

November 20, 2022

REIGN OF CHRIST

Nurturing Faith and Spirituality at Home

As we continue in the Season after Pentecost, the longest season of the church year, we are reminded that we grow as people of faith and disciples of Christ in times together and times apart.



In this last half of the Season after Pentecost, stories of faith and encounters with Jesus give us the opportunity to think about how we can live faithfully in our daily lives and grow together as the church. This is an exciting journey of discovery, encouragement, and transformation.

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On this last Sunday of the church year, we anticipate a renewed Creation, which God envisioned in the One sent to transform and save.

A Sign and Symbol of God's Reign

Read [Colossians 1:11–20](#) or **listen** to the audio story "[A Letter Teaches](#)" or **gather** around as someone tells the story "[Jesus Helps Us to Learn to Live in God's Way](#)" in this week's Exploring Our Faith.

Jesus is praised as being the image of God, agent of Creation, and one who came to remind us of God's presence within and among us. Jesus is a sign or symbol of God's reign of justice and peace.

Make, Sing

Candle making/decorating

A candle is a symbol or image often used for Jesus. It reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world. Just like a light helps show us the way to go, Jesus' teaching helps show us God's way. Just as a light can give us comfort on a cold and scary night, so Jesus can bring us comfort in difficult times in our lives. Jesus calls us to let God's light shine in us, too.

Make a beeswax candle (using beeswax sheets from a craft store) or purchase a large pillar candle and paint symbols of Jesus on it. Let this candle burn in a safe container in your home as we begin a new church year.

Action Song

Enjoy singing the Action song "[Look at Jesus](#)."

On this week's [activity](#) page, **draw** some different creatures and parts of the natural world that Jesus loves.



During the Week

We have a hard time imagining the complete glory of the Reign of Christ. God's ways are grander than we can imagine. We can know that through Christ, we can learn more about God's wisdom and what we need to do to become a loving church community.

- **Walk mindfully this week, paying attention to the ways God is at work in your community.**

Practicing Faith

Create a quiet space where family members might retreat and reflect. Place art supplies for those who like to doodle as they reflect and copies of the [word labyrinth](#).

Celebrate

November 27, 2022, marks the beginning of Advent and a new church year. Celebrate the night before with special refreshments and party games. Wish each other a "Happy New Year."

Prayer

Loving God, we give thanks for the life of Jesus
who showed us what God is like
and how to live in God's loving ways.
May we grow to be more like Jesus in all we do. Amen.

Listen to and sing along with "Listen to Jesus" (MP3 available [here](#) for purchase and download).
Visit [Lecture Connection](#) for current events that connect with this week's scriptures.

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