



The Lord's Day, January 24, 2016

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



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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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*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.*

### We Approach the Lord

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Prelude

Call to Worship

*Notice how the call to worship today highlights the fact of God's revelation of His works, and how that leads His people to praise. Knowing God's work leads to fear (respect and awe) of Him,*

*which is the catalyst, the beginning of true wisdom and understanding. It is the appreciation of who God really is that gives a real understanding of life itself. This when we worship in spirit and truth, we are expressing the most profound wisdom there is.*

#### Psalm 111 ESV

- 1 Praise the Lord!  
I will give thanks to the Lord with my whole heart,  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.
- 2 Great are the works of the Lord,  
studied by all who delight in them.
- 3 Full of splendor and majesty is his work,  
and his righteousness endures forever.
- 4 He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;  
the Lord is gracious and merciful.
- 5 He provides food for those who fear him;  
he remembers his covenant forever.
- 6 He has shown his people the power of his works,  
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.
- 7 The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy;
- 8 they are established forever and ever,  
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.
- 9 He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant forever.  
Holy and awesome is his name!
- 10 The fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom;  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.  
His praise endures forever!

#### Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

#### Hymn of Praise

*We celebrate in our opening hymn the God who is the light and alone can enable us to know truth, as well praying for Him to reveal Himself, and thus the truth, to us as we worship.*

“O Splendor of God’s Glory Bright” (Trinity Hymnal #58)

## Reading from the Law

*We are not to adopt the practices of those around us who do not know God. Notice how prominent among the practices which God calls “abominable” are things which seek to obtain knowledge and power apart from dependence upon Him.*

### Deuteronomy 18:9-14 ESV

<sup>9</sup>“When you come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you, you shall not learn to follow the abominable practices of those nations. <sup>10</sup>There shall not be found among you anyone who burns his son or his daughter as an offering, anyone who practices divination or tells fortunes or interprets omens, or a sorcerer <sup>11</sup> or a charmer or a medium or a necromancer or one who inquires of the dead, <sup>12</sup>for whoever does these things is an abomination to the Lord. And because of these abominations the Lord your God is driving them out before you. <sup>13</sup>You shall be blameless before the Lord your God, <sup>14</sup>for these nations, which you are about to dispossess, listen to fortune-tellers and to diviners. But as for you, the Lord your God has not allowed you to do this.

## Silent Confession of Sin

### Corporate Confession of Sin

*The emphasis in this prayer of confession is the acknowledgement of unbelieving rationalism, the sin of rejecting God’s revelation and dependence upon it in favor of our own human-inspired impressions and opinions. Whenever we sin, this is what is behind it.*

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

*Cleansing from sin goes inseparably, at least according to this passage, with “walking in the light,” or “practicing the truth.” Forgiveness of sin can only be confidently claimed by those who trust God’s revealed truth enough to live according to it, not perfectly, but as a commitment.*

1 John 1:5-9 ESV

<sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light, and in him is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say we have fellowship with him while we walk in darkness, we lie and do not practice the truth. <sup>7</sup> But if we walk in the light, as he is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

## Hymn of Assurance

*Part of the truth that we so desperately need to see involves the adequacy of Christ to meet our need in our sin, His willingness to do so, and the beauty and superiority of His way and His truth to anything opposed to or divergent from it.*

### “Thou Lovely Source of True Delight”

1. Thou lovely source of true delight  
Whom I unseen adore  
Unveil Thy beauties to my sight  
That I might love Thee more,  
Oh that I might love Thee more.
2. Thy glory o'er creation shines  
But in Thy sacred Word  
I read in fairer, brighter lines  
My bleeding, dying Lord,  
See my bleeding, dying Lord
3. 'Tis here, whene'er my comforts droop  
And sin and sorrow rise  
Thy love with cheering beams of hope  
My fainting heart supplies,  
My fainting heart's supplied
4. But ah! Too soon the pleasing scene  
Is clouded o'er with pain  
My gloomy fears rise dark between  
And I again complain,  
Oh and I again complain
5. Jesus, my Lord, my life, my light  
Oh come with blissful ray  
Break radiant through the shades of night  
And chase my fears away,  
Won't You chase my fears away
6. Then shall my soul with rapture trace  
The wonders of Thy love  
But the full glories of Thy face  
Are only known above,  
They are only known above

## We prAy for eAch Other

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### Prayers of Intercession

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

## We heAr inStruction from the Lord

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### Sermon

“The New People’s Life, Part I: Practicing the Truth” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

Ephesians 4:17-24 <sup>ESV</sup>

<sup>17</sup> Now this I say and testify in the Lord, that you must no longer walk as the Gentiles do, in the futility of their minds. <sup>18</sup> They are darkened in their understanding, alienated from the life of God because of the ignorance that is in them, due to their hardness of heart. <sup>19</sup> They have become callous and have given themselves up to sensuality, greedy to practice every kind of impurity. <sup>20</sup> But that is not the way you learned Christ!—<sup>21</sup> assuming that you have heard about him and were taught in him, as the truth is in Jesus, <sup>22</sup> to put off your old self, which belongs to your former manner of life and is corrupt through deceitful desires, <sup>23</sup> and to be renewed in the spirit of your minds, <sup>24</sup> and to put on the new self, created after the likeness of God in true righteousness and holiness.

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.*

“Laden with Guilt and Full of Fears”

I. Laden with guilt and full of fears,  
I fly to Thee, my Lord,  
And not a glimpse of hope appears,  
But in Thy written Word  
The volumes of my Father's grace  
Does all my griefs assuage



Here I behold my Savior's face  
In every page.

2. This is the field where, hidden, lies  
The pearl of price unknown  
That merchant is divinely wise  
Who makes the pearl his own  
Here consecrated water flows  
To quench my thirst of sin  
Here the fair tree of knowledge grows,  
No danger dwells within.
3. This is the judge that ends the strife,  
Where wit and reason fail  
My guide to everlasting life  
Through all this gloomy vale  
Oh may Thy counsels, mighty God,  
My roving feet command,  
Nor I forsake the happy road  
That leads to Thy right hand.

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#### “Be Thou My Vision”

1. Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;  
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art  
Thou my best thought, by day or by night,  
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.
2. Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word;  
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;  
Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son;  
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.
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

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### Offering Meditation

*Contentment is the great insight that frees us to give generously, knowing that hoarding wealth rather than using it for God's kingdom is futile.*

1 Timothy 6:6, 7 <sup>ESV</sup>

6 But godliness with contentment is great gain, 7 for we brought nothing into the world, and we cannot take anything out of the world.

### 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

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*We affirm as we depart from one another today that Jesus Christ, who is the Truth, is the foundation of us as the new people of God, the Church.*

### “The Church’s One Foundation”

1. The church’s one foundation Is Jesus Christ her Lord,  
She is His new creation By water and the Word.  
From heaven He came and sought her To be His holy bride;  
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
2. Elect from every nation, Yet one over all the earth;  
Her charter of salvation, One Lord, one faith, one birth;

One holy Name she blesses, Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses, With every grace endued.

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3. Though with a scornful wonder Men see her sore oppressed,  
By schisms rent asunder, By heresies distressed,  
Yet saints their watch are keeping; Their cry goes up, "How long?"  
And soon the night of weeping Shall be the morn of song.
  4. The church shall never perish, Her dear Lord to defend  
To guide, sustain and cherish, Is with her to the end  
Though there be those that hate her, And false sons in her pale  
Against a foe or traitor, She ever shall prevail
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5. Mid toil and tribulation, And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore;  
'Til, with the vision glorious, Her longing eyes are blessed,  
And the great church victorious Shall be the church at rest.
  6. Yet she on earth hath union With God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion With those whose rest is won.  
O happy ones and holy! Lord, give us grace that we  
Like them, the meek and lowly, On high may dwell with Thee.

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Benediction

January 24, 2016

“The New People’s Life, Part I: Practicing the Truth”  
(Rev. Mike Biggs)  
Ephesians 4:14-16

Introduction:

*How is truth central to the life of God’s new people?*

I. *Submission to truth* is the essence of *holiness*, vv. 17-19.

A. Turning from futility.

B. Turning from death.

C. Turning from sensuality.

II. *Communication of truth* is the essence of *evangelism*, vv. 20, 21.

A. Christ must be learned.

B. The truth is in Christ.

III. *Orientation to truth* is the essence of *Christian living*, vv. 22-24.

A. Definitive sanctification.

B. Progressive sanctification.

— **For Your Personal Devotions** —

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study:

