



Wilshire
BAPTIST CHURCH

November 23, 2025
Christ the King Sunday

November 23, 2025
9:00 a.m.
Christ the King Sunday

Chiming of the Hour

We gather in community this morning to worship God.
To help center our focus in worship, please silence all electronic devices.

Welcome to Worshipers

Ariel Merivil

Centering Silence

One: We breathe in the breath of God.

All: Thanks be to God.

Call to Worship

Ariel Merivil

One: Meet me, O Christ in this stillness of morning.

All: Move me, O Spirit, to quiet my heart.

One: Mend me, O God, from yesterday's harms.

All: From the discords of yesterday, resurrect my peace.

One: From the discouragement of yesterday, resurrect my hope.

All: From the weariness of yesterday, resurrect my strength.

One: From the doubts of yesterday, resurrect my faith.

All: From the wounds of yesterday, resurrect my love.

One: Let me enter this new day, aware of my need and awake to your grace.

All: Amen.

+Congregational Song

Open Our Eyes
No. 392

OPEN OUR EYES

Scripture Reading — Judges 9:7–15

Timothy Peoples

When it was told to Jotham, he went and stood on the top of Mount Gerizim and cried aloud and said to them, "Listen to me, you lords of Shechem, so that God may listen to you.

The trees once went out
to anoint a king over themselves.
So they said to the olive tree,
'Reign over us.'

The olive tree answered them,
‘Shall I stop producing my rich oil
by which gods and mortals are honored
and go to sway over the trees?’
Then the trees said to the fig tree,
‘You come and reign over us.’
But the fig tree answered them,
‘Shall I stop producing my sweetness
and my delicious fruit
and go to sway over the trees?’
Then the trees said to the vine,
‘You come and reign over us.’
But the vine said to them,
‘Shall I stop producing my wine
that cheers gods and mortals
and go to sway over the trees?’
So all the trees said to the bramble,
‘You come and reign over us.’
And the bramble said to the trees,
‘If in good faith you are anointing me king over you,
then come and take refuge in my shade,
but if not, let fire come out of the bramble
and devour the cedars of Lebanon.’

For the Word of God in Scripture,
For the Word of God among us,
And for the Word of God within us,
Thanks be to God!

Message

Timothy Peoples

Prayer Practice — Examen

Jordann McMahan

Awareness: Take a deep breath and feel God’s presence around you.

Gratitude: Call to mind those things and people for which you are grateful.

Review: Remember a time you experienced love this week.

Forgiveness: Recall if there was a time you missed
sharing love with others and ask God for forgiveness.

Closing: Let go of anything you need to be free of and invite the
Spirit of God to guide you towards love in the week to come.

Music for Meditation

Nearer, My God, to Thee
Cindy Fuller

arr. Heather Sorenson

Sending

Timothy Peoples

Benediction

Timothy Peoples

One: God our maker,
We honor the sacred multitude that resides in you.

**All: May the guardian in you protect us.
May the child in you delight in us.**

One: May the friend in you challenge us.
May your ashes resurrect us.

**All: May your sky shelter us.
May the mystery of you liberate us.**

One: Provide abundance and healing in all forms to those who need it today.
And deliver us from shame, hatred, and the chains that bind us.

**All: For you have made us, and we are still being made.
Amen.**



We're glad you're here.

If you're a guest today and would like to let us know, scan the QR code with your smartphone camera to access our online response card. You can also scan the code to make a financial contribution or submit a prayer request. Response cards and offering envelopes are available in the pews and can be given to any minister after the service.

Parking note: When possible, please use the north parking lot to save closer spaces for our guests with limited mobility.



Scan for the latest Wilshire news and events.

wilshirebc.org

We acknowledge that this land where we gather once held the sacred voices of Indigenous peoples and bore the suffering of the enslaved.

Cover art: *Olive Trees*, Georges Braque, 1907. **Call to Worship:** "Liturgy for the Ritual of Morning Coffee" in *Every Moment Holy*. **Benediction:** Cole Arthur Riley's *Black Liturgies*. **Scripture quotations:** New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition © 2021 National Council of Churches of Christ in the United States of America, used by permission, all rights reserved, adapted for inclusive language. Music reprinted/podcast/streamed with permission under One License #A-739361. All rights reserved.