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Central Congregational Church  
"For the Glory of God and the Good of our Neighbors"  
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## The King is Coming Revelation 1:1-8

### Central Passage

**Revelation 1:1–8 (ESV)** — **1** The revelation of Jesus Christ, which God gave him to show to his servants the **things that must soon take place**. He made it known by sending his angel to his servant John, **2** who bore witness to the word of God and to the testimony of Jesus Christ, even to all that he saw. **3 Blessed is the one who reads aloud the words of this prophecy, and blessed are those who hear, and who keep what is written in it, for the time is near.** **4** John to the seven churches that are in Asia: 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, **5** and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood **6** and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen. **7 Behold, he is coming with the clouds, and every eye will see him, even those who pierced him, and all tribes of the earth will wail on account of him. Even so. Amen. 8** "I am the Alpha and the Omega," says the Lord God, "who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty."

**Central Thought:** Revelation is a theological, pastoral epic poem that informs our intellect and ignites our imaginations with the grand, cosmic purposes of God – centered on and culminating in Jesus Christ as the eternal Word of God, risen savior and the soon coming king of the universe.

### Key Words

- ❖ Eschatology = the study of last things
  - What we believe about the end of things, determines how we live now.
- ❖ Revelation (Gk. 'apocalypse') = uncovering or unveiling.
  - Life's big questions – Where did we come from?, Why are we here?, Where are we going? etc. – are answered only by revelation, not discovery.

### Revelation is...

- ❖ From Jesus and about Jesus as the living Word of God, the Savior, the returning King and Judge of the earth.
- ❖ To the seven churches as representatives of all God's people then and now – a message of worship, of warning and of hope.
- ❖ Regarding things that *must soon take place* – as God's future purposes rush toward our present calling us to faith and faithfulness.
- ❖ Is meant to be read aloud – as an encounter with the living God who will bless those who hear and do his will.