

The Lord's Day, February 11, 2018

"...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 congregational standing

We ApproAch the Lord

### Prelude

Call to Worship

The bottom line of this call to worship is in the last verse of the psalm. We are called to praise God because "His faithfulness [endures] to all generations." God keeps His promises, and this is the basis of our salvation.

Psalm 100 ESV
Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!
Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!
Know that the LORD, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise! Give thanks to him; bless his name!
For the LORD is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

\* Hymn of Praise

We celebrate the fact that God always keeps His promises, and the resultant confidence this gives us in this world because we know that whatever we face, the Gospel of our salvation, and our ultimate destiny, is absolutely certain.

"Great Is Thy Faithfulness" (Trinity Hymnal #32)

#### \* Reading from the Law

The choice of life or death is not simply something that is offered non-Christians in the context of evangelism. The context here is a choice that is offered God's people as God's people, which reminds us that the choice of life and faith or unbelief and death is something that must be continually faced by every person in covenant with God, even moreso than by those outside the Church, since it is our covenant with God that especially obligates us to trust and obey our Lord.

#### Deuteronomy 30:15-20 ESV

15 "See, I have set before you today life and good, death and evil. 16 lf you obey the commandments of the Lord your God that I command you today, by loving the Lord your God, by walking in his ways, and by keeping his commandments and his statutes and his rules, then you shall live and multiply, and the Lord your God will bless you in the land that you are entering to take possession of it. 17 But if your heart turns away, and you will not hear, but are drawn away to worship other gods and serve them, 181 declare to you today, that you shall surely perish. You shall not live long in the land that you are going over the Jordan to enter and possess. 191 call heaven and earth to witness against you today, that I have set before you life and death, blessing and curse. Therefore choose life, that you and your offspring may live, 20 loving the Lord your God, obeying his voice and holding fast to him, for he is your life and length of days, that you may dwell in the land that the Lord swore to your fathers, to Abraham, to Isaac, and to Jacob, to give them."

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

To choose life is fundamentally to choose to believe. Yet our faith is weakened by our sin. In this confession we express our faith by confessing its weakness, and appeal to God for help. "Heal Us, Emmanuel"

- CH: Heal us, Emmanuel, here we stand Waiting to feel Thy touch To deep wounded souls reach forth Thy hand Oh Savior, we are such
- Our faith is feeble, we confess We faintly trust Thy word; But will You pity us the less? Be that far from You Lord!
- Remember him who once applied With trembling for relief;
   "Lord, I believe," with tears he cried;
   "O help my unbelief!"
- She, too, who touched you in the press And healing virtue stole, Was answered, "Daughter, go in peace; Thy faith has made thee whole."
- Like her, with hopes and fears we come To touch You if we may; O send us not despairing home; Send none unhealed away.
   ©1999 Kevin Twit Music: Words: William Cowper. Music: Kevin Twit. CCL #2223976.

# We rejoice in the ASSurAnce of forgiveneSS

### Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Our faith is weak, and cannot for its own sake make us right before God, but our faith is the means whereby we obtain the salvation which Christ alone merits.

#### Romans 5:6-8 ESV

<sup>6</sup> For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. <sup>7</sup> For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— <sup>8</sup> but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. \* Hymn of Assurance

Trying to work to obtain God's favor wearies us because it is futile. But here we rejoice in that our refuge, Jesus Christ, gives us rest from such toil and comforts us by His work and grace.

"Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul"

- Dear refuge of my weary soul, On Thee, when sorrows rise On Thee, when waves of trouble roll, My fainting hope relies To Thee I tell each rising grief, For Thou alone canst heal Thy Word can bring a sweet relief, For every pain I feel
- 2. But oh! When gloomy doubts prevail, I fear to call Thee mine The springs of comfort seem to fail, And all my hopes decline Yet gracious God, where shall I flee? Thou art my only trust And still my soul would cleave to Thee Though prostrate in the dust
- Hast Thou not bid me seek Thy face, And shall I seek in vain? And can the ear of sovereign grace, Be deaf when I complain? No still the ear of sovereign grace, Attends the mourner's prayer Oh may I ever find access, To breathe my sorrows there
- 4. Thy mercy seat is open still, Here let my soul retreat
  With humble hope attend Thy will, And wait beneath Thy feet, Thy mercy seat is open still, Here let my soul retreat
  With humble hope attend Thy will, And wait beneath Thy feet.
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Prayers of Intercession

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

# We heAr inStruction from the Lord

Sermon

"The Gospel to God's People" (Rev. Mike Biggs)

\* Acts 13:13-41 ESV

13 Now Paul and his companions set sail from Paphos and came to Perga in Pamphylia. And John left them and returned to Jerusalem, 14 but they went on from Perga and came to Antioch in Pisidia. And on the Sabbath day they went into the synagogue and sat down. 15 After the reading from the Law and the Prophets, the rulers of the synagogue sent a message to them, saying, "Brothers, if you have any word of encouragement for the people, say it." 16 So Paul stood up, and motioning with his hand said: "Men of Israel and you who fear God, listen. 17 The God of this people Israel chose our fathers and made the people great during their stay in the land of Egypt, and with uplifted arm he led them out of it. 18 And for about forty years he put up with them in the wilderness. 19 And after destroying seven nations in the land of Canaan, he gave them their land as an inheritance. 20 All this took about 450 years. And after that he gave them judges until Samuel the prophet. 21 Then they asked for a king, and God gave them Saul the son of Kish, a man of the tribe

of Benjamin, for forty years. 22 And when he had removed him, he raised up David to be their king, of whom he testified and said, I have found in David the son of Jesse a man after my heart, who will do all my will.' 23 Of this man's offspring God has brought to Israel a Savior, Jesus, as he promised. 24 Before his coming, John had proclaimed a baptism of repentance to all the people of Israel. 25 And as John was finishing his course, he said, 'What do you suppose that I am? I am not he. No, but behold, after me one is coming, the sandals of whose feet I am not worthy to untie.' 26 "Brothers, sons of the family of Abraham, and those among you who fear God, to us has been sent the message of this salvation. 27 For those who live in Jerusalem and their rulers, because they did not recognize him nor understand the utterances of the prophets, which are read every Sabbath, fulfilled them by condemning him. 28 And though they found in him no guilt worthy of death, they asked Pilate to have him executed. 29 And when they had carried out all that was written of him, they took him down from the tree and laid him in a tomb. 30 But God raised him from the dead, 31 and for many days he appeared to those who had come up with him from Galilee to Jerusalem, who are now his witnesses to the people. 32 And we bring you the good news that what God promised to the fathers, 33 this he has fulfilled to us their children by raising Jesus, as also it is written in the second Psalm, "You are my Son, today I have begotten you.' 34 And as for the fact that he raised him from the dead, no more to return to corruption, he has spoken in this way, "I will give you the holy and sure blessings of David.' 35 Therefore he says also in another psalm, "'You will not let your Holy One see corruption.' 36 For David, after he had served the purpose of God in his own generation, fell asleep and was laid with his fathers and saw corruption, 37 but he whom God raised up did not see corruption. 38 Let it be known to you therefore, brothers, that through this man forgiveness of sins is proclaimed to you, 39 and by him everyone who believes is freed from everything from which you could not be freed by the law of Moses. 40 Beware, therefore, lest what is said in the Prophets should come about: 41 "Look, you scoffers, be astounded and perish; for I am doing a work in your days, a work that you will not believe, even if one tells it to you.""

Leader:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God! **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.

"My People, Give Ear, Attend to My Word" (Trinity Hymnal #366)

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

- My Jesus, I love Thee, I know Thou art mine; For Thee all the follies of sin I resign. My gracious Redeemer, my Savior art Thou; If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus, 'tis now.
- I love Thee because Thou hast first loved me, And purchased my pardon on Calvary's tree.
   I love Thee for wearing the thorns on Thy brow; If ever I loved Thee, my Jesus 'tis now.
   Public Domain. Words: William Featherstone. Music: Adoniram Gordon.

# We respond to the grAce of the Lord

# Offering Meditation

The love which motivates us to give to God's kingdom is the result of God's love which saved us through Christ.

I John 4:19 ESV

We love because he first loved us.

#### 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 our worship gathering today affirming the essence of our obligation to God as His covenant people: the obedience of faith (Romans 1:5; 16:26.

\* "Trust and Obey" (Trinity Hymnal #672)

\* 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):

- *I. 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

February 11, 2018

"The Gospel to God's People" (Rev. Mike Biggs) Acts 13:13-41

Introduction:

What must God's people understand about the gospel message?

I. We must realize that the Gospel *involves history*, vv. 16-31. A. The significance of heritage.

B. The primacy of Christ.

II. We must realize that the Gospel *fulfills prophecy*, vv. 32-37.A. It is confirmed by God's Word.

B. It confirms God's Word.

III. We must realize that the Gospel *imposes responsibility*, vv. 38-41.A. The possibility of covenant curses.

B. The requirement for covenant blessings.

For Your Personal Devotions \_\_\_\_\_

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study: