

# CHRIST - THE KING -

The Lord's Day, Sunday, December 25, 2022

"...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.*

*\* Indicates congregational standing*

# WE APPROACH THE LORD

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## Call to Worship

*We are called here to worship God because of His wondrous works, which demonstrate His remembrance of and faithfulness to His covenant, all of which are consummated in the coming of Christ.*

### Psalm 111 ESV

1 Praise the LORD! [leader]

**I will give thanks to the LORD with my whole heart, [people]  
in the company of the upright, in the congregation.**

2 Great are the works of the LORD, [leader]  
studied by all who delight in them.

3 Full of splendor and majesty is his work,  
and his righteousness endures forever.

4 He has caused his wondrous works to be remembered;  
the LORD is gracious and merciful.

5 He provides food for those who fear him;  
he remembers his covenant forever.

6 He has shown his people the power of his works,  
in giving them the inheritance of the nations.

7 The works of his hands are faithful and just;  
all his precepts are trustworthy;

8 they are established forever and ever,  
to be performed with faithfulness and uprightness.

9 He sent redemption to his people;  
he has commanded his covenant forever.  
Holy and awesome is his name!

10 **The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; [all]  
all those who practice it have a good understanding.  
His praise endures forever!**

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

## \* Hymn of Praise

*We speak to the angels and to each other, with the entreaty that all come and worship the Incarnate Christ, the King.*

### "Angels from the Realms of Glory"

*(Trinity Hymnal #218)*

## *WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN*

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### \* Reading from the Law

*We are commanded here to seek the Lord in repentance, but the way that we seek the Lord is inevitably bound up, as we see in this passage, with trusting in the Davidic Covenant and the Son of David, the Holy One of Israel, in whom is the hope for the redemption of all nations.*

#### **Isaiah 55:1–7** <sup>ESV</sup>

<sup>1</sup> "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.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

<sup>3</sup> 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.

<sup>4</sup> Behold, I made him a witness to the peoples,  
a leader and commander for the peoples.

<sup>5</sup> 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.

<sup>6</sup> "Seek the LORD while he may be found;  
call upon him while he is near;

<sup>7</sup> 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,

## Silent Confession of Sin

### Corporate Confession of Sin

*This confession is inspired by the fact of the Father's sending of His Son, in order to produce many more sons and daughters. This is, in several respects, the very thing we celebrate at Christmas, and the thing which enables us to be truly "merry."*

Our Heavenly Father, we come to you with wonder at the thought that you would, in inconceivable grace, make us your sons and daughters. We marvel that you would extend to us this unimaginable privilege in light of our manifold sins before you, especially the sin of ingratitude for all of your bounty toward us. We regret our neglect of you and of seeking you and fellowship and communion with you. In our more lucid moments, we realize, by your grace, that nothing could be more delightful and glorious than to know you and to experience your presence, and yet how often we have foolishly and obstinately squandered this blessing by our self-absorption and its many expressions. Forgive us, we pray, in accord with the grace that we have already received through Jesus Christ our Lord, for these and all of our transgressions and sins, and increase in us the insight necessary to motivate our pursuit of your presence constantly and persistently, and blessing such as that which Jacob sought, and with which he was rewarded, when he refused to let go of you. Give us a kindred spirit, that we may always seek you with all of our hearts, and so, according to your promise, surely find you, in the name of Jesus. Amen.

# *WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS*

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## Assurance of Pardoning Grace

*Unto us a child is born; unto us a Son is given, and the government shall be upon His shoulder, and His name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.” (Isaiah 9:6)*

**Luke 2:10, 11** ESV

And the angel said to them, “Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. <sup>11</sup> For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

## \* Hymn of Assurance

*We rejoice in the comfort of the gospel as we sing of the covering of our sin accomplished by the coming of the King.*

**"Hark the Herald Angels Sing"**

*(Trinity Hymnal #203)*

# *WE PRAY FOR EACH OTHER*

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## 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*

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Sermon

(Mike Biggs)

"Unto Us a Child Is Born"

\* Hebrews 2:5–18

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation: Thanks be to God!

# *WE COMMUNE WITH OUR LORD*

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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.*

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

(TrinityHymnal #193)

## *WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD*

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### Offering Meditation

*We have the great privilege today, not only to hear once again of the wise men, but also to join them in their worship of Jesus, as we, like them, present to Him gifts of love and honor.*

### **Matthew 2:10, 11** ESV

When they saw the star, they rejoiced exceedingly with great joy. <sup>11</sup> And going into the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they fell down and worshiped him. Then, opening their treasures, they offered him gifts, gold and frankincense and myrrh.

### "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

*(Trinity Hymnal #198)*

### 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*

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*Since we are children of the King, we adopt the posture that Jesus commended for all those who follow Him, all citizens of the Kingdom, that of little children (Luke 9:46-48; 18:15-17), and pray that He will be near us forever and fit us for His presence.*

### "Away in a Manger"

*(Trinity Hymnal #205)*

### Benediction

# — SERMON NOTES —

December 25, 2022

"Unto Us a Child Is Born"  
Hebrews 2:5–18

(Mike Biggs)

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Introduction:

*Why do we especially celebrate the Incarnation of Christ?*

I. The Incarnation *effected the restoration of divine-human dominion, vv. 5-9.*

A. Dominion lost.

B. Dominion regained.

II. The Incarnation established the realization of divine-human communion, vv. 10-13.

A. Sonship.

B. Suffering.

III. The Incarnation enabled the recourse of divine-human mediation, vv. 14-18.

A. Propitiation.

B. Priesthood.

# — FOR YOUR PERSONAL DEVOTION —

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study:

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# VISION

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**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...

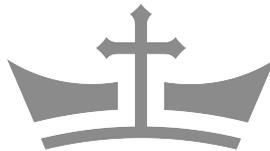
- adding people (incorporation)
- building people (edification)

**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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