



CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, December 6, 2020

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



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— 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 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.

** Indicates congregational standing*

WE APPROACH THE LORD

Prelude

Call to Worship

As we responsively speak to one another, calling each other to worship with this psalm, keep in mind that the first verse is a prayer, in which all should participate, and that the whole psalm is a rationale for the worship of God, preparing for the actual call in the last sentence, through which we are all speaking to everyone present.

Psalm 115 ^{ESV}

¹ Not to us, O LORD, not to us, but to your name give glory,
for the sake of your steadfast love and your faithfulness!

² **Why should the nations say,** *(Congregation)*
"Where is their God?"

³ **Our God is in the heavens;**
he does all that he pleases.

⁴ Their idols are silver and gold,
the work of human hands.

⁵ They have mouths, but do not speak;
eyes, but do not see.

⁶ They have ears, but do not hear;
noses, but do not smell.

⁷ They have hands, but do not feel;
feet, but do not walk;
and they do not make a sound in their throat.

⁸ **Those who make them become like them;** *(Congregation)*
so do all who trust in them.

⁹ O Israel, trust in the LORD!

He is their help and their shield.

¹⁰ O house of Aaron, trust in the LORD!

He is their help and their shield.

¹¹ You who fear the LORD, trust in the LORD!

He is their help and their shield.

¹² The LORD has remembered us; he will bless us;

he will bless the house of Israel;

he will bless the house of Aaron;

¹³ he will bless those who fear the LORD,

both the small and the great.

¹⁶ The heavens are the LORD's heavens, (Congregation)
but the earth he has given to the children of man.

¹⁷ The dead do not praise the LORD,
nor do any who go down into silence.

¹⁸ But we will bless the LORD
from this time forth and forevermore.

Praise the LORD! (All)

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We praise the One who comes to make "His blessings flow far as the curse is found," as we see in our passage from Micah.

"Joy to the World"

(Trinity Hymnal #195)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

This command is addressed explicitly to Gentiles in regard to their attitude toward apostate Jews, but its spirit applies to anyone who feels superior to unbelievers because of his faith, and is therefore full of pride. It is this attitude that fails to appreciate the grace of God responsible for the enlightenment that leads to saving faith, and that robs God of His honor and the credit and praise He is due for our salvation.

Romans 11:1–5, 11–24 ESV

I ask, then, has God rejected his people? By no means! For I myself am an Israelite, a descendant of Abraham, a member of the tribe of Benjamin. ² God has not rejected his people whom he foreknew. Do you not know what the Scripture says of Elijah, how he appeals to God against Israel? ³ "Lord, they have killed your prophets, they have demolished your altars, and I alone am left, and they seek my life." ⁴ But what is God's reply to him? "I have kept for myself seven thousand men who have not bowed the knee to Baal." ⁵ So too at the present time there is a remnant, chosen by grace.

¹¹ So I ask, did they stumble in order that they might fall? By no means! Rather, through their trespass salvation has come to the Gentiles, so as to make Israel jealous. ¹² Now if their trespass means riches for the world, and if their failure means riches for the Gentiles, how much more will their full inclusion mean!

¹³ Now I am speaking to you Gentiles. Inasmuch then as I am an apostle to the Gentiles, I magnify my ministry ¹⁴ in order somehow to make my fellow Jews jealous, and thus save some of them. ¹⁵ For if their rejection means the reconciliation of the world, what will their acceptance mean but life from the dead? ¹⁶ If the dough offered as firstfruits is holy, so is the whole lump, and if the root is holy, so are the branches.

¹⁷ But if some of the branches were broken off, and you, although a wild olive shoot, were grafted in among the others and now share in the nourishing root of the olive tree, ¹⁸ do not be arrogant toward the branches. If you are, remember it is not you who support the root, but the root that supports you. ¹⁹ Then you will say, "Branches were broken off so that I might be grafted in." ²⁰ That is true. They were broken off because of their unbelief, but you stand fast through faith. So do not become proud, but fear. ²¹ For if God did not spare the natural branches, neither will he spare you. ²² Note then the kindness and the severity of God: severity toward those who have fallen, but God's kindness to you, provided you continue in his kindness. Otherwise you too will be cut off. ²³ And even they, if they do not continue in their unbelief, will be grafted in, for God has the power to graft them in again. ²⁴ For if you were cut from what is by nature a wild olive tree, and grafted, contrary to nature, into a cultivated olive tree, how much more will these, the natural branches, be grafted back into their own olive tree.

Silent Confession of Sin Corporate Confession of Sin

The confession in this hymn is found in verse 5, which, in speaking of "...such a world as this" speaks to the need of all the sinners in this sinful world, including us, and in the repentant prayer that Jesus do His work in our hearts to transform us from sinful pride to the humility He so profoundly displayed in His incarnation and the redemption He brought through His humiliation.

"See, amid the Winter's Snow"

(Trinity Hymnal #199)

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

God used the humility of Christ in His incarnation to exalt not only Christ, but all who are united to Him (Ephesians 2:4-6).

Philippians 2:3–11 ESV

Do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit, but in humility count others more significant than yourselves. ⁴ Let each of you look not only to his own interests, but also to the interests of others. ⁵ Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

We rejoice in the humility of Christ's coming and all that surrounds it, including the place in which He was born, as we aspire to emulate that humility which leads to faith in and fellowship with Him, and pray for such.

"O Little Town of Bethlehem"

(Trinity Hymnal #201)

WE PRAY FOR EACH OTHER

Prayers of Intercession

*During this time, the elders will be in the back of the room, ready to take personal prayer requests from and pray with all who want this. These will be confidential if desired. Everyone who is not receiving prayer in this way will participate in corporate prayer as the worship leader mentions a list of topics. As each item is mentioned, the congregation should respond with the words, “**We offer these our prayers,**” followed by a brief silent prayer from each individual.*

WE HEAR INSTRUCTION FROM THE LORD

Sermon

"A View from the Throne"

(Mike Biggs)

* Micah 4

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God

WE COMMUNE WITH OUR LORD

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.

"Let Us with A Gladsome Mind"

(Trinity Hymnal #33)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

This scripture is fulfilled as we present our offerings in the context of the gathered assembly of the Church, the new and realized Temple of God.

Haggai 2:7 ^{ESV}

And I will shake all nations, so that the treasures of all nations shall come in, and I will fill this house with glory, says the LORD of hosts.

"Zion, Founded on the Mountains"

(Trinity Hymnal #436)

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 depart today celebrating the peace and blessing that the gospel of the Kingdom of God, realized in the rule of Christ the King, brings to His people and to all the world.

"Hark, the Herald Angels Sing"

(Trinity Hymnal #203)

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...

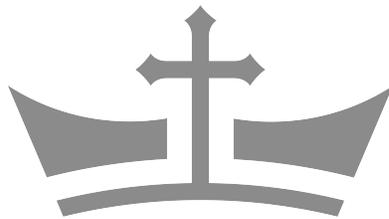
- adding people (incorporation)
- building people (edification)

CoreValues (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



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