

The Lord's Day, June 30, 2019



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.

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

As we are called to worship today we reflect on how we are to give thanks in the company of God's people, how we are to include remembrance of His promises and works of the past as we do so, and how He has given to us "the inheritance of the nations." All these are relevant to our sermon passage today, as we shall see.

Psalm III 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.

Leader:

² Great are the works of the LORD,

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 those who practice it have a good understanding.

Congregation: His praise endures forever!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We praise our Lord with a hymn that could be called our Hymn of the Month, though we have not sung it every week this month. It is particularly important that we understand that becoming and living as a Christian necessarily means embracing the Lordship of Christ in all of its implications as proclaimed in this hymn.

"Crown Him with Many Crowns" (Trinity Hymnal #295)

We AcknoWLedge Our Sin

* Reading from the Law

The concern in the ninth commandment is the propagation and prevalence of truth, especially the truth of Christian doctrine. This is inevitably opposed to the notion of pluralism.

Exodus 20:16; Jude 3 ESV

16 "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor. 3 Beloved, although I was very eager to write to you about our common salvation, I found it necessary to write appealing to you to contend for the faith that was once for all delivered to the saints.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

We need God's help, not only for atonement for sin, but in fighting it. Verse 2 is particularly relevant in this regard with respect to our discernment and reception of truth.

"By Thy Mercy"

- Jesus, Lord of life and glory, Bend from heaven thy gracious ear; While our waiting souls adore thee, Friend of helpless sinners, hear:
- From the depth of nature's blindness,
 From the hardening power of sin,
 From all malice and unkindness,
 From the pride that lurks within,
- CH: By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord, good Lord.
- When temptation sorely presses, In the day of Satan's power, In our times of deep distresses, In each dark and trying hour.
- When the world around is smiling, In the time of wealth and ease, Earthly joys our hearts beguiling, In the day of health and peace. (Chorus)
- In the weary hours of sickness, In the times of grief and pain, When we feel our mortal weakness, When all human help is vain.
- 6. In the solemn hour of dying,
 In the awful judgment day,
 May our souls, on thee relying,
 Find thee still our Rock and Stay. (Chorus)

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We rejoice in the ASSurAnce of forgiveneSS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Jesus has conquered Satan and we apply His victory "by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of [our] testimony."

Revelation 12:7-11 ESV

7 Now war arose in heaven, Michael and his angels fighting against the dragon. And the dragon and his angels fought back, 8 but he was defeated, and there was no longer any place for them in heaven. 9 And the great dragon was thrown down, that ancient serpent, who is called the devil and Satan, the deceiver of the whole world—he was thrown down to the earth, and his angels were thrown down with him. 10 And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying, "Now the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ have come, for the accuser of our brothers has been thrown down, who accuses them day and night before our God. 11 And they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony, for they loved not their lives even unto death.

Leader: This is the gospel. Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

Our confidence before God is rooted in the certainty of the truth of His Word, a fact which we celebrate as we sing.

[&]quot;Forever Settled in the Heavens" (Trinity Hymnal #59)

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

"The Background of Witness" (Rev. Mike Biggs)

* Acts 26:1-15 ESV

So Agrippa said to Paul, "You have permission to speak for yourself." Then Paul stretched out his hand and made his defense:

2"I consider myself fortunate that it is before you, King Agrippa, I am going to make my defense today against all the accusations of the Jews, 3 especially because you are familiar with all the customs and controversies of the Jews. Therefore I beg you to listen to me patiently. 4"My manner of life from my youth, spent from the beginning among my own nation and in Jerusalem, is known by all the lews. 5 They have known for a long time, if they are willing to testify, that according to the strictest party of our religion I have lived as a Pharisee. 6 And now I stand here on trial because of my hope in the promise made by God to our fathers, 7 to which our twelve tribes hope to attain, as they earnestly worship night and day. And for this hope I am accused by Jews, O king! 8 Why is it thought incredible by any of you that God raises the dead? 9"I myself was convinced that I ought to do many things in opposing the name of Jesus of Nazareth. 10 And I did so in Jerusalem. I not only locked up many of the saints in prison after receiving authority from the chief priests, but when they were put to death I cast my vote against them. 11 And I punished them often in all the synagogues and tried to make them blaspheme, and in raging fury against them I persecuted them even to foreign cities. 12 "In this connection I journeyed to Damascus with the

authority and commission of the chief priests. 13 At midday, O king, I saw on the way a light from heaven, brighter than the sun, that shone around me and those who journeyed with me. 14 And when we had all fallen to the ground, I heard a voice saying to me in the Hebrew language, 'Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting me? It is hard for you to kick against the goads.' 15 And I said, 'Who are you, Lord?' And the Lord said, 'I am Jesus whom you are persecuting.

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 circle of the communion trays. The cups containing wine are in the outer circles of the trays.

"Poor Sinner, Dejected with Fear"

- Poor sinner, dejected with fear,
 Unbosom thy mind to the Lamb;
 No wrath on His brow He does wear,
 Nor will He poor mourners condemn;
 His arm of omnipotent grace
 Is able and willing to save;
 A sweet and a permanent peace
 He'll freely and faithfully give.
- Come just as thou art, with thy woe, Fall down at the feet of the Lamb; He will not, He cannot say, "Go," But surely will take out thy stain A fountain is opened for sin, And thousands its virtues have proved He'll take thee, and plunge thee therein, And wash thee from filth in His blood.
- 3. The soul that on Jesus relies,
 He'll never, no never deceive;
 He freely and faithfully gives
 More blessings than we can conceive;
 Yea, down to old age He will keep,
 Nor will He forsake us at last;
 He knows and is known by His sheep;
 They're His, and He will hold them fast.

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We respond to the grAce of the Lord

Offering Meditation

Public offerings demonstrate the reality and truth of our professed commitment and devotion to God, which is one reason why they are such an important component of the Christian life.

II Corinthians 8:7, 8 ESV

⁷ But as you excel in everything—in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in all earnestness, and in our love for you—see that you excel in this act of grace also. ⁸ I say this not as a command, but to prove by the earnestness of others that your love also is genuine.

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 conclude our worship today with a prayer of thanksgiving for the truth revealed through Christ, and for the resolve and strength to propagate that truth to a needy world.

* "O Word of God Incarnate" (Trinity Hymnal #140)

Benediction