



CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, November 6, 2016

"...taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ..."



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Thank you for joining us this morning! At Christ the King, our worship is a divine-human dialogue, in accordance with Scriptural example and precedent, alternatively hearing God's Word and responding in prayer, song, or meditation. The gray boxes throughout the bulletin were written to aid each worshipper in thoughtful and meaningful participation in this dialogue. Please prepare your heart by reading through the bulletin, praying for those leading and worshipping around you, and silencing all communication devices.

We encourage parents to involve children as soon as possible in the worship service. In consideration of other worshippers, we request parents with children not yet ready for unobtrusive participation in worship to utilize the nursery or, if necessary, the cry room. A nursery is available for children ages 3 months to 3 years during all Sunday morning activities.

** Indicates that the congregation stands during this element of worship.*

Prelude

Call to Worship

This is a psalm we use frequently as a call to worship, in part because it sets forth the responsibility of the Church on behalf of Christ to execute judgment on the kings of the earth, the representatives of the kingdom of Satan, through the wielding of the two-edged sword, the Word of God (Ephesians 6:17; Hebrews 4:12, 13; Revelation 1:16; 2:16; 12:11; 19:11-16).

Psalm 149^{ESV}

1 Praise the LORD!
Sing to the LORD a new song,
his praise in the assembly of the godly!

2 Let Israel be glad in his Maker;
let the children of Zion rejoice in their King!

3 Let them praise his name with dancing,
making melody to him with tambourine and lyre!

4 For the LORD takes pleasure in his people;
he adorns the humble with salvation.

5 Let the godly exult in glory;
let them sing for joy on their beds.

6 Let the high praises of God be in their throats
and two-edged swords in their hands,
7 to execute vengeance on the nations
and punishments on the peoples,
8 to bind their kings with chains
and their nobles with fetters of iron,
9 to execute on them the judgment written!
This is honor for all his godly ones.
Praise the LORD!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We praise Christ in worshipful contemplation of His coming again and the glory, judgment, and vindication that will accompany it.

“Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending”

1. Lo! He comes with clouds descending,
Once for our salvation, slain;
Thousand thousand saints attending,
Swell the triumph of His train:
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
God appears on earth to reign.
2. Every eye shall now behold Him
Robed in dreadful majesty;
Those who set at naught and sold Him,
Pierced and nailed Him to the tree,
Deeply wailing, deeply wailing,
Shall the true Messiah see.
3. Lo! He comes in glory shining
Saints arise and meet your king
Glorious captain of salvation
“Welcome welcome” hear them sing
Shouts of triumph, shouts of triumph
Make the heavens with echoes ring
4. Now redemption, long expected,
See in solemn pomp appear;
All His saints, by man rejected,
Now shall meet Him in the air:
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
See the day of God appear!
5. Yea, amen! Let all adore Thee,
High on Thine eternal throne;
Savior, take the power and glory,
Claim the kingdom for Thine own;
O come quickly! O come quickly!
Hallelujah! Come, Lord, come!

© Darwin Jordan Music. Words: Charles Wesley, Martin Madan, Joseph Swain (verse 3) and John Cennick (verse 4).
Music: Darwin Jordan. CCL #2223976.

* Reading from the Law

Israel's calling before the nations was identical in principle to ours. They were not to fear the nations as they gained gradual dominion over their territory, and they were not to fall prey to the worship of their gods or be affected by their culture, which was formed by that which they worshipped. What is your personal attitude toward the world and its culture today?

Deuteronomy 7:17-26 ESV

¹⁷“If you say in your heart, ‘These nations are greater than I. How can I dispossess them?’ ¹⁸you shall not be afraid of them but you shall remember what the LORD your God did to Pharaoh and to all Egypt, ¹⁹the great trials that your eyes saw, the signs, the wonders, the mighty hand, and the outstretched arm, by which the LORD your God brought you out. So will the LORD your God do to all the peoples of whom you are afraid. ²⁰Moreover, the LORD your God will send hornets among them, until those who are left and hide themselves from you are destroyed. ²¹You shall not be in dread of them, for the LORD your God is in your midst, a great and awesome God. ²²The LORD your God will clear away these nations before you little by little. You may not make an end of them at once, lest the wild beasts grow too numerous for you. ²³But the LORD your God will give them over to you and throw them into great confusion, until they are destroyed. ²⁴And he will give their kings into your hand, and you shall make their name perish from under heaven. No one shall be able to stand against you until you have destroyed them. ²⁵The carved images of their gods you shall burn with fire. You shall not covet the silver or the gold that is on them or take it for yourselves, lest you be ensnared by it, for it is an abomination to the LORD your God. ²⁶And you shall not bring an abominable thing into your house and become devoted to destruction like it. You shall utterly detest and abhor it, for it is devoted to destruction.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

It is our sinful tendency to trust our own perceptions more than God's Word that is the principal issue in our tendency to compromise with and capitulate to worldly culture. We focus on that sin in our corporate confession today.

Almighty Father, Who by your will and for your glory formed us and everything else in all creation, Who upholds all things by the power of your Word, and Who has graciously and lovingly preserved your people and provided for our needs, we confess our constant failure to trust You and rely upon your goodness. Instead of leaning wholly upon You, we have thought and acted upon the meager understanding afforded by our limited human perspectives. Rather than acknowledging You in all our ways, we have forgotten You and turned to our own way, the way that seems right unto a man, but leads to death. We have sinned against You constantly by presuming to own ourselves and our ways, in violation of your holy command to trust You with all of our hearts. With renewed faith we cast ourselves upon Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, Who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness. In abject sorrow we confess our unbelief, and in heartfelt and sincere repentance ask You for the grace of faith, wrought by your Holy Spirit, which You have promised to give your people Israel. Write your law on our hearts, that we may adopt your heart and mind, and evermore walk in the light, as You are in the light, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.

We Rejoice in the ASSurAnce of forgiveNeSS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

We need not fear the enemies of our faith and of our souls, because Jesus has already defeated all of them, including death, and has assumed all the rights of King, all of which He has done on our behalf.

1 Peter 3:14-22 ESV

¹⁴ But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, ¹⁵ but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a

defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, ¹⁶ having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷ For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil. ¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹ in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, ²⁰ because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. ²¹ Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²² who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

* Hymn of Assurance

We praise our Savior for the assurance His work has given us of ultimate glory.

“Blessed Assurance” (Trinity Hymnal #693)

We prAy for eAch Other

Prayers of Intercession

(The minister will lead us in prayer, taking requests from individuals.)

Sermon

“The Expectations of Christ for His People” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

* Judges 15 ^{ESV}

¹ After some days, at the time of wheat harvest, Samson went to visit his wife with a young goat. And he said, “I will go in to my wife in the chamber.” But her father would not allow him to go in. ² And her father said, “I really thought that you utterly hated her, so I gave her to your companion. Is not her younger sister more beautiful than she? Please take her instead.” ³ And Samson said to them, “This time I shall be innocent in regard to the Philistines, when I do them harm.” ⁴ So Samson went and caught 300 foxes and took torches. And he turned them tail to tail and put a torch between each pair of tails. ⁵ And when he had set fire to the torches, he let the foxes go into the standing grain of the Philistines and set fire to the stacked grain and the standing grain, as well as the olive orchards. ⁶ Then the Philistines said, “Who has done this?” And they said, “Samson, the son-in-law of the Timnite, because he has taken his wife and given her to his companion.” And the Philistines came up and burned her and her father with fire. ⁷ And Samson said to them, “If this is what you do, I swear I will be avenged on you, and after that I will quit.” ⁸ And he struck them hip and thigh with a great blow, and he went down and stayed in the cleft of the rock of Etam. ⁹ Then the Philistines came up and encamped in Judah and made a raid on Lehi. ¹⁰ And the men of Judah said, “Why have you come up against us?” They said, “We have come up to bind Samson, to do to him as he did to us.” ¹¹ Then 3,000 men of Judah went down to the cleft of the rock of Etam, and said to Samson, “Do you not know that the Philistines are rulers over us? What then is this that you have done to us?” And he said to them, “As they did to me, so have I done to them.” ¹² And they said to him, “We have come down to bind you, that we may give you into the hands of the Philistines.” And Samson said to them, “Swear to me that you will not attack me yourselves.” ¹³ They said to him, “No; we will only bind you and give you into their hands. We will surely not kill you.” So they bound him with two new ropes and brought him up from the rock. ¹⁴ When he came to Lehi, the Philistines came shouting to meet him. Then the Spirit of the LORD rushed upon him, and the ropes that were on his arms became as flax that has caught fire, and his bonds melted off his hands. ¹⁵ And

he found a fresh jawbone of a donkey, and put out his hand and took it, and with it he struck 1,000 men. ¹⁶ And Samson said, "With the jawbone of a donkey, heaps upon heaps, with the jawbone of a donkey have I struck down a thousand men." ¹⁷ As soon as he had finished speaking, he threw away the jawbone out of his hand. And that place was called Ramath-lehi. ¹⁸ And he was very thirsty, and he called upon the LORD and said, "You have granted this great salvation by the hand of your servant, and shall I now die of thirst and fall into the hands of the uncircumcised?" ¹⁹ And God split open the hollow place that is at Lehi, and water came out from it. And when he drank, his spirit returned, and he revived. Therefore the name of it was called En-hakkore; it is at Lehi to this day. ²⁰ And he judged Israel in the days of the Philistines twenty years.

Leader:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation:

Thanks be to God!

W e C o m m u n e W i t h O u r L o r d

Communion Meditation

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Confession of Faith

The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic* church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen. (*or universal)

Distribution of Elements

Because we believe that wine was used in the Last Supper and is thus more in accord with the fullness of symbolism intended by God in the Lord's Supper, we offer wine and encourage those who take part in Communion to take this. For those with conscientious convictions against the use of wine, however, we offer the option of grape juice, which is contained in the inner circle of the communion trays. The cups containing wine are in the outer circles of the trays.

“O Wherefore Do the Nations Rage” (Trinity Hymnal #314)

“Be Thou My Vision”

3. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High king of heaven, my treasure Thou art.
4. High king of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Public Domain. Ancient Irish hymn.

We reSpond to the grAce of the Lord

Offering Meditation

This is an essential element of the culture of the world, to make wealth an end in itself rather than a tool to serve and glorify God. This is why there can never be enough for one who adopts this perspective. In this way tithes and offerings are also tools to orient us properly to the role and purpose of riches, so that this aspect of worship is also a means of grace to us.

Ecclesiastes 5:10 ESV

He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity.

Presentation of Offerings

See Communion

Doxology (Trinity Hymnal #731)

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

We reSpond to the Word

We conclude our worship today with a searching question: who follows Christ and His servants of old in their battle with the kingdom of Satan and his playground, the world, in their willingness to sacrifice comfort and endure suffering for the sake of the Kingdom, and in His focus on redemption and His mercy to His and our enemies? As you sing, you might well pray for God's grace to enable us to follow in their train.

* "The Son of God Goes Forth to War" (Trinity Hymnal #578)

Presentation of Mercy Ministry Offerings

(during hymn)

Benediction

VISION

Purpose (our reason for existence): to reverse the effects of rebellion against God (sin)

Mission (what we are called to do): to build the Kingdom of God, by...

- adding people (incorporation)
- building people (edification)

Core Values (our fundamental commitments):

1. *Knowing* truth from God (Scripture)
2. *Being* right with God (Justification)
3. *Living* life for God (Sanctification)

Goals (what we seek to accomplish):

1. *Worship*—People experiencing and being attracted to and trained in the enjoyment of God
2. *Fellowship*—People displaying and enjoying genuinely loving and giving relationships/Christian community
3. *Christian Education*—People being confronted with and oriented to the whole truth of God
4. *Outreach*—People being drawn to the Church and trained to draw others
5. *Mercy*—People caring about and meeting the material needs of both non-Christians and other Christians

How can you be a part of all this?

SERMON NOTES

November 6, 2016

“The Expectations of Christ for His People” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

Judges 15

Introduction:

What does Christ expect of His people while they are in the world?

I. God’s people must continually *confront the world with Christ*, vv. 1-8.

A. The ministry of agitation.

B. The inevitability of conflict.

II. God's people must continually renew their faith in Christ, vv. 9-17.

A. The ministry of agitation.

B. The fear of man.

C. The humor of God.

III. God's people must continually *access the resources of Christ*, vv. 18-20.

A. The method of God.

B. The Rock of Ages.

— **For Your Personal Devotions** —

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study: