



CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, December 8, 2019

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



CHRIST -THE KING-

— 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.

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 congregational standing*

WE APPROACH THE LORD

Prelude

Call to Worship

This psalm calls us to rejoice and give thanks to the Lord, because He reigns and will bring all evil into judgment, deliver the righteous, and glorify Himself in the process. This joy requires faith, because He does this in His own time and in His own way.

Psalms 97^{ESV}

- 1 The LORD reigns, let the earth rejoice; let the many coastlands be glad!
- 2 Clouds and thick darkness are all around him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.
- 3 Fire goes before him and burns up his adversaries all around.
- 4 His lightnings light up the world; the earth sees and trembles.
- 5 The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth.
- 6 The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.
- 7 All worshipers of images are put to shame, who make their boast in worthless idols; worship him, all you gods!
- 8 Zion hears and is glad, and the daughters of Judah rejoice, because of your judgments, O LORD.
- 9 For you, O LORD, are most high over all the earth; you are exalted far above all gods.
- 10 O you who love the LORD, hate evil! He preserves the lives of his saints; he delivers them from the hand of the wicked.
- 11 Light is sown for the righteous, and joy for the upright in heart.

¹² Rejoice in the LORD, O you righteous, and give thanks to his holy name!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We praise the sovereign God who formed us from dust and who cares for us as His people, both of which truths are relevant to our passage today, as we shall see.

“God, the Lord, a King Remaineth” (Trinity Hymnal #64)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

The implications of the fact that God is a sovereign king are in view here. We should accordingly render to Him our best in terms of the time we give to our relationship to Him, in terms of our worship, in terms of the offerings we make to His Church, in terms of the quality of our service, etc., etc. Do we always take into account whom we are serving as we live our lives?

Malachi 1:6-14 ^{ESV}

⁶ "A son honors his father, and a servant his master. If then I am a father, where is my honor? And if I am a master, where is my fear? says the LORD of hosts to you, O priests, who despise my name. But you say, 'How have we despised your name?' ⁷ By offering polluted food upon my altar. But you say, 'How have we polluted you?' By saying that the LORD's table may be despised. ⁸ When you offer blind animals in sacrifice, is that not evil? And when you offer those that are lame or sick, is that not evil? Present that to your governor; will he accept you or show you favor? says the LORD of hosts. ⁹ And now entreat the favor of God, that he may

be gracious to us. With such a gift from your hand, will he show favor to any of you? says the LORD of hosts. ¹⁰ Oh that there were one among you who would shut the doors, that you might not kindle fire on my altar in vain! I have no pleasure in you, says the LORD of hosts, and I will not accept an offering from your hand. ¹¹ For from the rising of the sun to its setting my name will be great among the nations, and in every place incense will be offered to my name, and a pure offering. For my name will be great among the nations, says the LORD of hosts. ¹² But you profane it when you say that the Lord's table is polluted, and its fruit, that is, its food may be despised. ¹³ But you say, 'What a weariness this is,' and you snort at it, says the LORD of hosts. You bring what has been taken by violence or is lame or sick, and this you bring as your offering! Shall I accept that from your hand? says the LORD. ¹⁴ Cursed be the cheat who has a male in his flock, and vows it, and yet sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished. For I am a great King, says the LORD of hosts, and my name will be feared among the nations.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

In this confession we acknowledge God's sovereignty and right to rule us, and our failure to submit to that rule, asking for, as well as forgiveness, the grace to turn from our rebellion.

Corporate Confession:

O eternal God and merciful Father, we humble ourselves before Your great Majesty against which we have frequently and grievously sinned. We acknowledge that we deserve nothing less than eternal death. We are unclean before You and children of wrath. We continually transgress Your commandments; failing to do what You have commanded us, and doing that which You have expressly forbidden. We all like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way. We acknowledge our waywardness, and are heartily sorry for all our sins. We confess

to our humiliation and to the praise of Your mercy that our transgressions are innumerable, and that our debt is so great that we cannot even begin to repay. We are not worthy to be called Your children, nor to lift up our eyes heavenward to You in prayer.

Nevertheless, O Lord God and gracious Father, we know that You do not desire the death of the sinner, but rather that he should turn to You and live; we know that Your mercy toward those who turn to You is infinite; and so we take courage to call upon You from the depths of our hearts, trusting in our Mediator Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world. Forgive all our sins for Christ's sake. Have compassion upon us in our infirmities. Wash us in the pure fountain of His blood, so that we may become clean and white as snow. Cover us with His innocence and righteousness, for the glory of Your Name. Deliver our understanding from all blindness, and our hearts from all willfulness and rebellion. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

The unbelievable fact is that it has always been the will of the sovereign God that He rule over His creation through us (Genesis 1:26-28). He accomplishes this through Christ, whom He has anointed as King over all that He has made (Psalm 2), and through and by whom we overcome the power of sin, are reconformed to the image of God, and are restored to that rule, not on our autonomous terms, but on His, as the mediators of His rule. This is His promise!

Revelation 3:21 ^{ESV}

The one who conquers, I will grant him to sit with me on my throne, as I also conquered and sat down with my Father on his throne.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

We acknowledge God's sovereignty in our salvation and pray that God may extend the same grace to more and more people, that all nations may come to know Him as we do.

“How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place” (Trinity Hymnal #469)

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

“The Issue is Sovereignty” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

* Exodus 8^{ESV}

Pages 64-65 in the pew Bibles.

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.

“Poor Sinner, Dejected, with Fear”

1. Poor sinner, dejected with fear,
Unbosom thy mind to the Lamb;
No wrath on His brow He does wear,
Nor will He poor mourners condemn;
His arm of omnipotent grace
Is able and willing to save;
A sweet and a permanent peace
He'll freely and faithfully give.
2. Come just as thou art, with thy woe,
Fall down at the feet of the Lamb;
He will not, He cannot say, "Go",
But surely will take out thy stain
A fountain is opened for sin,
And thousands its virtues have proved
He'll take thee, and plunge thee therein,
And wash thee from filth in His blood.
3. The soul that on Jesus relies,
He'll never, no never deceive;
He freely and faithfully gives
More blessings than we can conceive;
Yea, down to old age He will keep,
Nor will He forsake us at last;
He knows and is known by His sheep;
They're His, and He will hold them fast.

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WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

Our obligation is to present to God, the King, our very best.

Malachi 1: 13-14^{ESV}

¹³ But you say, 'What a weariness this is,' and you snort at it, says the LORD of hosts. You bring what has been taken by violence or is lame or sick, and this you bring as your offering! Shall I accept that from your hand? says the LORD. ¹⁴ Cursed be the cheat who has a male in his flock, and vows it, and yet sacrifices to the Lord what is blemished. For I am a great King, says the LORD of hosts, and my name will be feared among the nations.

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

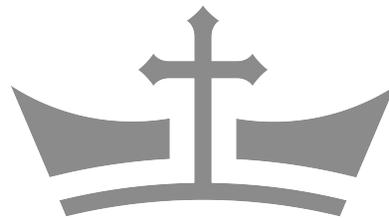
WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

We leave today on a note of triumph, as we reflect on the fact that, because God is sovereign, his promises are sure and His blessings as firm as a rock on which to stand.

* **“Before Jehovah’s Awesome Throne”**

(Trinity Hymnal #65)

Benediction



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