

The Lord's Day, October 27, 2019

"...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.

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

This call to worship emphasizes the glory of God among the nations as a goal, and the contrast between Him and the gods of the nations, which are idols and, unlike Him, unworthy of worship. These are the truths which undergird our sermon passage today.

Psalm 96:1-6 ESV

- Oh sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth!
- ² Sing to the LORD, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.
- ³ Declare his glory among the nations, his marvelous works among all the peoples!
- ⁴ For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; he is to be feared above all gods.
- ⁵ For all the gods of the peoples are worthless idols, but the LORD made the heavens.
- ⁶ Splendor and majesty are before him; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

In this hymn, one of the favorites of our church (at least of its pastor!), we call each other to praise God because of His ability and faithfulness to provide for and deliver His people, especially in what He calls us to do (verse 6, line 2), all the while invoking several themes common in Exodus (such as the call for idols to be destroyed).

"All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above" (Trinity Hymnal #4)

We Acknowledge Our Sin

* Reading from the Law

The law that the first of everything, especially the firstborn, belongs to God, emphasizes that acknowledgment that God is the real owner of everything should be preeminent in the way in which we manage what He has given to us.

Numbers 3:13 ESV

¹³ for all the firstborn are mine. On the day that I struck down all the firstborn in the land of Egypt, I consecrated for my own all the firstborn in Israel, both of man and of beast. They shall be mine: I am the Lord.''

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

Like Israel at the time of the Exodus, who had to be told God's name, one of our fundamental sins is not knowing the God to whom we owe everything.

"We Have Not Known Thee As We Ought" (Trinity Hymnal #493)

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

If we belong to Christ, we are truly among "the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven," and have an eternal inheritance obtained by the sprinkled blood of Jesus.

Hebrews 12:18-24 ESV

¹⁸ For you have not come to what may be touched, a blazing fire and darkness and gloom and a tempest ¹⁹ and the sound of a trumpet and a voice whose words made the hearers beg that no further messages be spoken to them. ²⁰ For they could not endure the order that was given, "If even a beast touches the mountain, it shall be stoned." ²¹ Indeed, so terrifying was the sight that Moses said, "I tremble with fear." ²² But you have come to Mount Zion and to the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem, and to innumerable angels in festal gathering, ²³ and to the assembly of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God, the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

Leader: This is the gospel. Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

Because we are united to Christ, the true Firstborn, we share in His inheritance as adopted sons and daughters of the King.

"A Child of the King" (Trinity Hymnal #525)

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

"A Primer in Spiritual Warfare" (Rev. Mike Biggs)

* Exodus 4:18-31 ESV

¹⁸ Moses went back to Jethro his father-in-law and said to him, "Please let me go back to my brothers in Egypt to see whether they are still alive." And Jethro said to Moses, "Go in peace." ¹⁹ And the Lord said to Moses in Midian, "Go back to Egypt, for all the men who were seeking your life are dead." 20 So Moses took his wife and his sons and had them ride on a donkey, and went back to the land of Egypt. And Moses took the staff of God in his hand. 21 And the Lord said to Moses, "When you go back to Egypt, see that you do before Pharaoh all the miracles that I have put in your power. But I will harden his heart, so that he will not let the people go. 22 Then you shall say to Pharaoh, 'Thus says the Lord, Israel is my firstborn son, ²³ and I say to you, "Let my son go that he may serve me." If you refuse to let him go, behold, I will kill your firstborn son." 24 At a lodging place on the way the Lord met him and sought to put him to death. ²⁵ Then Zipporah took a flint and cut off her son's foreskin and touched Moses' feet with it and said, "Surely you are a bridegroom of blood to me!" ²⁶ So he let him alone. It was then that she said, "A bridegroom of blood," because of the circumcision. ²⁷ The Lord said to Aaron, "Go into the wilderness to meet Moses." So he went and met him at the mountain of God and kissed him. ²⁸ And Moses told Aaron all the words of the Lord with which he had sent

him to speak, and all the signs that he had commanded him to do. ²⁹ Then Moses and Aaron went and gathered together all the elders of the people of Israel. ³⁰ Aaron spoke all the words that the Lord had spoken to Moses and did the signs in the sight of the people. ³¹ And the people believed; and when they heard that the Lord had visited the people of Israel and that he had seen their affliction, they bowed their heads and worshiped.

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.

"In Christ Alone"

- I. In Christ alone, my hope is found
 He is my light, my strength, my song
 This Cornerstone, this solid ground
 Firm through the fiercest drought and storm
 What heights of love, what depths of peace
 When fears are stilled, when strivings cease
 My Comforter, my All in All
 Here in the love of Christ I stand
- 2. In Christ alone, who took on flesh Fullness of God in helpless babe This Gift of love and righteousness Scorned by the ones He came to save Till on that cross as Jesus died The wrath of God was satisfied For every sin on Him was laid Here in the death of Christ I live
- 3. There in the ground His body lay
 Light of the world by darkness slain
 Then bursting forth in glorious Day
 Up from the grave He rose again
 And as He stands in victory
 Sin's curse has lost its grip on me
 For I am His and He is mine
 Bought with the precious blood of Christ

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death
This is the power of Christ in me
From life's first cry, to final breath
Jesus commands my destiny
No power of hell, no scheme of man
Can ever pluck me from His hand
Till he returns or calls me home
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand

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We Respond to the Grace of the Lord

Offering Meditation

This verse, taken from the same psalm from which our call to worship was drawn, sets forth one way in which we ascribe to the Lord the glory due to Him: bringing offerings to Him in formal worship.

Psalm 96:8 ESV

⁸ Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!

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 sing a marching song into battle as we leave today, recognizing and accepting our call, not only to battle, but also to certain victory in it.

*"Onward, Christian Soldiers" (Trinity Hymnal #572)

Benediction

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)

Core Values (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):

- 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

How can you be a part of all this?