

St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, Perth
Sunday, November 23rd, 2025
Rev. Gerry Gallant

Jesus
Christ the King
Revelation 22:6-21

Welcome

Announcements

Call to Worship

O come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
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.
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 hand.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

Almighty and everlasting God,
you have willed to restore all things
in your well-beloved Son, our Lord and King.
Grant that the people of earth,
now divided and enslaved by sin,
may be freed and brought together
under the gentle and loving rule of Christ,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,

one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

Call to Confession

God's Word assures us:
 If we say that we have no sin,
 we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.
 If we confess our sins,
 he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins
 and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.
 In humility and faith let us confess our sin to God.

Prayer of Confession (Responsive)

Wondrous God,
 who sets suns and moons above us,
 mountains and valleys beneath us,
 and friends and strangers among us:
 how often have we tried to hide from your presence,
 how seldom have we looked for your creating face
 and your fashioning hand!
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Wondrous God,
 who took upon yourself flesh of our flesh in Jesus our brother,
 and being found in human form made the ultimate disclosure of yourself
 in the face of Jesus Christ:
 how often we have forgotten you,
 how seldom have we really loved and followed you!
Christ, have mercy upon us.

Wondrous God,
 who pours out freely the Holy Spirit:
 how often have we ignored your promptings,
 how seldom have we asked for your help or accepted your gifts!
Lord, have mercy upon us. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Do not fear people of God!
 See, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has triumphed.
 With his blood he has purchased people for God
 from every tribe and language and people and nation.

He has made them to be a kingdom and priests to serve our God,
and they will reign on the earth.

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 the evil one
For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory,
Forever and ever, Amen.**

Hymn #375: "Fairest Lord Jesus"

Fairest Lord Jesus,
Lord of all creation,
Jesus, of God and Mary the Son,
Thee will I cherish,
Thee will I honor,
O thou, my soul's delight and crown.

Fair are the meadows,
fairer still the woodlands,
robed in the verdure and bloom of spring:
Jesus is fairer,
Jesus is purer,
he makes the saddest heart to sing.

Fair is the sunshine,
fairer still the moonlight,
fair is the shimmering, starry sky:
Jesus shines brighter,
Jesus shines clearer
than all the heavenly host on high.

All fairest beauty
heavenly and earthly,
wondrously, Jesus, is found in thee;
none can be nearer,
fairer or dearer
than thou, my Saviour, art to me.

Dedication

Minister

A baby dedication is a wonderful time and as a church we have been blessed to have two babies join our church family. Today we will take time to honor the families and the children that they have welcomed into their household and into our household of faith. We as a church are committed to helping these families raise these children in the name and the ways of Jesus Christ.

This process is called a dedication in that the child is placed before God and a covenant is made between the parents and God, and the Church and parents to say this child belongs to God, much like Hannah bringing Samuel to the temple in the Old Testament or Mary and Joseph bringing the young Jesus to the temple in the New Testament to say he is yours Lord.

There is a distinct difference between a baptism and dedication. A dedication is a commitment to raise the child in Christ and allows them to receive the sacrament of Baptism when they choose to make their own commitment to Christ.

The dedication means that this child's family and church family will put forth every effort to raise the child in a way in which they will see what it means to live a life of loving God first and loving your neighbor as yourself.

The parents and the church get to live a life that models what it is to be a Christian in those around them, this is a blessing for the child, the parents, and the church. This is also a strong call upon the church and its members to support the parents through prayer, encouragement, and direction as they raise their child in the ways of the Lord.

This is a covenant that we all take together, as a church to come alongside these parents as they disciple their children in God's ways. It is a commission to the parents to raise their child in the ways of the Lord. This is not something that is commanded or required in the scriptures, but it is something that we do as a congregation of Christ to offer our blessings and support of these parents as they have blessed us by being members of our church community.

In the family of God, we are all commissioned to teach our children about God from birth; to follow God in his ways, to trust him at every step of life and this day we formalize that and make our commitment to raise the child in the ways of the Lord as parents and as a church community.

(FATHER) and (MOTHER) (FAMILY NAME) would you please come up with (CHILD) (FAMILY NAME) and any other family members who wish to be a part of this dedication.

It is a blessing to be a part of a church in which there are new babies, new blessings from God, and it is a blessing and a joy to be given the opportunity to pray, to watch them grow up and to encourage these parents and their child to follow in the ways of Jesus Christ.

We will begin with the affirmations of the family, a commitment to the things that as parents (and direct family members) that you will promise before God to do and then as a congregation we will also make some affirmations before God.

Minister

(FATHER) and (MOTHER), (CHILD) (FAMILY NAME) is precious in the sight of God, it is he who will carry on the mission, the glory, and the Gospel of Jesus Christ after us. He must hear, be taught, and believe the word of God, the glory and wonder of God, and the story of God and the deliverance of his people from death to life through Jesus Christ.

(FATHER) and (MOTHER), the Lord is our God and by his power and grace will you love the lord your God with all of your heart, soul, strength and with His help and in His promises will you lead and teach by your example and in your words, so that (CHILD) might know the mercy and the grace of our lord Jesus Christ?

Parent(s)

We will.

Minister

Will you strive to diligently love your children and talk with him in the morning, and the day and the night about the goodness of our God?

Parent(s)

We will.

Minister

Will you to the best of your ability and under the grace of God be a Godly example to (CHILD), knowing full well that he will follow after the examples that you present before him in his life?

Congregation

We will.

Minister

We will pray over (CHILD) today and lay hands over him. I would ask the elders of the church to join me as we pray and lay hands of blessing on (CHILD) (FAMILY NAME).

(sprinkle)

(CHILD)(FAMILY NAME) you are made in the image of God, fearfully and wonderfully made by the creator of all. Since the very beginning of time, he has known you. God knows who you are and who you will become, may you grow by his power and grace to love the lord your God with all of your heart, soul, strength, and mind. May you walk in the presence of the lord every day of your life. On this day we ask you Lord that you bless (CHILD), (FATHER), and (MOTHER) in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen

(FATHER) and (MOTHER) are committed to raising (CHILD) in the ways and the name of Jesus Christ and the Gospel and that is a high calling. However, we as their church family also have the opportunity, the responsibility and in fact the duty to partner with them both in person and in prayer.

I would ask that the congregation now stand as we make our affirmations as a church family.

Perth Community Church, as a holy fellowship we are bound together in the Holy Spirit, through our Lord Jesus Christ.

And as a body of the one true church, we are presenting (CHILD) (FAMILY NAME) as well to the church body and it is our joy and duty to support (FATHER), (MOTHER), and (CHILD).

If you are willing, raise your hand in blessing and answer these questions which I will put before you with 'we will'

To the saints who are gathered here at Perth Community Church, remember our God is a faithful God. Will you seek to hold fast to your hope in Jesus Christ without wavering?

Congregation

We will

Minister

Will you consider, ponder, and think deeply upon, and stir up, encourage, and comfort (FATHER) and (MOTHER) as they raise (CHILD) in the love of the Lord and His word?

Congregation

We will

Minister

Will you pray for (FATHER) and (Mother) to be equipped to patiently love, to disciple Benson, and to grow in the knowledge and understanding of God as the years go by?

Congregation

We will

Minister

Will you alongside (FATHER) and (MOTHER), as God's elect exiles do all that you can to love them, encourage them, pray for them, and to be a Godly example not only to (FATHER) and (MOTHER), but to (CHILD) as well?

Congregation

We will

Minister

Let us pray,

Father,

We ask that you would be with (FATHER), (MOTHER), and (CHILD)

May (CHILD) be set aside from this world for your purposes.

May this family bring the light of Christ wherever they go in this world.

Father, we pray that you would use us as the church to love them.

And to help them grow in spiritual maturity.

And wisdom and favor with God and man
Father help us to be a community of Godly Love
Lord as you have loved us, let us love them.
Father be with them, encourage them, strengthen them, and provide for them.
We pray this in the precious name of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ,
Who lives and reigns with the Father and the Holy Spirit as the One True Living
God. Now and Forever. **Amen.**

Hymn: "Because He Lives"

God sent His son,
They called Him Jesus;
He came to love,
Heal and forgive;
He lived and died
To buy my pardon,
An empty grave is there
To prove my Savior lives!

Chorus
Because He lives,
I can face tomorrow!
Because He lives,
All fear is gone.
Because I know
He holds the future,
And life is worth the living,
Just because He lives!

How sweet to hold
A newborn baby,
And feel the pride
And joy he brings;
But greater still
The calm assurance:

This child can face
 Uncertain days because He Lives!
 [Chorus]

And then one day,
 I'll cross the river,
 I'll fight life's final
 War with pain;
 And then, as death
 Gives way to victory,
 I'll see the lights of glory
 And I'll know He lives!
 [Chorus]

Responsive Reading

Psalm 119:81-88

⁸¹ My soul longs for your salvation;
 I hope in your word.

⁸² **My eyes long for your promise;
 I ask, "When will you comfort me?"**

⁸³ For I have become like a wineskin in the smoke,
 yet I have not forgotten your statutes.

⁸⁴ **How long must your servant endure?
 When will you judge those who persecute me?**

⁸⁵ The insolent have dug pitfalls for me;
 they do not live according to your law.

⁸⁶ **All your commandments are sure;
 they persecute me with falsehood; help me!**

⁸⁷ They have almost made an end of me on earth,
 but I have not forsaken your precepts.

⁸⁸ **In your steadfast love give me life,
 that I may keep the testimonies of your mouth.**

Anthem (Music Ministry)

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture

Revelation 22:6-21

⁶ And he said to me, "These words are trustworthy and true. And the Lord, the God of the spirits of the prophets, has sent his angel to show his servants what must soon take place."

⁷ "And behold, I am coming soon. Blessed is the one who keeps the words of the prophecy of this book."

⁸ I, John, am the one who heard and saw these things. And when I heard and saw them, I fell down to worship at the feet of the angel who showed them to me, ⁹ but he said to me, "You must not do that! I am a fellow servant with you and your brothers the prophets, and with those who keep the words of this book. Worship God."

¹⁰ And he said to me, "Do not seal up the words of the prophecy of this book, for the time is near. ¹¹ Let the evildoer still do evil, and the filthy still be filthy, and the righteous still do right, and the holy still be holy."

¹² "Behold, I am coming soon, bringing my recompense with me, to repay each one for what he has done. ¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

¹⁴ Blessed are those who wash their robes, so that they may have the right to the tree of life and that they may enter the city by the gates. ¹⁵ Outside are the dogs and sorcerers and the sexually immoral and murderers and idolaters, and everyone who loves and practices falsehood.

¹⁶ "I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star."

¹⁷ The Spirit and the Bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who desires take the water of life without price.

¹⁸ I warn everyone who hears the words of the prophecy of this book: if anyone adds to them, God will add to him the plagues described in this book, ¹⁹ and if anyone takes away from the words of the book of this prophecy, God will take away his share in the tree of life and in the holy city, which are described in this book.

²⁰ He who testifies to these things says, "Surely I am coming soon." Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!

²¹ The grace of the Lord Jesus be with all. Amen.

Sermon

When we look out at the world we live in we are overwhelmed with things trying to grab our focus. For some it is their career, for others it might be relationships, for some it is wealth. Everyone chases their own personal ambitions, trying to get enough of what 'matters' to them.

The truth is that there is only one thing that matters in the world today, your relationship with Jesus Christ, it is all that really matters. Even if you do not live until the times that are described in today's Scripture, your time will come to stand in judgement at the end of your life here on earth.

If Jesus really is the eternal Son of the One True Living God, sovereign over all of creation and the only mediator between God and humanity, there is no part of life, no corner of this vast universe, no moment in mankind's history in which he did not reign supreme over it all.

Jesus is our King, He is the Lord of the Church, the Lord of Creation, and the Lord of Redemption, and because of that your relationship with him does not just matter a little bit. It absolutely matters the most in your life.

Revelation 22:13

¹³ I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, the beginning and the end."

Jesus is eternal, coequal in His Godship with the Father and the Holy Spirit.

The world admits that Jesus Christ was a man that lived, however they want to regulate him to a wise and good person, not the Son of God. Jesus was not just a man, not just a moral teacher, not just some divine idea, Jesus is the second Person of the Trinity, the one through whom all things were made.

John 1:1-3

1 In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made.

Colossians states:

Colossians 1:15-20

¹⁵ He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn of all creation. ¹⁶ For by him all things were created, in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or dominions or rulers or authorities—all things were created through him and for him.

¹⁷ And he is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church. He is the beginning, the firstborn from the dead, that in everything he might be preeminent. ¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross.

Jesus is not just part of the story in the Bible. He is the Author and Sustainer of the story. Abraham Kuyper said.

“There is not a square inch in the whole domain of our human existence over which Christ, who is sovereign over all, does not cry: ‘Mine!’

-Abraham Kuyper

Jesus matters, because there is nothing that exists in this world that could exist without him, and there is nothing in this world that finds its purpose unless it is a part of Him.

Jesus is the one and only source of Salvation. Mankind has been subject to sin and separation from God since the fall of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden.

Romans 3:23 tells us that.

Romans 3:23

²³ for all have sinned and fall short of the glory of God,

Mankind does not simply need moral improvement; it needs spiritual resurrection. We are not just spiritually wounded; we are spiritually dead until we restore our relationship with God through Jesus Christ.

This is why Jesus matters, without Him, we stand by ourselves under God’s righteous judgement when we come before him, either at the end of our life on this world or on the Day of Judgement described in the book of Revelation.

Without Him, we are unable to stand before God, the Gospel is not a story about mankind finding God, it is a story of God coming down to rescue His people, helpless sinners who cannot save themselves just like you and me.

Romans 5:6-8

⁶ For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷ For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸ but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

This was the fulfillment of God’s promise made to Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden after the Fall of mankind. God promised a redeemer that would crush the serpent’s head, redeem His people, and establish an everlasting kingdom. Jesus was the fulfillment of that promise. At the cross he did not merely make mankind’s salvation a possibility, He accomplished it in absolute victory over Satan and over death. He bore the judgement of God for all who genuinely believe

in him, by loving him, abiding in him, and obeying him. He absorbed the wrath of God so that His people could receive the grace and mercy of God.

This is the very heart of the Gospel – He died for our sins. When Jesus cried out, ‘it is finished’ He was declaring that the redemption of God’s people had been fully, perfectly, and irrevocably secured. Jesus matters, because without His sacrificial death upon the cross, we would all still be lost in this world, condemned by our sin, and spiritually dead.

However, he did not just die upon the cross. Three days later He rose from the grave. The resurrection is not a myth or a metaphor; it is a historical truth and an event upon which the hope of Christianity rests.

In 1 Corinthians 15:14 Paul said:

1 Corinthians 15:14

¹⁴ And if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain

Jesus rose from the grave, and by doing so guaranteed that all who love him, abide in him, and obey him, will share in his eternal life. Jesus matters, he did not just die to redeem us, he rose to bring us to a new creation. We are justified by His righteousness which is imputed to us, adopted into God’s family, and sanctified by his Holy Spirit.

Jesus matters not just for our eternal life, but also here and now, each and every day. His power is at work in you through the Holy Spirit, transforming you from who you were into who he calls you to be.

Jesus call for his people to live ‘Coram Deo’ – before the face of God in every decision we make, every relationship we have and everything that we do. Jesus matters in your home, in your workplace, in your hobbies. Jesus matters in your times of suffering, in your times of joy, when you have doubts, and when you are tempted.

Jesus calls you to fulfil his purpose for your life and once you accept him as Lord and Savior, he offers you peace and joy that the world cannot give.

Jesus matters, because without him living the Christian life is impossible, without him you are just being a good person and missing out on eternal salvation, but with him, life, even a difficult life becomes abundant and meaningful.

Jesus matters also because the reality is that the world is moving towards the events described in the book of Revelation, God's sovereign conclusion to the story of Jesus Christ. God has an unfolding eternal plan, and Jesus is at the very center of it.

Nations rise and fall, Christ's kingdom has no end. Leaders come and Go, Christ remains on the throne. Jesus is sovereign over all things.

Philippians declares.

Philippians 2:9-11

⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Not just His faithful, but one day every knee will bow to Jesus Christ. Every voice shall declare him Lord, even those who deny him in the world today. Christ will return to judge the quick and the dead, to restore his creation, and to live with is redeemed people for eternity. Jesus matters because he is the end to which all things are moving. His kingdom is the final kingdom. His glory is the final glory. His reign is the final reign.

Jesus matters to all of Creation, but does he matter to you?

Does he matter to you?

When Paul and Silas were arrested and imprisoned in the book of Acts, the jailer who was about to take his life was saved by their intervention and asked them how he could be saved.

Acts 16:29-31

³⁰Then he brought them out and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" ³¹And they said, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household."

Believe and be saved. Salvation is freely offered to all, yet so many fail to believe, instead they focus their lives on the things which do not matter, careers, personal relationships, fame, power, wealth, and other worldly ambitions.

So many choose to ignore Jesus because to accept him means that they need to change the way that they live and in doing so they remain under the condemnation of their sin.

So many choose to respect Him, see him as a great moral teacher, to do some of the things he commands in the Scripture, so that they can believe they are a good person and have salvation. However, they fail to love Him, abide in him, and obey him fully with all of their heart, soul, body, and mind. And they miss out on salvation as we learn in Matthew 7:

Matthew 7:21-23

²¹ “Not everyone who says to me, ‘Lord, Lord,’ will enter the kingdom of heaven, but the one who does the will of my Father who is in heaven. ²² On that day many will say to me, ‘Lord, Lord, did we not prophesy in your name, and cast out demons in your name, and do many mighty works in your name?’ ²³ And then will I declare to them, ‘I never knew you; depart from me, you workers of lawlessness.’

You need to trust in him, to love him, to abide in him, to obey him, to rest entirely on His finished work, and to bow your knee to him in humility and faith. Jesus matters because He alone is the way to eternal life in God’s kingdom.

Jesus is the Eternal God, the Savior, the sovereign King, the faithful Shepherd, and the Judge of all the earth. He matters in creation, in redemption and in consummation. He matters in every moment of your life. And may we His Church declare throughout all the ages, joyfully and boldly that salvation is through His grace alone, through faith alone, in Christ alone, according to the Scripture alone and to the glory of God alone.

Let us pray,

Our High Priest and Shepherd

We thank you with our whole heart,
 O beloved Father,
 for the precious blood of your dear Son,
 which he shed for our sake,
 and by which you daily cleanse, quicken, and sanctify us
 in your holy Church,
 and make us partakers of your divine nature.
 We thank you for the great and unspeakable love,
 though we were not worthy of it,
 when you redeemed us by your own Son,
 who is our High priest and Mediator,
 the true Shepherd who laid down his life for the sheep of his flock,
 who now sits on your right hand
 and intercedes for us.
 O good and faithful God, Friend of all mankind,
 give us your grace and your great compassion,

that we may praise you with your Son and the Holy Spirit
in every act of our lives evermore.

Amen.

Source: Unknown, attributed to St. Augustine (d. 430)

Invitation to Offering

Offering Prayer

Closing Hymn # 250: "Lord of the Dance"

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven and I danced on the earth:
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

Refrain:

*Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.*

I danced for the scribe and the Pharisee,
But they would not dance and they wouldn't follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
They came with me and the dance went on. (Refrain)

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame:
The holy people said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me on high,
And they left me there on a cross to die. (Refrain)

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back.
They buried my body and they thought I'd gone;
But I am the dance, and I still go on. (Refrain)

They cut me down and I leap up high;
I am the life that'll never, never die.
I'll live in you if you'll live in me:
I am the Lord of the dance, said he. (Refrain)

Pastoral Prayer

Holy One, the Source, Story and Spirit of Love,
 We praise you for the signs of your reign among us:
 For hope overcoming despair,
 trust rising above hurt,
 love prevailing over hatred,
 and peace restoring harmony after discord.

God of Hope Beyond Fear,
 We pray that you will comfort this broken world.
 May the vision of your peaceable kingdom take root—
 in your church, in our families, in our community,
 and in countries marked by violence and struggles for power.

God of Wholeness Beyond Fracture,
 We pray for a world where differences are overcome by understanding,
 and everyone can find a place of dignity and respect.
 Shape our hearts soft with the kindness of your Spirit
 so that all our relationships honour your image in each person,
 and our actions and attitudes help you mend the world you love.

God of Life Beyond Death,
 We pray for all those who are grieving the loss of a loved one,
 the loss of hope or the loss of a dream.
 Be present with each one living through a time of sadness or discouragement.
 Bring them comfort through your presence,
 and show us how to be good companions on the journey to renewed hope.

As we honour Christ, the only King and head of the church,
 we pray for the continuation of Christ's ministry through the church.
 Send your Holy Spirit to knit the church together;
 bring renewed life and commitment to each congregation;
 enliven every community;
 open minds and hearts that have experienced disagreement to mutual understanding;
 and refresh all who are tired out
 with a vision of the future you will create for us, with us and through us,
 in the name of Jesus Christ, your Son, our Saviour. **Amen.**

Benediction

Grace to you and peace
from him who is and who was and who is to come,
and from the seven spirits who are before his throne,
and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness,
the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.
To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood,
and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father,
to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. **Amen.**