



CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, Sunday, January 9, 2022

"...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.

** Indicates congregational standing*

WE APPROACH THE LORD

Call to Worship

This exchange, part of the heavenly worship to which we become privy through the description in the book of Revelation, is a prelude to the enlightening activity which forms our sermon text for today.

Revelation 7

Leader: Let us worship God!

Congregation: Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!

Leader: Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honor and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We praise the Messiah, the Lord's Anointed (Psalm 2), the establishment of whose Kingdom is accomplished through the inauguration of the New Covenant through the work of Christ.

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

(Trinity Hymnal #311)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

Apart from the symbolism involved, one main lesson of this story is that obedience to God's method, as delineated in His commands, is the path to victory, no matter how unorthodox or impotent it might appear to us.

Joshua 6:1–11 ESV

Now Jericho was shut up inside and outside because of the

people of Israel. None went out, and none came in. ² And the LORD said to Joshua, "See, I have given Jericho into your hand, with its king and mighty men of valor. ³ You shall march around the city, all the men of war going around the city once. Thus shall you do for six days. ⁴ Seven priests shall bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark. On the seventh day you shall march around the city seven times, and the priests shall blow the trumpets. ⁵ And when they make a long blast with the ram's horn, when you hear the sound of the trumpet, then all the people shall shout with a great shout, and the wall of the city will fall down flat, and the people shall go up, everyone straight before him." ⁶ So Joshua the son of Nun called the priests and said to them, "Take up the ark of the covenant and let seven priests bear seven trumpets of rams' horns before the ark of the LORD." ⁷ And he said to the people, "Go forward. March around the city and let the armed men pass on before the ark of the LORD."

⁸ And just as Joshua had commanded the people, the seven priests bearing the seven trumpets of rams' horns before the LORD went forward, blowing the trumpets, with the ark of the covenant of the LORD following them. ⁹ The armed men were walking before the priests who were blowing the trumpets, and the rear guard was walking after the ark, while the trumpets blew continually. ¹⁰ But Joshua commanded the people, "You shall not shout or make your voice heard, neither shall any word go out of your mouth, until the day I tell you to shout. Then you shall shout."

¹¹ So he caused the ark of the LORD to circle the city, going about it once. And they came into the camp and spent the night in the camp.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

We cast our hope upon Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God, who cleanses our sins with His own blood and makes even our prayers acceptable to God.

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

We have been made members of a Kingdom that cannot be shaken, through our participation in the New Covenant triumph of Christ the Lord.

Hebrews 12:18–28^{ESV}

For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰ For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it

shall be stoned.”²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, “I tremble with fear.”²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering,²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect,²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵ See that you do not refuse him who is speaking. For if they did not escape when they refused him who warned them on earth, much less will we escape if we reject him who warns from heaven.²⁶ At that time his voice shook the earth, but now he has promised, “Yet once more I will shake not only the earth but also the heavens.”²⁷ This phrase, “Yet once more,” indicates the removal of things that are shaken—that is, things that have been made—in order that the things that cannot be shaken may remain.²⁸ Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

*** Hymn of Assurance**

Our hope and our confidence is in the fact of God's election of us as His people and as part of that multi-national covenant community whom He blesses forever.

"Zion, Founded on the Mountains"

(Trinity Hymnal #436)

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 will participate in corporate prayer as the worship leader mentions a list of topics. As each item is mentioned, the congregation should respond with,

"We offer these our prayers," followed by a brief silent, individual prayer.

WE HEAR INSTRUCTION FROM THE LORD

Sermon

(Tony Pyles)

"The Battle is the Lord's"

* Revelation 8:1–5

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 and encourage wine for those who take part in Communion. For those with conscientious convictions against the use of wine, however, we offer grape juice, which is contained in the inner circle of the communion trays. The cups containing wine are in the outer circles.

"Lord of the Sabbath, Hear Us Pray"

(Trinity Hymnal #390)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

One of the ways we declare the worthiness of God (which is what "worship" is) is by emulating both the declaration and the action of the twenty-four elders (who represent and signify the Church), "casting our crowns before the throne," as we give back to God a portion of what His grace has given to us.

Revelation 4: 9–11 ESV

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever; ¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

¹¹ "Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power;
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created."

"My Maker and My King"

1. My Maker and my King,
To Thee my all I owe;
Thy sovereign bounty is the spring
Whence all my blessings flow;
Thy sovereign bounty is the spring
Whence all my blessings flow.
2. The creature of Thy hand
On Thee alone I live;
My God, Thy benefits demand
More praise than I can give.
My God, Thy benefits demand
More praise than I can give.
3. Lord, what can I impart
When all is Thine before?
Thy love demands a thankful heart;
The gift, alas! how poor.
Thy love demands a thankful heart;
The gift, alas! how poor.
4. O! Let Thy grace inspire
My soul with strength divine;
Let every word and each desire
And all my days be Thine.
Let every word and each desire
And all my days be Thine.

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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 with an exhortation to our souls to avail ourselves of the privilege of access to the throne of the universe through prayer.

"Come, My Soul, Thy Suit Prepare"

(Trinity Hymnal #628)

Benediction

— SERMON NOTES —

January 9, 2022

"The Battle is the Lord's"

Revelation 8:1–5

(Mike Biggs)

Introduction:

What do we need to perceive about our situation and duty as the Church from this passage?

I. We must perceive the *battle* that provides us with *mission*,
vv. 1, 2.

A. The context of the passage.

B. The language of the passage.

II. We must perceive the *promise* that provides us with *confidence*, v. 5.

A. Biblical-theological allusions.

B. Practical implications.

III. We must perceive the *weapon* that provides us with *victory*,
vv. 3, 4.

A. Our role.

B. God's provision.

— FOR YOUR PERSONAL DEVOTION —

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study: