

The Lord's Day, May 14, 2017

"...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.

Prelude

Call to Worship

We are called to praise God today because, among other things, despite his lofty transcendence, He delights to consider the lowly and to lift them up to high places.

Psalm 113 ESV Praise the LORD! Praise, O servants of the LORD, praise the name of the LORD! 2 Blessed be the name of the LORD from this time forth and forevermore! ³ From the rising of the sun to its setting, the name of the LORD is to be praised! 4 The LORD is high above all nations, and his glory above the heavens! ⁵Who is like the LORD our God, who is seated on high, 6 who looks far down on the heavens and the earth? 7 He raises the poor from the dust and lifts the needy from the ash heap, sto make them sit with princes, with the princes of his people. 9 He gives the barren woman a home, making her the joyous mother of children. Praise the LORD!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

Our opening hymn today is all about praising God for His goodness, defined as His willingness to give good things to His creatures and provide for all of their needs.

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (Trinity Hymnal #53)

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* Reading from the Law

We have already seen how God identifies with the lowly and helps them, and so the people of God, including us, are here enjoined to reflect His nature by considering and helping the poor.

Leviticus 25:35-40 ESV

³⁵ "If your brother becomes poor and cannot maintain himself with you, you shall support him as though he were a stranger and a sojourner, and he shall live with you. ³⁶ Take no interest from him or profit, but fear your God, that your brother may live beside you. ³⁷ You shall not lend him your money at interest, nor give him your food for profit. ³⁸ I am the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt to give you the land of Canaan, and to be your God. ³⁹ "If your brother becomes poor beside you and sells himself to you, you shall not make him serve as a slave: ⁴⁰ he shall be with you as a hired worker and as a sojourner. He shall serve with you until the year of the jubilee.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

We particularly notice in this confession the mention of leaving undone those things which we ought to have done (i.e., "sins of omission"), our consideration of which is frequently neglected. Almighty and most merciful Father, we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep.We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts.We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done; we have done those things which we ought not to have done, and there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders. Spare those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O merciful Father, for His sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life to the glory of Your holy name.Amen.

We rejoice in the ASSurAnce of forgiveness

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Whether we realize it or not, we were slaves (to sin and guilt), widows (having lost our relationship to the One who is our true husband, God), and disinherited paupers (having lost our dominion over God's creation through Adam's sin). Christ has come as our redeemer, husband, and king, who restores all of this and more, and this is the Gospel. The only role from Isaiah that He does not quote is that of the kinsman avenger of blood, the embodiment of whose role awaits His second coming in judgment. Between His first and second comings, Jesus is committed to seeking and saving the lost through these roles, and likewise should we, His body, be.

Luke 4:16-21 ESV

¹⁶ And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up. And as was his custom, he went to the synagogue on the Sabbath day, and he stood up to read. ¹⁷ And the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was given to him. He unrolled the scroll and found the place where it was written, ¹⁸ "The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor. He has sent me to proclaim liberty to the captives and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty those who are oppressed, ¹⁹ to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor." ²⁰ And he rolled up the scroll and gave it back to the attendant and sat down. And the eyes of all in the synagogue were fixed on him. ²¹ And he began to say to them, "Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing." * Hymn of Assurance

Jesus, through His work, consoles all earthly and human pain, both now and in the future, when He will wipe away every tear, because of the Gospel.

"Come,Ye Disconsolate"

- Come, ye disconsolate, where'er ye languish, Come to the mercy seat, fervently kneel. Here bring your wounded hearts, here tell your anguish; Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot heal.
- Joy of the desolate, light of the straying, Hope of the penitent, fadeless and pure! Here speaks the Comforter, tenderly saying, "Earth has no sorrow that heaven cannot cure."
- Here see the bread of life, see waters flowing Forth from the throne of God, pure from above. Come to the feast of love; come, ever knowing Earth has no sorrow but heaven can remove.

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We prAy for eAch Other

Prayers of Intercession

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

Sermon

"Ordained to Serve" (Rev. Mike Biggs)

* Acts 6:1-7 ESV

Now in these days when the disciples were increasing in number, a complaint by the Hellenists arose against the Hebrews because their widows were being neglected in the daily distribution. 2 And the twelve summoned the full number of the disciples and said, "It is not right that we should give up preaching the word of God to serve tables. 3 Therefore, brothers, pick out from among you seven men of good repute, full of the Spirit and of wisdom, whom we will appoint to this duty. 4 But we will devote ourselves to prayer and to the ministry of the word." 5 And what they said pleased the whole gathering, and they chose Stephen, a man full of faith and of the Holy Spirit, and Philip, and Prochorus, and Nicanor, and Timon, and Parmenas, and Nicolaus, a proselyte of Antioch. 6 These they set before the apostles, and they prayed and laid their hands on them. 7 And the word of God continued to increase, and the number of the disciples multiplied greatly in Jerusalem, and a great many of the priests became obedient to the faith.

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.

"By Thy Mercy"

- Jesus, Lord of life and glory, Bend from heaven thy gracious ear; While our waiting souls adore thee, Friend of helpless sinners, hear:
- 2. From the depth of nature's blindness, From the hardening power of sin, From all malice and unkindness, From the pride that lurks within,
- CH: By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord, good Lord.

- When temptation sorely presses, In the day of Satan's power, In our times of deep distresses, In each dark and trying hour.
- When the world around is smiling, In the time of wealth and ease, Earthly joys our hearts beguiling, In the day of health and peace. (Chorus)
- CH: By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord, good Lord.
- In the weary hours of sickness, In the times of grief and pain, When we feel our mortal weakness, When all human help is vain.
- In the solemn hour of dying, In the awful judgment day, May our souls, on thee relying, Find thee still our Rock and Stay. (Chorus)
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"Thy Mercy and Thy Truth, O Lord" (Trinity Hymnal #60) vv. I-3

We respond to the grAce of the Lord

Offering Meditation

To "visit" the orphan and the widow is tantamount to meeting their needs, and this is true religion because these are the very types of people who are the most helpless, but even more relevantly, are those who cannot give us anything. We visit such people as we give to the work of His church to minister to them, including deaconal ministry.

James 1:27 ESV

Religion that is pure and undefiled before God the Father is this: to visit orphans and widows in their affliction, and to keep oneself unstained from 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

As we depart today, we express both our longing and our confidence (hope!) in God's righting of every wrong and consummation of His kingdom, where the suffering we have experienced in this fallen world will all be over, and the causes of it abolished.

* "Beams of Heaven"

 Beams of heaven as I go, Through the wilderness below, Guide my feet in peaceful ways, Turn my midnights into days. When in the darkness I would grope, Faith always sees a star of hope, And soon from all life's grief and danger I shall be free someday. I shall be free someday.

- Often times my sky is clear, Joy abounds without a tear; Though a day so bright begun, Clouds may hide tomorrow's sun. There'll be a day that's always bright, A day that never yields to night, And in its light the streets of glory I shall behold someday. I shall behold someday.
- Harder yet may be the fight; Right may often yield to might; Wickedness a while may reign; Satan's cause may seem to gain. But there's a God that rules above With hand of power and heart of love; And if I'm right, he'll fight my battle, I shall have peace someday. I shall have peace someday.
- 4. Burdens now may crush me down, Disappointments all around; Troubles speak in mournful sigh, Sorrow through a tear-stained eye. There is a world where pleasure reigns, No mourning soul shall roam its plains, And to that land of peace and glory I shall want to go someday. I shall want to go someday. I shall want to go someday.
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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

May 14, 2017

"Ordained to Serve" (Rev. Mike Biggs)

Acts 6:1-7

Introduction:

What do we need to understand about deaconal ministry?

I. Deaconal ministry is an essential ministry in the church, vv. 1, 6. A. Ministry in deed.

B. Ministry to need.

II. Deaconal ministry is a distinct ministry in the church, vv. 2-4.A. Division of labor.

B. Unity of purpose.

III. Deaconal ministry is an ordained ministry in the church, vv. 5, 6.A. The role of approbation.

B. The importance of vetting.

- For Your Personal Devotions -

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study: