



Reign of Christ Sunday  
November 26<sup>th</sup>, 2023 at 11:00am

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### Quote of the Week

It is for us to see the Kingdom of God as always coming, always pressing in on the present, always big with possibility, and always inviting immediate action.

*Walter Rauschenbusch*

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***Please stand as you are able whenever an asterisk (\*) precedes a heading.***

*Restrooms, including children's facilities with a changing table and a gender-neutral accessible restroom, are located in the basement.*

**Prelude** | Tania Jones

*The prelude is an integral part of worship, as we open ourselves to God's presence. Please enter quietly, being sure to silence your devices.*

**Welcome** | The Reverend Dr. Cathy S. Gilliard

*If you are new to our church, we encourage you to fill out a visitor card, found in the pew in front of you or online at [paumcnyc.org/visitor](http://paumcnyc.org/visitor).*

**\*Opening Hymn** | UMH #327 - "Crown Him with Many Crowns"

### Litany of the Day

*Minister:* With God's people in all times and all places, we join our voices in prayer. May the words of our mouth and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to God, our Sovereign Lord and Redeemer.

***People:*** **Blessed be God for ever and ever.**

*Minister:* O God of love, we pray that you would grant us love;

***People:*** **Reign in us, Lord Christ.**

*Minister:* Love of our neighbors near and far;

***People:*** **Reign in us, Lord Christ.**

*Minister:* Love of our friends, old and new;

***People:*** **Reign in us, Lord Christ.**

*Minister:* Love of those whom we find hard to bear;

***People:*** **Reign in us, Lord Christ.**

*Minister:* Love of those who find it hard to bear us;

***People:*** **Reign in us, Lord Christ.**

*Minister:* Love of those we have injured, and love of those who have injured us;

***People:*** **Reign in us, Lord Christ.**

*Minister:* Love of those with whom we work;

***People:*** **Reign in us, Lord Christ.**

*Minister:* Love of those with whom we take our ease;

***People:*** **Reign in us, Lord Christ.**

*Minister:* Love in joy, love in sorrow;

***People:*** **Reign in us, Lord Christ.**

*Minister:* Love in life and love in death;

***People:*** **Reign in us, Lord Christ.**

*Minister:* Love and reign in us, Lord Christ, that at the end of our days we may be worthy of you, for you are eternal love and life.

***All:*** **Amen.**

**Children's Moment** | Liz Sweeney

## \*Christ's Peace

*Minister:* The peace of the Lord be with you.

*People:* **And also with you.**

*Please greet one another with a sign of peace.*

## \*Gathering Hymn | UMH #334 - "Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

*There's a sweet, sweet Spirit in this place; and I know that it's the Spirit of the Lord;  
there are sweet expressions on each face, and I know they feel the presence of the Lord.*

*Sweet Holy Spirit, sweet heavenly Dove, stay right here with us, filling us with your love;  
and for these blessings we lift our hearts in praise; without a doubt we'll know  
that we have been revived when we shall leave this place.*

## Prayer for Illumination | The Reverend Thea Crites

*All:* God of mercy, you promised never to break your covenant with us. Amid all the changing words of our generation, may we hear your eternal Word that does not change. Then may we respond to your gracious promises with faithful and obedient lives. Amen.

## The Gospel Lesson | Matthew 25:31-46 (p. 904)

*Minister:* The Word of the Lord.

*People:* **Thanks be to God.**

## \*Hymn | UMH #715 - "Rejoice, the Lord is King"

## Sermon | The Reverend Cathy S. Gilliard

**Solo** | "All Good Gifts" from *Godspell*; Lyrics by Matthias Claudius, Music by Stephen Schwartz

*Soloist:* Lauren Gismondi

## Giving of Tithes & Offerings

*If you wish to give online, you can do so by scanning the QR code on the next page or by visiting [paumcnyc.org/give](http://paumcnyc.org/give).*

## Offertory Anthem | UMH #96 - "Praise the Lord Who Reigns Above"

## \*Presentation Hymn | UMH #94 - "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;*

*Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!*

*Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

## Prayers of the People

*Minister:* Lord, in your mercy,

*People:* **Hear our prayer.**

*If you have a prayer request that you wish to share with the church, you may do so by filling out a prayer request form available in the pew in front of you, submitting a prayer request at [paumcnyc.org/prayer](http://paumcnyc.org/prayer), or by texting your name and request to (914) 627-9286.*

## The Lord's Prayer

*All:* **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, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

## \*Closing Hymn | UMH #568 "Christ for the World We Sing"

## \*Benediction

**Postlude** | "King of Glory" by Todd Dulaney



# ANNOUNCEMENTS



## Children's Programming Updates -Family Service Today

**There is no Sunday School or Children's Choir today;** children are welcome to stay in service with parents this morning. Children's Choir will rehearse after service the next two weeks, and sing at the **Christmas Pageant on Sunday, December 17th.**

## Winter Wishes Holiday Gifts

We are participating in New York Cares Winter Wishes, collecting holiday gifts for kids in NYC. We have 'wishes' for specific kids- if you are interested in fulfilling a wish (purchasing and wrapping a gift and bringing it to service **December 3rd**), please contact **Sarah Hathaway** at [sarahkhathaway@gmail.com](mailto:sarahkhathaway@gmail.com), or see **Jill Tatara** after service today.

## Bible Study: Finding Hope in the Midst of Brokenness; Two More Sessions

There seems to be so much brokenness, sickness, hurt, pain, and disappointment in our lives and and world these days. Pastor Cathy will lead Part 1 of a Bible Study series on the healing stories of Jesus to help us move toward wholeness (physically, spiritually, and emotionally), reconciliation, and hope. The class will take place Thursday mornings 11am-noon at the church and will have two more sessions on **November 30th** and **December 7th**. To register, email **Maureen** at [maureen@paumcny.org](mailto:maureen@paumcny.org).

## Sanctuary Cleanup and Decorating: Saturday, December 2nd, 10am-1pm

Help our church prepare for Advent by participating in our upcoming clean-up day! If you are unable to stay for the full time but still wish to help, feel free to come for just a part of the day. No heavy lifting in required.

Sign-up online at [paumcny.org/cleanup](http://paumcny.org/cleanup), or email **Maureen** at [maureen@paumcny.org](mailto:maureen@paumcny.org) with any questions.

## Coat Drive

Beginning **Sunday, December 3rd** we will be collecting new and gently used coats as part of the New York Cares Coat Drive. Boxes for collection will be in the narthex throughout December.

## Christmas Poinsettias

Help decorate our Sanctuary by placing a poinsettia on the chancel for our Christmas Eve service! Poinsettias are \$30 each and can be dedicated in honor or memory of a recipient of your choice. Orders must be received with payment in the church office by the end of the day on **Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup>** to ensure that your donation will be listed. Submit your order at [paumcny.org/poinsettias](http://paumcny.org/poinsettias), or fill out an order form located in the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate with payment. Please email the **church office** at [office@paumcny.org](mailto:office@paumcny.org) for any questions.

## Resource Fair for Newest New Yorkers

Our sister church, St. Paul and St. Andrew's, has several ministries for recently arrived immigrants, and opportunities to serve. They host a weekly resource fair, where volunteers help welcome newcomers, distribute essential goods and food, sign folks up for discounted Metrocards, pack welcome backpacks, and run a pop-up clothing store. You can volunteer for that work on this **database:** [my.lotsahelpinghands.com/community/spsasanctuary](http://my.lotsahelpinghands.com/community/spsasanctuary)

## Walking Together: Meditations for the Journey

Pastor Cathy's daily podcast is back! Episodes are available wherever you listen to podcasts and on our website at [paumcny.org/walkingtogether](http://paumcny.org/walkingtogether). To receive these in your email each morning, sign up for our mailing list at [paumcny.org/podcastlist](http://paumcny.org/podcastlist).

# ✠ ADVENT & CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE ✠

Join us as we anticipate and celebrate the birth of the Christ Child!

**Sunday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> | First Sunday of Advent**

**11:00am:** Sunday Worship Service (*In-Person & Livestreamed*)

**Sunday, December 10<sup>th</sup> | Second Sunday of Advent**

**11:00am:** Holy Communion Worship Service (*In-Person & Livestreamed*)

**Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> | Third Sunday of Advent**

**11:00am:** Sunday Worship Service (*In-Person & Livestreamed*)

Children's Christmas Pageant During Service

**Saturday, December 24<sup>th</sup> | Christmas Eve**

**11:00am:** Holy Communion Service (*In-Person & Livestreamed*)

**Sunday, January 7<sup>th</sup> | The Epiphany of Our Lord**

**11:00am:** Holy Communion Worship Service (*In-Person & Livestreamed*)

## ✠ WELCOME TO PARK AVENUE! ✠

Visitor Card



If you're new to our community, here are a few ways to get to know us:

- **Fill out a Welcome Card** in the pew in front of you and place it in the offering plate, hand it to an usher, or to a staff member following service. Cards can also be found online at [paumcnyc.org/visitor](http://paumcnyc.org/visitor).
- **Join us for coffee hour on the third floor after service.**
- **Join our mailing list.** Emails are the primary way that we communicate any important messages for the entire community. If you do not receive our emails, we encourage you to subscribe at [paumcnyc.org/maillinglist](http://paumcnyc.org/maillinglist).

**Park Avenue United Methodist Church is:**

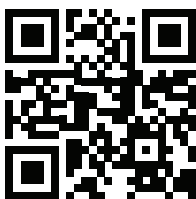
- A community of believers who affirm Christ's call to love God with all that we are and our neighbors as ourselves.
- A place that is open and affirming to our visitors. All people are welcome here.
- An anti-racist congregation under construction. Visit [paumcnyc.org/antiracism](http://paumcnyc.org/antiracism) to learn more.
- A member of the Reconciling Ministries Network, which mobilizes United Methodists of all sexual orientations and gender identities to transform our Church and world into the full expression of Christ's inclusive love. Visit [rmnetwork.org](http://rmnetwork.org) for more information.

Visit Us Online



[paumcnyc.org/info](http://paumcnyc.org/info)

Donate Online



[paumcnyc.org/give](http://paumcnyc.org/give)

## PARK AVENUE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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