



CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, September 24, 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

This psalm calls us to worship God for, among other things, His surpassing power (cf., for example, verses 6 & 7). It is noteworthy that this power, as portrayed in this psalm, is not used vainly or gratuitously, but is celebrated because it is the basis of the hope of the believer, as God is faithful to use it to help them (verses 19 & 20).

Psalm 33^{ESV}

- 1 Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous!
Praise befits the upright.
- 2 Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!
- 3 Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.
- 4 For the word of the LORD is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.
- 5 He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.
- 6 By the word of the LORD the heavens were made,
and by the breath of his mouth all their host.
- 7 He gathers the waters of the sea as a heap;
he puts the deeps in storehouses.
- 8 Let all the earth fear the LORD;
let all the inhabitants of the world stand in awe of him!
- 9 For he spoke, and it came to be;
he commanded, and it stood firm.
- 10 The LORD brings the counsel of the nations to nothing;
he frustrates the plans of the peoples.
- 11 The counsel of the LORD stands forever,
the plans of his heart to all generations.
- 12 Blessed is the nation whose God is the LORD,
the people whom he has chosen as his heritage!
- 13 The LORD looks down from heaven;
he sees all the children of man;
- 14 from where he sits enthroned he looks out

on all the inhabitants of the earth,
15 he who fashions the hearts of them all
and observes all their deeds.
16 The king is not saved by his great army;
a warrior is not delivered by his great strength.
17 The war horse is a false hope for salvation,
and by its great might it cannot rescue.
18 Behold, the eye of the LORD is on those who fear him,
on those who hope in his steadfast love,
19 that he may deliver their soul from death
and keep them alive in famine.
20 Our soul waits for the LORD;
he is our help and our shield.
21 For our heart is glad in him,
because we trust in his holy name.
22 Let your steadfast love, O LORD, be upon us,
even as we hope in you.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

*We celebrate God's power to create and save in this classic hymn
of praise.*

"How Great Thou Art" (Trinity Hymnal #44)

* Reading from the Law

The proclamation “It is better...” amounts to a command to rely upon and seek help from the Lord more than from any human agency or institution, no matter how powerful they may appear to be.

Psalm 118:8, 9 ^{ESV}

8 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in man. 9 It is better to take refuge in the LORD than to trust in princes.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

This time-honored confession aptly expresses sorrow for our sins and seeks sanctifying as well as justifying grace from the King.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men, we acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, which from time to time most grievously we have committed by thought, word, and deed, against Thy Divine Majesty, provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; the remembrance of them is grievous to us. Have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; for Thy Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may ever hereafter serve and please Thee in newness of life, to the honor and glory of Thy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

As Isaiah reminds us, the redemption God provides costs only Him, not us, but it demands true repentance.

Isaiah 55:1-7 ^{ESV}

¹ “Come, everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and he who has no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price. ² Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread, and your labor for that which does not satisfy? Listen diligently to me, and eat what is good, and delight yourselves in rich food. ³ Incline your ear, and come to me; hear, that your soul may live; and I will make with you an everlasting covenant, my steadfast, sure love for David. ⁴ Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples, a leader and commander for the peoples. ⁵ Behold, you shall call a nation that you do not know, and a nation that did not know you shall run to you, because of the Lord your God, and of the Holy One of Israel, for he has glorified you. ⁶ “Seek the Lord while he may be found; call upon him while he is near; ⁷ let the wicked forsake his way, and the unrighteous man his thoughts; let him return to the Lord, that he may have compassion on him, and to our God, for he will abundantly pardon.

* Hymn of Assurance

This celebration of God's gracious call of sinners and of Christ's willingness to save is a delight to sing, especially for those who most recognize their sinfulness.

"Come, Ye Sinners"

1. Come, ye sinners, poor and wretched,
Weak and wounded, sick and sore;
Jesus, ready, stands to save you,
Full of pity, joined with power.
He is able, He is able;
He is willing; doubt no more.
2. Come ye needy, come, and welcome,
God's free bounty glorify;
True belief and true repentance,
Every grace that brings you nigh.
Without money, without money
Come to Jesus Christ and buy.
3. Come, ye weary, heavy laden,
Bruised and broken by the fall;
If you tarry 'til you're better,
You will never come at all.
Not the righteous, not the righteous;
Sinners Jesus came to call.
4. Let not conscience make you linger,
Nor of fitness fondly dream;
All the fitness He requireth
Is to feel your need of Him.
This He gives you, this He gives you,
'Tis the Spirit's rising beam.
5. Lo! The Incarnate God, ascended;
Pleads the merit of His blood.
Venture on Him; venture wholly,
Let no other trust intrude.
None but Jesus, none but Jesus
Can do helpless sinners good.

We prAy for eAch Other

Prayers of Intercession

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

Sermon

“A Paradigm for ‘Power’” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

* Acts 8:9-25 ESV

⁹ But there was a man named Simon, who had previously practiced magic in the city and amazed the people of Samaria, saying that he himself was somebody great. ¹⁰ They all paid attention to him, from the least to the greatest, saying, “This man is the power of God that is called Great.” ¹¹ And they paid attention to him because for a long time he had amazed them with his magic. ¹² But when they believed Philip as he preached good news about the kingdom of God and the name of Jesus Christ, they were baptized, both men and women. ¹³ Even Simon himself believed, and after being baptized he continued with Philip. And seeing signs and great miracles performed, he was amazed. ¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had received the word of God, they sent to them Peter and John, ¹⁵ who came down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit, ¹⁶ for he had not yet fallen on any of them, but they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ¹⁷ Then they laid their hands on them and they received the Holy Spirit. ¹⁸ Now when Simon saw that the Spirit was given through the laying on of the apostles’ hands, he offered them money, ¹⁹ saying, “Give me this power also, so that anyone on whom I lay my hands may receive the Holy Spirit.” ²⁰ But Peter said to him, “May your silver perish with you, because you thought you could obtain the gift of God with money! ²¹ You have neither part nor lot in this matter, for your heart is not right before God. ²² Repent, therefore, of this wickedness of yours, and pray to the Lord that, if possible, the intent of your heart may be forgiven you. ²³ For I see that you are in the gall of bitterness and in the bond of iniquity.” ²⁴ And Simon answered, “Pray for me to the Lord, that nothing of what you have said may come upon me.” ²⁵ Now when they had testified and spoken the word of the Lord, they returned to Jerusalem, preaching the gospel to many villages of the Samaritans.

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.

“The Praises of Thy Wonders, Lord” (Trinity Hymnal #41)

We reSpond to the grAce of the Lord

Offering Meditation

We follow Christ as we imitate His example, giving of the riches He has provided us so that others may become spiritually rich.

II Corinthians 8:9 ESV

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich.

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 testify as we close our worship of the delightful results of relying on God in our lives, His power surpassing any other on which we might rely.

“Tis So Sweet to Trust in Jesus” (Trinity Hymnal #679)

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):

1. *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

September 24, 2017

“A Paradigm for ‘Power’” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

Acts 8:9-25

Introduction:

How should Christians conceive of power, especially the power of God?

- I. The power of God is *superior to all other powers*, vv. 9-17.
 - A. The power of the world.

- B. The power of God.

II. The power of God is *free to all needy people*, vv. 18-21.

A. The discipline of God.

B. The plan of God.

- III. The power of God is *available to all dependent seekers*, vv. 21-25.
 - A. Simon's sin.

- B. Simon's redemption.

— **For Your Personal Devotions** —

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study: