



CHRIST — THE KING —

The Lord's Day, March 3, 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

God's works and ways are often hard to understand, as this psalm points out, but they are great, and living in accordance with and trust in them results in ultimate blessing, which, as the psalm also declares, is ample reason to give God thanks and praise.

Psalm 92:1-15 ESV

- 1 It is good to give thanks to the LORD,
to sing praises to your name, O Most High;
- 2 to declare your steadfast love in the morning,
and your faithfulness by night,
- 3 to the music of the lute and the harp,
to the melody of the lyre.
- 4 For you, O LORD, have made me glad by your work;
at the works of your hands I sing for joy.
- 5 How great are your works, O LORD!
Your thoughts are very deep!
- 6 The stupid man cannot know;
the fool cannot understand this:
- 7 that though the wicked sprout like grass
and all evildoers flourish,
they are doomed to destruction forever;
- 8 but you, O LORD, are on high forever.
- 9 For behold, your enemies, O LORD,
for behold, your enemies shall perish;
all evildoers shall be scattered.
- 10 But you have exalted my horn like that of the wild ox;
you have poured over me fresh oil.
- 11 My eyes have seen the downfall of my enemies;
my ears have heard the doom of my evil assailants.
- 12 The righteous flourish like the palm tree
and grow like a cedar in Lebanon.
- 13 They are planted in the house of the LORD;
they flourish in the courts of our God.
- 14 They still bear fruit in old age;
they are ever full of sap and green,
- 15 to declare that the LORD is upright;
he is my rock, and there is no unrighteousness in him.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

Our hymn of praise today celebrates God's goodness to and blessing of His people, of those who trust in Him, "In whom their hope of blessing is stayed."

"Hallelujah, Praise Jehovah"

1. Hallelujah, praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises
Of my God through all my days.
Put no confidence in princes,
Nor for help on man depend;
He shall die, to dust returning,
And his purposes shall end.
2. Happy is the man that chooses
Israel's God to be his aid;
He is blest whose hope of blessing
On the Lord his God is stayed.
Heaven and earth the Lord created,
Seas and all that they contain;
He delivers from oppression,
Righteousness He will maintain.
3. Food He daily gives the hungry,
Sets the mourning prisoner free,
Raises those bowed down with anguish,
Makes the sightless eyes to see,
Well Jehovah loves the righteous,
And the stranger He befriends,
Helps the fatherless and widow,
Judgment on the wicked sends.
4. Hallelujah, praise Jehovah,
O my soul, Jehovah praise;
I will sing the glorious praises
Of my God through all my days.
Over all God reigns forever,
Through all ages He is King;
Unto Him, thy God, O Zion,
Joyful hallelujahs sing.

We Acknowledge Our Sin

* Reading from the Law

We come back to this passage in our Law reading often, and for good reason: it is the fundamental essence of a proper relationship to God. It is also the heart of the lesson in today's sermon: that we are to trust God's wisdom rather than our own, and to live with a conscious submission to His will, knowing that it is always best.

Proverbs 3:5, 6 ^{ESV}

⁵ Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and do not lean on your own understanding. ⁶ In all your ways acknowledge him, and he will make straight your paths.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

We confess now our failure to trust God in accord with the fundamental way that we are to relate to Him, believing and acting on the conviction that He knows better than we do. Accordingly, we seek His grace to look beyond our own minds to the source of true wisdom as the Guide for our living our lives in ways that both please Him and bless us.

Corporate Confession: 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

The gospel, the message of the cross, is only understandable and wise to those to whom God has given the ability to receive it. That is those who have received the inward call of His Holy Spirit, the call that resurrects them from spiritual death to spiritual life, that makes spiritually blind people able to see (John 3:3). If we see these things and trust in Christ, it is because God has made us alive and given us the gift of faith, which is also cause for His praise.

I Corinthians 1:18-25 ESV

¹⁸ For the word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. ¹⁹ For it is written, “I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart.” ²⁰ Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? ²¹ For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, it pleased God through the folly of what we preach to save those who believe. ²² For Jews demand signs and Greeks seek wisdom, ²³ but we preach Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and folly to Gentiles, ²⁴ but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. ²⁵ For the foolishness of God is wiser than men, and the weakness of God is stronger than men.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

God's mercy to us is constant and takes many forms, and it is the awareness of this that moves us to praise Him, as we proclaim as we sing this song. Because His mercies and goodness are so great, we cannot ever give Him all the praise of which He is worthy, which should cause us to praise Him as much as we are able, and to strive to maintain our awareness and consciousness of His goodness.

“When All Thy Mercies”

1. When all Thy mercies, O my God,
My rising soul surveys,
Transported with the view, I'm lost
In wonder, love, and praise
Unnumbered comforts to my soul
Thy tender care bestowed,
Before my infant heart conceived
From Whom those comforts flowed.

*CH: Through all eternity to Thee
A joyful song I'll raise
For oh, eternity's too short
To utter all Thy praise!*

2. When worn with sickness, oft hast Thou
With health renewed my face
And when in sins and sorrow sunk
Renewed my soul with grace
Ten thousand thousand precious gifts
My daily thanks employ;
Nor is the least a cheerful heart
That tastes those gifts with joy.
3. Through every period of my life
Thy goodness I'll pursue,
And after death, in distant worlds,
The glorious theme renew.

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

“Another ‘Travel Narrative’” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

* Acts 21:1-16 ESV

¹ And when we had parted from them and set sail, we came by a straight course to Cos, and the next day to Rhodes, and from there to Patara. ² And having found a ship crossing to Phoenicia, we went aboard and set sail. ³ When we had come in sight of Cyprus, leaving it on the left we sailed to Syria and landed at Tyre, for there the ship was to unload its cargo. ⁴ And having sought out the disciples, we stayed there for seven days. And through the Spirit they were telling Paul not to go on to Jerusalem. ⁵ When our days there were ended, we departed and went on our journey, and they all, with wives and children, accompanied us until we were outside the city. And kneeling down on the beach, we prayed ⁶ and said farewell to one another. Then we went on board the ship, and they returned home. ⁷ When we had finished the voyage from Tyre, we arrived at Ptolemais, and we greeted the brothers and stayed with them for one day. ⁸ On the next day we departed and came to Caesarea, and we entered the house of Philip the evangelist, who was one of the seven, and stayed with him. ⁹ He had four unmarried daughters, who prophesied. ¹⁰ While we were staying for many days, a prophet named Agabus came down from Judea. ¹¹ And coming to us, he took Paul’s belt and bound his own feet and hands and said, “Thus says the Holy Spirit, This is how the Jews at Jerusalem will bind the man who owns this belt and deliver him into the hands of the

Gentiles.”¹² When we heard this, we and the people there urged him not to go up to Jerusalem. ¹³ Then Paul answered, “What are you doing, weeping and breaking my heart? For I am ready not only to be imprisoned but even to die in Jerusalem for the name of the Lord Jesus.”¹⁴ And since he would not be persuaded, we ceased and said, “Let the will of the Lord be done.”¹⁵ After these days we got ready and went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁶ And some of the disciples from Caesarea went with us, bringing us to the house of Mnason of Cyprus, an early disciple, with whom we should lodge.

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.

“The Son of God Goes Forth to War” (Trinity Hymnal #578)

We reSpond to the grAce of the Lord

Offering Meditation

Here we are reminded of two of the principal themes of our service today as we consider our giving in worship: God's inscrutable wisdom in what He has ordained for us, and our inability to provide anything that God lacks, the latter of which realization guards us against self-satisfaction in our giving. Rather, our giving must be an expression of our love for God and thus an act of worship.

Romans 11:33-36 ESV

³³ Oh, the depth of the riches and wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are his judgments and how inscrutable his ways! ³⁴ “For who has known the mind of the Lord, or who has been his counselor?” ³⁵ “Or who has given a gift to him that he might be repaid?” ³⁶ For from him and through him and to him are all things. To him be glory forever. Amen.

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

As we depart today, we sing to express our ultimate devotion to Jesus, which, as we have seen, we know through faith leads to ultimate blessing, whether we see it or not.

* “All for Jesus” (Trinity Hymnal #565)

Benediction