

Lo, He Comes With

Clouds Descending



Creative
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Sample

A Service for CHRIST THE KING

WORSHIP KIT

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Sample**

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A Service for CHRIST THE KING

Worship Kit

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A Service for **CHRIST THE KING**



Index

Notes/Ordering Information.....	5
Newsletter/Bulletin Notices.....	6
Order of Service.....	7-10
Complete Script For Worship Leaders.....	11-19
Scripture Readings.....	20-21
Children's Message.....	22-23
Homilies.....	24-26
Prayers.....	27-28
Music Guide.....	29-46

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Notes and Ordering Information

This is a worship service for Christ the King Sunday that examines many of the biblical references to clouds—clouds of judgment, clouds of majesty, signs of God’s presence, and finally “a cloud of witnesses” to bring us into the presence of Christ the King. Hymns include “Crown Him With Many Crowns” “Lo, He Comes With Clouds Descending,” “O Savior, Precious Savior” and “O Worship the King.”

Blank bulletins (8 1/2" x 11") are available. Code CKEA

Call Creative Communications for the Parish at

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Newsletter/Bulletin Notices

Newsletter Notice

Join us for Christ the King Sunday, when we celebrate the One who will come with the clouds to take us home to his kingdom above. The service will highlight biblical references to clouds and their foreshadowing of the second coming of our King in judgment, in majesty, with signs of God's presence and with the great cloud of witnesses to welcome us. In word, song and Scripture of this service, we will come to the throne of his altar to worship Christ.

Bulletin Notice

Welcome to Christ the King Sunday, Today we celebrate the One who will come with the clouds to take us home to his kingdom above. This service will highlight biblical references to clouds and their foreshadowing of the second coming of our King in judgment, in majesty, with signs of God's presence and with the great cloud of witnesses to welcome us. In word, song and Scripture of this service, let us come to the throne of his altar to worship Christ.

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Complete Script For Worship Leaders

- **Crown Him With Many Crown** is sung by the congregation to the tune Diademata SMD, followed by the words of Revelation 1:4b-8, spoken responsively by the pastor and the congregation:

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne!
Hark, how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
And hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

Crown him the virgin's Son, the God incarnate born,
Whose arm those crimson trophies won which now his brow adorn;
Fruit of the mystic rose, yet of that rose the stem,
The root whence mercy ever flows, the babe of Bethlehem.

Crown him the Lord of love. Behold his hands and side,
Rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified.
No angels in the skies can fully bear that sight,
But downward bend their wond'ring eyes at mysteries so bright.

☐ 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.**

☐ Look! He is coming with the clouds. Every eye will see him, even those who pierced him; and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.

☑ **So it is to be. Amen.**

☐ “I am the Alpha and the Omega,” says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o’er the grave
And rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high,
Who died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

• The **Prayer of the Day** is read by the pastor:

☐ Lo, you will come with the clouds, O Lord, in judgment and majesty, power and divine authority. As we wait for that Last Day, prepare our hearts to receive you even now. Reign within us and rule over our thoughts, words and deeds. In everything may we revere your kingship and bow our heads and hearts to you. Let your kingdom expand and grow with each passing day and let your presence among us crown our lives with hope and joy and strength. Amen.

• The **Children’s Message** is delivered by the pastor or other worship leader:

(Needed: a picture of a cloud)

☐ Hello, boys and girls, and Happy Christ the King Sunday! Today is a day when we celebrate Christ as our King, who will come from above to take us home to be with him in the kingdom of heaven.

I brought a picture with me today. *(Hold up the picture of a cloud.)* What is this a picture of? *(Allow the children to respond.)* That’s right. It is a cloud. When Jesus was taken up into heaven on Ascension to sit on his heavenly throne, the disciples saw him disappear into the clouds. And when Jesus returns to take us home to heaven, the Bible says he will come “with the clouds” (Mark 14:62).

So in many ways, clouds are a great way for us to remember the presence of Jesus in our lives. Though we may not see him right now, when we look up in the sky and see the clouds, we can remember that he is on his throne in heaven preparing a place for us to live with him there forever.

Clouds remind us, too, that Jesus provides for us, just as clouds often pour down rain upon the land to keep it green and growing. Clouds help us to see that Jesus is powerful, too, just as lightning flashes and thunder rolls from them sometimes. But even more than the clouds in the sky that move and float above us, Jesus follows us wherever we go and moves with us to protect us and watch over us.

So take a look at some clouds today and thank Jesus for the blessings he gives us as our King.

Let us pray: O King of all, we thank and praise you for coming to earth to suffer, die and rise for us. Now that you have returned to heaven, help us to still keep watch for you. May the clouds we see in the sky be constant reminders to us that you continue to rule in our lives as our King, even though we can't see you now. By your forgiveness, love and grace, make us ready for your return with the clouds. Amen.

- The **Scripture**, Daniel 7:9-10, 13-14, is spoken by the pastor or other worship leader:
 - Ⓟ As I watched, thrones were set in place, and an Ancient One took his throne; his clothing was white as snow, and the hair of his head like pure wool; his throne was fiery flames, and its wheels were burning fire. A stream of fire issued and flowed down from his presence. A thousand thousands served him, and ten thousand times ten thousand stood attending him. The court sat in judgment, and the books were opened ... As I watched in the night visions, I saw one like a son of man coming with the clouds of heaven. And he came to the Ancient One and was presented before him. To him was given dominion and glory and kingship, that all peoples, nations, and languages should serve him. His dominion is an everlasting dominion that shall not pass away, and his kingship is one that shall never be destroyed.
- **Lo, He Comes With Clouds** section takes place with a single chime sounded and a litany read responsively by the pastor and the congregation, followed by a verse sung by the congregation to the tune Picardy 87 87 12 7:
- A single chime may sound.
 - Ⓟ There will be signs in the sun, the moon and the stars.
- Ⓞ **And on the earth distress among nations, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken.**
 - Ⓟ Then they will see the Son of Man coming in a cloud with power and great glory.

Lo, he comes with clouds descending, once for ev'ry sinner slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending swell the triumph of his train:
Alleluia! Alleluia! Christ the Lord returns to reign!

- **Clouds of Judgment** section takes place with a short homily delivered by the pastor, followed by a single chime, a litany read responsively by the pastor and the congregation, and a verse sung by the congregation to the tune Hanover 10 10 11 11:

☐ “Lo, he comes with clouds descending,” the Scriptures for this day assert, and the hymns respond with the same imagery. This is a day for looking at the clouds ... which may be a somewhat frightening prospect, for the clouds we see as the church year draws to a close are dark and heavy and ominous, the kind that make you look and take notice, perhaps then turn and take cover. For the clouds on which the Son of Man is coming are, most imminently, clouds of judgment. “Every eye will see him,” the Bible says, “even those who pierced him”—and we might add, “especially those who pierced him.” But don’t let that be a kind of self-righteous thought, as though we are talking about someone else. Look, those clouds of judgment are moving in on us! We are among “those who have pierced him”: “He was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities.” The King is coming, in all his majesty! “Christ the Lord returns to reign”!

- A single chime may sound.

☐ God makes the clouds his chariot, he rides on the wings of the wind.

☑ **Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; the heavens proclaim his righteousness.**

Oh, tell of his might, oh, sing of his grace,
Whose robe is the light, whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is his path on the wings of the storm.

- **Clouds of Majesty** section takes place with a short homily delivered by the pastor, followed by a single chime, a litany read responsively by the pastor and the congregation, and a verse sung by the congregation to the tune Deo Gracias LM:

☐ The King is coming in all his majesty, and it is significant how often the Bible uses clouds as a symbol of God’s great majesty. When God was about to give his people the Ten Commandments in the wilderness, Mount Sinai was surrounded by flashes of lightning, peals of thunder, and thick, dark, rolling clouds—clouds of majesty. Indeed, if Pharaoh and the Egyptians knew little about the God whom the Hebrews worshipped and had thought of him

The first system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps) and common time (C). The music begins with a first-measure rest (1) in both staves. The melody in the treble clef starts with a quarter note D4, followed by a quarter note E4, and then a quarter note F#4. The bass clef accompaniment consists of a steady eighth-note pattern: D3, E3, F#3, G3, A3, B3, C4, D4.

The second system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in the key of D major and common time. The music begins with a sixth-measure rest (6) in both staves. The melody in the treble clef continues with a quarter note G4, followed by a quarter note A4, and then a quarter note B4. The bass clef accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern as the first system.

The third system of musical notation consists of two staves. The upper staff is in treble clef and the lower staff is in bass clef. Both staves are in the key of D major and common time. The music begins with an eleventh-measure rest (11) in both staves. The melody in the treble clef continues with a quarter note C5, followed by a quarter note B4, and then a quarter note A4. The bass clef accompaniment continues with the same eighth-note pattern as the previous systems.

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- The **Closing Hymn** is sung by the congregation to the tune Diademata SMD:

Crown him the Lord of heav'n, enthroned in worlds above.
Crown him the King to whom is giv'n the wondrous name of Love.
Again he shall appear, whose light no darkness shrouds,
The King of glory drawing near, descending with the clouds.

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Contemporary Music Song Suggestions

- The following song suggestions can be used for a more contemporary worship service in place of the more traditional hymns included in this kit. Rights to use these songs in the service must be purchased by your parish through CCLI or other copyright licensing agencies.

“Days of Elijah” by Robin Mark

“O Lord, The Clouds Are Gathering” by Graham Kendrick

“King of Heaven Come” by James Ingram and Paul Baloche

“Sing to the King” by Billy J. Foote and Charles Silvester Home

“Glorious Day (Living He Loved Me)” by John Wilbur Chapman, Mark Hall and Michael Bleecker

“Saviour King” by Marty Sampson and Mia Fieldes

“Saviour Christ the King” by Craig Gower

“He Shall Reign Forevermore” by Chris Tomlin and Matt Maher

“On the Throne” by Jason Ingram, Jon Egan and Kari Jobe