



# CHRIST

— THE KING —

The Lord's Day, April 14, 2019

“...taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ...”



# CHRIST - THE KING -

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## ORDER OF WORSHIP

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*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

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Prelude

Call to Worship

*In this call to worship we invoke God's blessing upon us so as to cause us to reflect His glory, resulting in all peoples' praising God.*

Psalm 67 <sup>ESV</sup>

- 1 May God be gracious to us and bless us  
and make his face to shine upon us, Selah
- 2 that your way may be known on earth,  
your saving power among all nations.
- 3 Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you!
- 4 Let the nations be glad and sing for joy,  
for you judge the peoples with equity  
and guide the nations upon earth. Selah
- 5 Let the peoples praise you, O God;  
let all the peoples praise you!
- 6 The earth has yielded its increase;  
God, our God, shall bless us.
- 7 God shall bless us;  
let all the ends of the earth fear him!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

\* Hymn of Praise

*We acknowledge the fact that Abraham's God is our God, a fact the relevance of which will become clear in today's sermon.*

"The God of Abraham Praise" (Trinity Hymnal #34)

W e A c k n o w L e d g e O u r S i n

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\* Reading from the Law

*The early chapters of Daniel are clearly intended to set Daniel and his friends forth as examples for all of God's people, particularly in the balance they displayed in both their concern for holiness and their engagement with the culture of their pagan environment, becoming knowledgeable and respectable in the sight of those in the midst of whom they lived.*

Daniel 1:1-20 ESV

1 In the third year of the reign of Jehoiakim king of Judah, Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon came to Jerusalem and besieged it. 2 And the Lord gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his hand, with some of the vessels of the house of God. And he brought them to the land of Shinar, to the house of his god, and placed the vessels in the treasury of his god. 3 Then the king commanded Ashpenaz, his chief eunuch, to bring some of the people of Israel, both of the royal family and of the nobility, 4 youths without blemish, of good appearance and skillful in all wisdom, endowed with knowledge, understanding learning, and competent to stand in the king's palace, and to teach them the literature and language of the Chaldeans. 5 The king assigned them a daily portion of the food that the king ate, and of the wine that he drank. They were to be educated for three years, and at the end of that time they were to stand before the king. 6 Among these were Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah of the tribe of Judah. 7 And the chief of the eunuchs gave them names: Daniel he called Belteshazzar, Hananiah he called Shadrach, Mishael he called Meshach, and Azariah he called Abednego. 8 But Daniel resolved that he would not defile himself with the king's food, or with the wine that he drank. Therefore he asked the chief of the eunuchs to allow him not to defile himself. 9 And God gave Daniel favor and compassion in the sight of the chief of the eunuchs, 10 and the chief of the eunuchs said to Daniel, "I fear my lord the king, who assigned your food and your drink; for why should he see that you were in worse condition than the youths who are of your own age? So you would endanger my head with the king." 11 Then Daniel said to the steward whom the chief of the eunuchs had assigned over Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah, 12 "Test your servants for ten days; let us be given vegetables to eat and water to drink. 13 Then let our appearance and the appearance of the youths who eat the king's food be observed by you, and deal with your servants according to what you see." 14 So he listened to them in this matter, and tested them for ten days. 15 At the end of ten days it was seen that they were better in appearance and fatter in flesh than all the youths who ate the king's food. 16 So the steward took away their food and the wine they were to drink, and gave them vegetables. 17 As for these four youths, God gave them learning and skill in all literature and wisdom, and Daniel had understanding in all visions and dreams. 18 At the end of the time, when the king had commanded that they should be brought in, the chief of the eunuchs brought them in before Nebuchadnezzar. 19 And the king spoke with

them, and among all of them none was found like Daniel, Hananiah, Mishael, and Azariah. Therefore they stood before the king. <sup>20</sup> And in every matter of wisdom and understanding about which the king inquired of them, he found them ten times better than all the magicians and enchanterers that were in all his kingdom.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

*We appeal in this psalm for mercy and rehearse our meditation upon God's works of long ago on behalf of His people, which leads to repentance.*

Responsive Reading, Psalm 143; Trinity Hymnal pp. 837-838

We rejoice in the ASSurAnce of forgiveNeSS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

*God's breaking down of the "dividing wall of hostility" in this passage through union with Christ almost certainly has in mind the stone wall which divided the court of the Gentiles from the Temple proper, into which Gentiles were forbidden to venture, a prohibition which incited the hostility to Paul which he addresses in today's sermon passage.*

Ephesians 2:11-22 <sup>ESV</sup>

<sup>11</sup> Therefore remember that at one time you Gentiles in the flesh, called "the uncircumcision" by what is called the circumcision, which is made in the flesh by hands— <sup>12</sup> remember that you were at that time separated from Christ, alienated from the commonwealth of Israel and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. <sup>13</sup> But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. <sup>14</sup> For he himself is our peace, who has made us both one and has broken down in his flesh the dividing wall of hostility <sup>15</sup> by abolishing the law of commandments expressed in ordinances, that he might create in himself one new man in place of the two, so making peace, <sup>16</sup>

and might reconcile us both to God in one body through the cross, thereby killing the hostility. <sup>17</sup>And he came and preached peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near. <sup>18</sup>For through him we both have access in one Spirit to the Father. <sup>19</sup>So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are fellow citizens with the saints and members of the household of God, <sup>20</sup>built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone, <sup>21</sup>in whom the whole structure, being joined together, grows into a holy temple in the Lord. <sup>22</sup>In him you also are being built together into a dwelling place for God by the Spirit.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

\* Hymn of Assurance

*This wonderful hymn of assurance allows us to sing in one verse of the formula for overcoming Satan's opposition: in the words of Revelation, we overcome him "by the blood of the Lamb and the word of our testimony." This is our victory.*

"Before the Throne of God Above"

1. Before the throne of God above  
I have a strong and perfect plea  
A great High Priest whose name is "Love"  
Who ever lives and pleads for me

*My name is graven on His hands,  
My name is written on His heart;  
I know that while in heav'n He stands  
No tongue can bid me thence depart.  
No tongue can bid me thence depart.*

2. When Satan tempts me to despair  
And tells me of the guilt within  
Upward I look and see Him there  
Who made an end to all my sin

*Because the sinless Saviour died,  
My sinful soul is counted free;  
For God the Just is satisfied  
To look on Him and pardon me.  
To look on Him and pardon me.*

3. Behold Him there! the risen Lamb,  
My perfect, spotless Righteousness,  
The great unchangeable I AM,  
The King of glory and of grace!

*One with Himself I cannot die,  
My soul is purchased by His blood;  
My life is hid with Christ on high,  
With Christ, my Saviour and my God  
With Christ, my Saviour and my God.*

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## 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

"Christianity: Jewish or Gentile?" (Rev. Mike Biggs)

\* Acts 21:37-22:29 <sup>ESV</sup>

<sup>37</sup> As Paul was about to be brought into the barracks, he said to the tribune, "May I say something to you?" And he said, "Do you know Greek? <sup>38</sup> Are you not the Egyptian, then, who recently stirred up a revolt and led the four thousand men of the Assassins out into the wilderness?" <sup>39</sup> Paul replied, "I am a Jew, from Tarsus in Cilicia, a citizen of no obscure city. I beg you, permit me to speak to the people." <sup>40</sup> And when he had given him permission, Paul, standing on the steps, motioned with his hand to the people. And when there was a great hush, he addressed them in the Hebrew language, saying: <sup>1</sup> "Brothers and fathers, hear the defense that I now make before you." <sup>2</sup> And when they heard that he was addressing them in the Hebrew language, they became even more quiet. And he said: <sup>3</sup> "I am a Jew, born in Tarsus in Cilicia, but brought up in this city,

educated at the feet of Gamaliel according to the strict manner of the law of our fathers, being zealous for God as all of you are this day. <sup>4</sup> I persecuted this Way to the death, binding and delivering to prison both men and women, <sup>5</sup> as the high priest and the whole council of elders can bear me witness. From them I received letters to the brothers, and I journeyed toward Damascus to take those also who were there and bring them in bonds to Jerusalem to be punished. <sup>6</sup> “As I was on my way and drew near to Damascus, about noon a great light from heaven suddenly shone around me. <sup>7</sup> And I fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to me, ‘Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me?’ <sup>8</sup> And I answered, ‘Who are you, Lord?’ And he said to me, ‘I am Jesus of Nazareth, whom you are persecuting.’ <sup>9</sup> Now those who were with me saw the light but did not understand the voice of the one who was speaking to me. <sup>10</sup> And I said, ‘What shall I do, Lord?’ And the Lord said to me, ‘Rise, and go into Damascus, and there you will be told all that is appointed for you to do.’ <sup>11</sup> And since I could not see because of the brightness of that light, I was led by the hand by those who were with me, and came into Damascus. <sup>12</sup> “And one Ananias, a devout man according to the law, well spoken of by all the Jews who lived there, <sup>13</sup> came to me, and standing by me said to me, ‘Brother Saul, receive your sight.’ And at that very hour I received my sight and saw him. <sup>14</sup> And he said, ‘The God of our fathers appointed you to know his will, to see the Righteous One and to hear a voice from his mouth; <sup>15</sup> for you will be a witness for him to everyone of what you have seen and heard. <sup>16</sup> And now why do you wait? Rise and be baptized and wash away your sins, calling on his name.’ <sup>17</sup> “When I had returned to Jerusalem and was praying in the temple, I fell into a trance <sup>18</sup> and saw him saying to me, ‘Make haste and get out of Jerusalem quickly, because they will not accept your testimony about me.’ <sup>19</sup> And I said, ‘Lord, they themselves know that in one synagogue after another I imprisoned and beat those who believed in you. <sup>20</sup> And when the blood of Stephen your witness was being shed, I myself was standing by and approving and watching over the garments of those who killed him.’ <sup>21</sup> And he said to me, ‘Go, for I will send you far away to the Gentiles.’” <sup>22</sup> Up to this word they listened to him. Then they raised their voices and said, “Away with such a fellow from the earth! For he should not be allowed to live.” <sup>23</sup> And as they were shouting and throwing off their cloaks and flinging dust into the air, <sup>24</sup> the tribune ordered him to be brought into the barracks, saying that he should be examined by flogging, to find out why they were shouting



against him like this. <sup>25</sup> But when they had stretched him out for the whips, Paul said to the centurion who was standing by, "Is it lawful for you to flog a man who is a Roman citizen and uncondemned?" <sup>26</sup> When the centurion heard this, he went to the tribune and said to him, "What are you about to do? For this man is a Roman citizen." <sup>27</sup> So the tribune came and said to him, "Tell me, are you a Roman citizen?" And he said, "Yes." <sup>28</sup> The tribune answered, "I bought this citizenship for a large sum." Paul said, "But I am a citizen by birth." <sup>29</sup> So those who were about to examine him withdrew from him immediately, and the tribune also was afraid, for he realized that Paul was a Roman citizen and that he had bound him.

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 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.*

### 'This One Was Born There -- Of Psalm 87'

1. Who is it that knows me, on the holy mount  
City that I love most, in all of Jacob's land?  
Glorious things of you are spoken, city of God

CH: *I will mention Rahab, and Babylon, too  
Behold Philistia, and Tyre with Cush  
"This one was born there," they'll say, "in Zion"*

2. For the Most High will establish her  
The Lord making record as He registers:  
"This one was born there, and this one, that one," on and on
3. All the Lord's dancers, and the ones who sing  
Say for each, within the gates, is found his own spring  
"This one was born there," forever their dance and their song

TAG: *"This one was born there," they'll say, "in Zion"*

Words and Music by Tyler Cowden

"Blest Be the Tie that Binds" (Trinity Hymnal #359) vv. 1-3

## We reSpond to the grAce of the Lord

### Offering Meditation

*The collection mentioned in this passage is part of the background to today's sermon passage, as Paul's meeting with James was in part an opportunity to express the Gentile churches' commitment to their Jewish brethren through meeting their material needs. Our offerings are accordingly an expression of love both for God and for His people.*

## Romans 15:23-29 ESV

<sup>23</sup> But now, since I no longer have any room for work in these regions, and since I have longed for many years to come to you, <sup>24</sup> I hope to see you in passing as I go to Spain, and to be helped on my journey there by you, once I have enjoyed your company for a while. <sup>25</sup> At present, however, I am going to Jerusalem bringing aid to the saints. <sup>26</sup> For Macedonia and Achaia have been pleased to make some contribution for the poor among the saints at Jerusalem. <sup>27</sup> For they were pleased to do it, and indeed they owe it to them. For if the Gentiles have come to share in their spiritual blessings, they ought also to be of service to them in material blessings. <sup>28</sup> When therefore I have completed this and have delivered to them what has been collected, I will leave for Spain by way of you. <sup>29</sup> I know that when I come to you I will come in the fullness of the blessing of Christ.

### 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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*As we leave today we celebrate the unity of God's people as an invincible army who go into the world armed with His power to transform it for His glory.*

\* "We Are God's People" (Trinity Hymnal #355)

### Benediction