



CHRIST - THE KING -

The Lord's Day, Sunday, November 13, 2022

"...taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ..."



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— 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

*After we are called to praise, our response indicates our determination to worship God "with [the] **whole heart**, which is always an aspect of worship "in Spirit and in truth."*

Psalm 111:1 ^{ESV}

Leader: Praise the LORD!

Congregation: I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, in the company of the upright, in the congregation.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

Our Hymn of the "Month" closes its run today as our hymn of praise, as we celebrate and worship Christ, the Cornerstone.

"In Christ Alone"

In Christ alone my hope is found
He is my light, my strength, my song
This cornerstone, this solid ground
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
What heights of love, what depths of peace
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
My comforter, my all in all
Here in the love of Christ I stand

In Christ alone, Who took on flesh
Fullness of God in helpless babe
This gift of love and righteousness
Scorned by the ones He came to save
'Til on that cross as Jesus died
The wrath of God was satisfied
For every sin on Him was laid
Here in the death of Christ I live

There in the ground His body lay
Light of the world by darkness slain

Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ

No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the pow'r of Christ in me
From life's first cry to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No pow'r of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
'Til He returns or calls me home
Here in the pow'r of Christ I'll stand

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WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

*God does not only state that His people **will** have joy in Him, but He also **commands** that we do so, exulting in His love.*

Psalm 5:1 | ESV

"But let all who take refuge in you rejoice;
let them ever sing for joy,

and spread your protection over them,
that those who love your name may exult in you."

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

As we confess our sin and unworthiness to God, we also express our desire to access, as the pattern of our lives, the comfort, joy, peace, and fullness that come only with being in vital union with Jesus, the lover of our souls.

"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

(Trinity Hymnal #509, RUF tune)

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Christ, as we shall see in today's sermon, has delivered us from the tyranny of the devil by His comprehensive work on behalf of those who trust in Him.

Hebrews 2:14–15 ^{ESV}

Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil,
¹⁵ and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

We rejoice in the One who is our love, our light, our joy, all in the context of the cross we must all bear, in union with Him. See the story of this hymn on the back of today's bulletin. [I will send this to Rose in a separate email.]

"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go" (Trinity Hymnal #708, RUF tune)

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

(Mike Biggs)

"How Christ Liberates Us" Part 2

* Galatians 4:1–20

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.

"Praise the Savior Now and Ever"

(Trinity Hymnal #243)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

Giving to the building of God's Temple, His Church, is for us, like the Israelites of old, both a cause for and a means of delighting in the Lord.

I Chronicles 29:9 ESV

"Then the people rejoiced because they had given willingly, for with a whole heart they had offered freely to the LORD. David the king also rejoiced greatly."

"Come We That Love the Lord"

(Trinity Hymnal #700)

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 the prayer that the all-sufficiency of Christ might be impressed upon our souls and inflame our lives with power and resolve to live for Him and build His Kingdom

"Christ, of All My Hopes the Ground"

(Trinity Hymnal #518)

Benediction

"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go" was written by George Matheson on the evening of his sister's marriage. His whole family had gone to the wedding and had left him alone, and he wrote of something that had happened to him and had caused immense mental anguish. Years before, he had been engaged, until his fiancé learned that he was going blind, and there was nothing the doctors could do. She told him that she could not go through life with a blind man.

He indeed went blind while studying for the ministry, and his sister had been the one who had taken care of him all those years, but now she was gone. He had been a brilliant student; some said that, if he hadn't gone blind, he could have been the leader of the Church of Scotland in his day. He had written a learned work on German theology, and subsequently wrote *The Growth of the Spirit of Christianity*. According to Louis Benson, this was a brilliant book, but containing some major mistakes. When some critics

pointed out the mistakes and charged him with being an inaccurate student, he was heartbroken. One of his friends wrote, "When he saw that, for the purposes of scholarship, his blindness was a fatal hindrance, he withdrew from the field — not without pangs, but finally." So he turned to the pastoral ministry, and the Lord had richly blessed him, finally bringing him to a church where he regularly preached to over 1500 people each week. But he was only able to do this because of the care of his sister, and now she was married and gone. Who would care for him, a blind man? Not only that, but his sister's marriage brought a fresh reminder of his heartbreak over his fiance's refusal to "go through life with a blind man."

It was in the midst of this intense pain and sadness that the Lord gave him this hymn — written, he says, in five minutes! Looking back over his life, he once wrote that his was, "an obstructed life, a circumscribed life... but a life of quenchless hopefulness, a life which has beaten persistently against the cage of circumstance, and which, even at the time of abandoned work, has said not "Good night" but "Good morning." How could he maintain quenchless hopefulness in the midst of such circumstances and trials? His hymn gives us a clue: "I trace the rainbow through the rain, and feel the promise is not vain...." The rainbow image is not for him "If the Lord gives you lemons make lemonade," but rather a picture of the Lord's commitment! It is a picture of the battle bow that appears when the skies are darkening and threaten to open up and flood the world again in judgment. But then we see that the battle bow is turned not toward us, ...but toward the Lord Himself!

Here is his hymn:

"O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thy ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.

"O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain
That morn shall tearless be.

"O Light that follow'st all my way,
I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

"O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

— SERMON NOTES —

November 13, 2022

"How Christ Liberates Us" Part 2
Galatians 4:1–20

(Mike Biggs)

Introduction:

In what ways does Christ free us from bondage through the gospel?

I. *Christ secures for us the covenant promises of God, vv. 1-7.*

A. The management of the Law.

B. The redemption of Christ.

II. Christ *delivers to us freedom from Satan*, vv. 8-11.

A. The tyranny of the Devil.

B. The redemption of the Law.

III. Christ *produces in us the joy of the gospel*, vv. 12-20.

A. The pride of legalism.

B. The joy of salvation.

— FOR YOUR PERSONAL DEVOTION —

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study:

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)

CoreValues (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



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