

The Lord Is King

Old Orchard Church
Second Sunday in Advent
December 5, 2010—10:15 - 11:50 a.m.



Cover art: *No Room in the Inn* — Luke 2:7 by Lu Hung Nien (c. 1930's)
Song: "The Lord Is King." Words by Josiah Conder (1824) in the public domain. Music by Nathan Partain (2003) UBP. Arr. Bruce Benedict (2008). Used with permission.

Make straight in the wilderness
A highway for our God.

Isaiah 40:3

Celebrating Jesus, Emmanu-el

For ages Jewish women hoped and prayed Messiah
would be born to a daughter in the land;
Generation upon generation prayed and prayed that
Emmanu-el, God With Us,
would come and ransom captive Israel.
Century after century the Gentile peoples of the world
sat in darkness, waiting for the light of Truth.

**But, according to his patience, when time had ripened,
God acted: The Son came.**

We cry now,
“Come to us Jesus, expected so long;
come and release us from our fears and sins;
release us from our sadness;
let us find our rest in you,
that we might live in the joy of God
until you come again, as Lion of Judah.”



Scripture Readings

Old Testament Reading: Isaiah 7:14

New Testament Lesson: Philippians 2:4-11

Sermon Series on Ruth

“Ruth: The Immigrant Widow as Model of Faithfulness”

Ruth 1-4

Ron Lutjens, senior pastor, preaching

And Cheer Us By Thy Drawing Nigh

The ransomed of the Lord will return,
And come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy will be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing will flee away.

Isaiah 35:10

JOY AND SADNESS ARE AS CLOSE to each other as the splendid colored leaves of a New England fall to the soberness of barren trees. When you touch the hand of a returning friend, you already know that he will have to leave you again. When you are moved by the quiet vastness of a sun-colored ocean, you miss the friend who cannot see the same. Joy and sadness are born at the same time, both arising from such deep places in your heart that you can't find words to capture your complex emotions.

But this intimate experience in which every bit of life is touched by a bit of death can point us beyond the limits of our existence. It can do so by making us look forward in expectation to the day when our hearts will be filled with perfect joy, a joy that no one shall take away from us.

Christians celebrate the human birth of the infant Jesus knowing full well that he grew to be a man, gave himself up to death for our sake and was raised from the dead to new life. The mystery of death and life is part of the celebration of Christmas, a celebration that proclaims the victory of life over death. We have not been promised a life free from sorrow, but one in which joy will have the last word.

—Anonymous



We celebrate the Lord's Supper weekly—and in a circle, at the end of worship. A word of direction is given, and with this everyone stands and moves to the walls. The cup is passed in two forms: in a chalice and then in small individual cups. You are free to choose.

And as this is the Supper of the Lord Christ, please listen to the instructions we give as to what qualifies a visitor to participate. **But whether you intend to take communion or not, please join us in the circle.**