



# CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, April 18, 2021

"...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*

---

### Prelude

### Call to Worship

*The phrase which reads "heavenly beings" in the ESV is literally "sons of God," an expression which can refer to angelic beings, but can also be applied to Christians, especially church officers (cf. Matthew 5:9, 45; Luke 6:35; 20:34-36; John 10:34, 35; Romans 8:14, 15, 19; 9:26; II Corinthians 6:18; Galatians 3:26).*

### **Psalm 29:1, 2** <sup>ESV</sup>

- <sup>1</sup> Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,  
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.  
<sup>2</sup> Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;  
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

### Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

#### \* Hymn of Praise

*The sovereignty of King Jesus, in all of its benefits, is often applied through officers of the Church, who represent His authority and impart His blessing. We celebrate that sovereignty in all its fullness as we sing in praise.*

**"Shout, for the Blessed Jesus Reigns"**

*(Trinity Hymnal #369)*

## *WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN*

---

#### \* Reading from the Law

*This is a summary of our sermon passage from Exodus for today, and it indicates the commanded relationship of God's people to covenant officers: seeking their guidance and submitting to their Scripturally faithful judgments.*

## Deuteronomy 1:9–18 <sup>ESV</sup>

At that time I said to you, 'I am not able to bear you by myself. <sup>10</sup>The LORD your God has multiplied you, and behold, you are today as numerous as the stars of heaven. <sup>11</sup> May the LORD, the God of your fathers, make you a thousand times as many as you are and bless you, as he has promised you! <sup>12</sup> How can I bear by myself the weight and burden of you and your strife? <sup>13</sup> Choose for your tribes wise, understanding, and experienced men, and I will appoint them as your heads.' <sup>14</sup> And you answered me, 'The thing that you have spoken is good for us to do.' <sup>15</sup> So I took the heads of your tribes, wise and experienced men, and set them as heads over you, commanders of thousands, commanders of hundreds, commanders of fifties, commanders of tens, and officers, throughout your tribes. <sup>16</sup> And I charged your judges at that time, 'Hear the cases between your brothers, and judge righteously between a man and his brother or the alien who is with him. <sup>17</sup> You shall not be partial in judgment. You shall hear the small and the great alike. You shall not be intimidated by anyone, for the judgment is God's. And the case that is too hard for you, you shall bring to me, and I will hear it.' <sup>18</sup> And I commanded you at that time all the things that you should do.

### Silent Confession of Sin Corporate Confession of Sin

*This confession flows from our responsibility to submit to the human authorities God has established to mediate His own authority to us.*

**O God, our most merciful, sovereign Lord, we humbly confess that we, like sheep, have gone astray; we have each of us turned to his own way. We have neglected to recognize your absolute authority in our lives by rebelling in many ways against those to whom you have delegated that authority. We have disrespected those in positions of authority in government. We have failed to take heed to the admonitions of church officers. We have failed adequately to care for and listen to elderly parents. In these and many other ways we have offended your holy law and, like Israel**

of old, rejected you as King over us. But you, O Lord, are a gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love and faithfulness. Remember your covenant, O our God, remember that we are weak and sinful, and by your mighty power grant to us not only pardon for these and our other transgressions, but also the resolve, vision, and strength to obey you and all the authorities you institute, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

## *WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS*

### Assurance of Pardoning Grace

The gospel is here in this passage: that obeying God's command to believe in Jesus results in eternal life. But the confidence that results in the faith that produces obedience flows from the authority of God, mediated through Jesus, as He declares here.

#### **John 12:44–50** <sup>ESV</sup>

And Jesus cried out and said, "Whoever believes in me, believes not in me but in him who sent me. <sup>45</sup> And whoever sees me sees him who sent me. <sup>46</sup> I have come into the world as light, so that whoever believes in me may not remain in darkness. <sup>47</sup> If anyone hears my words and does not keep them, I do not judge him; for I did not come to judge the world but to save the world. <sup>48</sup> The one who rejects me and does not receive my words has a judge; the word that I have spoken will judge him on the last day. <sup>49</sup> For I have not spoken on my own authority, but the Father who sent me has himself given me a commandment—what to say and what to speak. <sup>50</sup> And I know that his commandment is eternal life. What I say, therefore, I say as the Father has told me."

Leader: This is the gospel.

**Congregation: Hallelujah!**

## \* Hymn of Assurance

*Jesus is the perfect shepherd, who models what those shepherds who mediate our relationship with God should do and how they should fulfill their offices.*

### "The King of Love My Shepherd Is"

1. The King of Love my Shepherd is,  
Whose goodness faileth never;  
I nothing lack if I am His  
And He is mine forever.
2. Where streams of living water flow  
My ransomed soul He leadeth,  
And, where the verdant pastures grow,  
With food celestial feedeth.
3. Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed,  
But yet in love He sought me;  
And on His shoulder gently laid,  
And home, rejoicing brought me.
4. In deaths dark vale, I fear no ill  
With Thee, dear Lord, beside me;  
Thy rod and staff my comfort still,  
Thy cross before to guide me.
5. Thou spreadst a table in my sight;  
Thine unction grace bestoweth;  
And O what transport of delight  
From Thy pure chalice floweth.
6. And so through all the length of days,  
Thy goodness faileth never;  
Good Shepherd, may I sing Thy praise  
Within Thy house forever.

## *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

**"Orientation to Covenant VII: Covenant Mediation".** (Mike Biggs)

\* Exodus 17:8–18:27

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*

## "To Christ the Lord, Let Every Tongue"

1. To Christ the Lord let every tongue  
Its noblest tribute bring  
When He's the subject of the song  
Who can refuse to sing?  
Survey the beauties of His face  
And on His glories dwell  
Think of the wonder of His grace  
And all His triumphs tell

2. Majestic sweetness sits enthroned  
Upon His awful brow  
His head with radiant glories crowned  
His lips with grace overflow  
No mortal can with Him compare  
Among the sons of men  
Fairer He is than all the fair  
That fill the Heavenly train

3. He saw me plunged in deep distress  
He fled to my relief  
For me He bore the shameful cross  
And carried all my grief  
His hand a thousand blessings pours  
Upon my guilty head  
His presence gilds my darkest hours  
And guards my sleeping bed



4. To Him I owe my life and breath  
And all the joys I have  
He makes me triumph over death  
And saves me from the grave  
To Heaven the place of His abode  
He brings my weary feet  
Shows me the glories of my God  
And makes my joy complete

5. Since from His bounty I receive  
Such proofs of love divine  
Had I a thousand hearts to give  
Lord, they should all be Thine  
A thousand men could not compose  
A worthy song to bring  
Yet Your love is a melody  
Our hearts can't help but sing!

© 2001 Laura Taylor Music.

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

---

### Offering Meditation

*God provided for His people who were in need through the selfless giving of others of His people. It is significant that those who wanted to contribute to the needs of others in the church did so by laying their contributions at the apostles' feet, because they were representatives of God and mediated His blessing. We in effect do the same thing as we present our tithes and offerings to the church in the context of formal worship.*

### **Acts 4:32–37** ESV

Now the full number of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one said that any of the things that belonged to him was his own, but they had everything in common. <sup>33</sup> And with great power the apostles were giving their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. <sup>34</sup> There was not a needy person among them, for as many as were owners of lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of

what was sold <sup>35</sup> and laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need. <sup>36</sup> Thus Joseph, who was also called by the apostles Barnabas (which means son of encouragement), a Levite, a native of Cyprus, <sup>37</sup> sold a field that belonged to him and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet.

**"To Christ the Lord, Let Every Tongue"** (Same as Communion)

**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 close with a hymn in which we apply to each other God's admonition to attend to His Word, through which He blesses His people. In the last stanza we remember David the King, who, as the representative of the Lord of the Covenant, mediated His truth and applied it faithfully to the covenant people, thus blessing them.*

**"My People, Give Ear, Attend to My Word"** (Trinity Hymnal #366)

**Benediction**

# — SERMON NOTES —

April 18, 2021

## "Orientation to Covenant VII: Covenant Mediation"

Exodus 17:8–18:27

(Mike Biggs)

---

Introduction:

*What do we learn about how God relates to His people through His covenant?*

I. God mediates *victory* through representatives, 17:8–16.

A. Blessing through leadership.

B. Plurality of leadership.

II. God mediates *wisdom* through representatives, 18:1–23.

A. From common sources.

B. From ecclesiastical sources.

III. God mediates *authority* through representatives, 18:13–27.

A. The duty of authority.

B. The need for submission.

— **FOR YOUR PERSONAL DEVOTION** —

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study: