

The Lord's Day, Sunday, August 21, 2022

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



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

Call to Worship

This exchange, taken from the vision of heavenly worship in Revelation, calls us to give to the Father and to Jesus Christ all honor and glory. The scroll is a symbol of the New Covenant, the realization of which Christ accomplished by completing His Messianic work, thus enabling all of the covenant promises of God to come to fruition (II Corinthians 1:20), resulting in our ability to fulfill our purpose as created (Genesis 1:26-28; Psalm 8:6; Hebrews 2:5-9; Revelation 5:10).

Selections from Revelations 4 & 5 ESV

- Leader: Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!
- **Congregation:** Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created.
- Leader: Behold, the Lion of the Tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that He can open the scroll and its seven seals.
- **Congregation:** Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them to be a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.
- All: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

In our hymn of praise this morning we affirm the fact that God alone is the Creator, and tacitly affirm that we can do nothing apart from Him (John 15:5).

* Reading from the Law

In this passage, commonly known as "the Cultural Mandate," we learn of our fundamental purpose and responsibility as human beings, and what both qualifies and enables us to fulfill it: the image of God in us.

Genesis 1:26-28 ESV

Then God said, "Let us make man in our image, after our likeness. And let them have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over the livestock and over all the earth and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

²⁷ So God created man in his own image,

in the image of God he created him;

male and female he created them.

²⁸ And God blessed them. And God said to them, "Be fruitful and multiply and fill the earth and subdue it, and have dominion over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the heavens and over every living thing that moves on the earth."

Silent Confession of Sin Corporate Confession of Sin

We once again make use of this corporate confession, which is an acknowledgement of our constant dependence upon God our Creator for everything pertaining to true life.

Almighty Father, Who by your will and for your glory formed us and everything else in all creation, Who upholds all things by the power of your Word, and Who has graciously and lovingly preserved your people and provided for our needs, we confess our constant failure to trust You and rely upon your goodness. Instead of leaning wholly upon You, we have thought and acted upon the meager understanding afforded by our limited human perspectives. Rather than acknowledging You in all our ways, we have forgotten You and turned to our own way, the way that seems right unto a man, but leads to death. We have sinned against You constantly by presuming to own ourselves and our ways, in violation of your holy command to trust You with all of our hearts. With renewed faith we cast ourselves upon Jesus, the author and perfector of our faith, Who gave himself for us to redeem us from all wickedness. In abject sorrow we confess our unbelief, and in heartfelt and sincere repentance ask You for the grace of faith, wrought by your Holy Spirit, which You have promised to give your people Israel. Write your law on our hearts, that we may adopt your heart and mind, and evermore walk in the light, as You are in the light, through Jesus Christ, the Light of the world. Amen.

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Through our union with Christ, we have been given the Holy Spirit, who empowers us unto freedom from sin and the ability to bear fruit for God.

Romans 6:5-7, 20-23 ESV

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin.

²⁰ For when you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. ²¹ But what fruit were you getting at that time from the things of which you are now ashamed? For the end of those things is death. ²² But now that you have been set free from sin and have become slaves of God, the fruit you get leads to sanctification and its end, eternal life. ²³ For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

Leader: This is the gospel. Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

In this hymn, as in Scripture, Zion is a symbol of God's people, the fulfilled Temple, in whom God dwells by His Spirit. In accord with the theme of today's service, verse two speaks of God's Spirit, the fulfillment of the promise of Ezekiel 37 read earlier, made clear by John 5:24-29 and 7:37-39 (compare John 6:63).

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken" (Hymn of the Month)

(Trinity Hymnal #345)

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 "Flesh versus Spirit" Part 8 * Galatians 3:1–5

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 (Mike Biggs)

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.

"My Faith Looks Up to Thee"

(Trinity Hymnal #528)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

God the Creator is the Bestower of every good and perfect gift, and it is the gift of being born of His Spirit that makes our very selves offerings (firstfruits) to God. We embody this as we present our offerings to God in worship.

James 1:17, 18 ESV

Every good gift and every perfect gift is from above, coming down from the Father of lights, with whom there is no variation or shadow due to change. ¹⁸ Of his own will he brought us forth by the word of truth, that we should be a kind of firstfruits of his creatures.

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

Presentation of Offerings

* Doxology

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

John Calvin's personal emblem contained a statement of his life commitment, expressed thusly, "My heart I offer to you, Lord, promptly and sincerely." We close our worship today expressing the desire of every truly enlightened heart: that every aspect of our being be unreservedly devoted to Jesus and His Kingdom.

"This Is My Father's World"

(Trinity Hymnal #111)

Benediction

(Trinity Hymnal #116) (See Communion) (Trinity Hymnal #731)

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):

- *I.* Knowing truth from God (Scripture)
- 2. Being right with God (Justification)
- 3. Living life for God (Sanctification)

Goals (what we seek to accomplish):

- *I.* 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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