrace.
Draw us more deeply into the mystery of Christ,
so that we draw closer to you and to each other.
Make us a blessing to the city of Ipswich
as we walk together
into the future you have prepared for us;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

Almighty God, you have promised to hear our prayers.

Grant that what we have asked in faith
we may by your grace receive,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

GREETING OF PEACE

We are the body of Christ.
His Spirit is with us.
The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

Offertory Hymn: *Lord, enthroned in heavenly splendour [TIS 520]*

Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life
Blessed be God for ever.
Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer.
Fruit of the vine and work of human hands,
it will become our spiritual drink
Blessed be God for ever.
Blessed are you, Lord, God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have these gifts to share.
Accept and use our offerings for your glory
and for the service of your kingdom.
Blessed be God for ever.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.
Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

All glory and honour be yours always and everywhere,
mighty Creator, ever-living God.
We give you thanks and praise for our Saviour Jesus Christ,
who by the power of your Spirit was born of Mary
and lived as one of us.

By his death on the cross
and rising to new life,
he offered the one true sacrifice for sin
and obtained an eternal deliverance for his people.

Therefore with angels and archangels,
and with all the company of heaven,
we proclaim your great and glorious name,
for ever praising you and saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Merciful God, we thank you
for these gifts of your creation,
this bread and wine,
and we pray that by your Word and Holy Spirit,
we who eat and drink them
may be partakers of Christ's body and blood.

On the night he was betrayed Jesus took bread;
and when he had given you thanks
he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Take, eat. This is my body given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.'

After supper, he took the cup,
and again giving you thanks
he gave it to his disciples, saying,
'Drink from this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant
shed for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.'

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

Therefore we do as our Saviour has commanded:
proclaiming his offering of himself
made once for all upon the cross,
his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension,
and looking for his coming again,
we celebrate, with this bread and this cup,
his one perfect and sufficient sacrifice
for the sins of the whole world.
Renew us by your Holy Spirit,
unite us in the body of your Son
and bring us with all your people
into the joy of your eternal kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
with whom, and in whom,
in the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
we worship you, Father,
in songs of never-ending praise:

Blessing and honour and glory and power
are yours for ever and ever. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour Christ has taught us, we are confident to pray,

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours
now and for ever. Amen.

As this broken bread was once many grains,
which have been gathered together and made one bread:
so may your Church be gathered
from the ends of the earth into your kingdom.

Agnus Dei

Jesus, lamb of God, have mercy on us.
Jesus, bearer of our sins, have mercy on us.
Jesus, redeemer of the world, grant us your peace.

Invitation to the Table

Dear friends in Christ,
Come to this holy table, not because you must,
but because you may.
Come, not because you are strong,
but because you are weak.
Come, not because of any righteousness of your own,
but because of your deep need for mercy and help.
Come, because you love the Lord a little,
and would like to love Him more.
Come, because Christ loved you and gave himself for you.

— William Barclay, The Lord's Supper (1967)

THE SENDING OUT OF GOD'S PEOPLE

Prayer after Communion

Living God,
in this holy meal you fill us with new hope.
May the power of your love,
which we have known in word and sacrament,
continue your saving work among us,
give us courage for our pilgrimage,
and bring us to the joys you promise.
Most loving God,
you send us into the world you love.
Give us grace to go thankfully and with courage
in the power of your Spirit.

Kid's time With God

Notices

Blessing

Christ our King rules with justice, mercy, and peace. As you go forth,
may you proclaim His reign with joy and boldness in your life;
and the blessing of God almighty,
the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you and remain with you always. **Amen**

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
In the name of Christ. Amen.

Recessional Hymn: *Crown him with many crowns [TIS 228]*

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Carols on the Lawn
St Paul's Church,
124 Brisbane Street Ipswich
Join us for community carols on the lawns featuring our talented young musicians, games and activities
BYO picnic snacks & drinks from 5.00pm
Sunday 6 December
@ 6:00pm


-JOIN US FOR OUR-
Ipswich Anglican Community
Parish Christmas
Dinner
Sunday
13
DEC
6:00 pm for
6:30 pm start
For all Ipswich Anglican Community
Parishioners and families
St Thomas' Church Hall
15 Lawrence Street, North Ipswich
RSVP to the Parish Office
on 3812 0377
(for catering purposes)