



CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, November 20, 2016

"...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 gray 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 that the congregation stands during this element of worship.*

We Approach the Lord

Prelude

Call to Worship

The Heart of this call is the proclamation that God is King over all the earth, a fact that, as we shall see in today's service, would do us good to remember.

Psalm 47 ^{ESV}

- 1 Clap your hands, all peoples!
Shout to God with loud songs of joy!
- 2 For the LORD, the Most High, is to be feared,
a great king over all the earth.
- 3 He subdued peoples under us,
and nations under our feet.
- 4 He chose our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves. Selah
- 5 God has gone up with a shout,
the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
- 6 Sing praises to God, sing praises!
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!
- 7 For God is the King of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm!
- 8 God reigns over the nations;
God sits on his holy throne.
- 9 The princes of the peoples gather
as the people of the God of Abraham.
For the shields of the earth belong to God;
he is highly exalted!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

In contrast to what happens when we try to usurp God's kingship, when Christ is honored as King, everything in life is blessed, and that is cause for great rejoicing.

“Rejoice, The Lord Is King” (Trinity Hymnal #310)

* Reading from the Law

We read God's warning here to be careful to worship God according to the way that He has commanded, including not making images to worship and going to the one place God has ordained. The principle behind all this is that there is only one way to God, and it is on His terms, not in accord with whatever we prefer and decide. We worship and approach God on His terms, not ours. Ultimately this means we come through Jesus Christ and Him alone.

Deuteronomy 12:1-14 ESV

¹ "These are the statutes and rules that you shall be careful to do in the land that the LORD, the God of your fathers, has given you to possess, all the days that you live on the earth. ² You shall surely destroy all the places where the nations whom you shall dispossess served their gods, on the high mountains and on the hills and under every green tree. ³ You shall tear down their altars and dash in pieces their pillars and burn their Asherim with fire. You shall chop down the carved images of their gods and destroy their name out of that place. ⁴ You shall not worship the LORD your God in that way. ⁵ But you shall seek the place that the LORD your God will choose out of all your tribes to put his name and make his habitation there. There you shall go, ⁶ and there you shall bring your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the contribution that you present, your vow offerings, your freewill offerings, and the firstborn of your herd and of your flock. ⁷ And there you shall eat before the LORD your God, and you shall rejoice, you and your households, in all that you undertake, in which the LORD your God has blessed you. ⁸ "You shall not do according to all that we are doing here today, everyone doing whatever is right in his own eyes, ⁹ for you have not as yet come to the rest and to the inheritance that the LORD your God is giving you. ¹⁰ But when you go over the Jordan and live in the land that the LORD your God is giving you to inherit, and when he gives you rest from all your enemies around, so that you live in safety, ¹¹ then to the place that the LORD your God will choose, to make his name dwell there, there you shall bring all that I command you: your burnt offerings and your sacrifices, your tithes and the contribution that you present, and all your finest vow offerings that you vow to

the LORD. ¹²And you shall rejoice before the LORD your God, you and your sons and your daughters, your male servants and your female servants, and the Levite that is within your towns, since he has no portion or inheritance with you. ¹³Take care that you do not offer your burnt offerings at any place that you see, ¹⁴but at the place that the LORD will choose in one of your tribes, there you shall offer your burnt offerings, and there you shall do all that I am commanding you.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

This adaptation of Psalm 51 is appropriate here, the model prayer of confession applied to the quintessential sin of idolatry.

“God, Be Merciful to Me”

1. God, be merciful to me; On Thy grace I rest my plea
Plenteous in compassion Thou, Blot out my transgressions now;
Wash me, make me pure within; Cleanse, O cleanse me from my sin.
2. My transgressions I confess; Grief and guilt my soul oppress.
I have sinned against Thy grace, And provoked Thee to Thy face.
I confess Thy judgement just; Speechless, I Thy mercy trust.
3. I am evil, born in sin; Thou desirest truth within.
Thou alone my Savior art, Teach Thy wisdom to my heart;
Make me pure, Thy grace bestow, Wash me whiter than the snow.
4. Broken, humbled to the dust By Thy wrath and judgment just,
Let my contrite heart rejoice, And in gladness hear Thy voice;
From my sins O hide Thy face, Blot them out in boundless grace.
5. Gracious God, my heart renew, Make my spirit right and true.
Cast me not away from Thee, Let Thy Spirit dwell in me;
Thy salvation's joy impart, Steadfast make my willing heart.
6. Sinners then shall learn from me, And return, O God, to Thee
Savior all my guilt remove, And my tongue shall sing Thy love
Touch my silent lips, O Lord, And my mouth shall praise accord.

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Jesus is both our Temple and our priest, and we come to God ultimately only through Him and His work. But coming through Him means that we can have confidence and assurance that God is satisfied and we have access to Him.

Hebrews 10:11-23 ESV

¹¹ And every priest stands daily at his service, offering repeatedly the same sacrifices, which can never take away sins. ¹² But when Christ had offered for all time a single sacrifice for sins, he sat down at the right hand of God, ¹³ waiting from that time until his enemies should be made a footstool for his feet. ¹⁴ For by a single offering he has perfected for all time those who are being sanctified. ¹⁵ And the Holy Spirit also bears witness to us; for after saying, ¹⁶ “This is the covenant that I will make with them after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my laws on their hearts, and write them on their minds,” ¹⁷ then he adds, “I will remember their sins and their lawless deeds no more.” ¹⁸ Where there is forgiveness of these, there is no longer any offering for sin. ¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

* Hymn of Assurance

The One who is the Lord is also our Savior, which means that He deals with all of the issues related to competing sovereignties by restoring our dominion in Himself, a dominion that is subject to God the Father, and therefore blessed.

Jesus, the Lord, My Savior

1. Jesus, the Lord, my Savior is,
My Shepherd, and my God;
My light, my strength, my joy, my bliss;
And I His grace record.
 2. Whate'er I need in Jesus dwells,
And there it dwells for me;
'Tis Christ my earthen vessel fills
With treasures rich and free.
- CH: Mercy and truth and righteousness,
And peace, most richly meet
In Jesus Christ, the King of grace,
In Whom I stand complete.*
3. As through the wilderness I roam,
His mercies I'll proclaim;
And when I safely reach my home,
I'll still adore His name.
 4. "Worthy the Lamb," shall be my song,
"For He for me was slain;"
And me with all the heavenly throng
Shall join, and say, "Amen."

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We prAy for eAch Other

Prayers of Intercession

(The minister will lead us in prayer, taking requests from individuals.)

We heAr inStruction from the Lord

Sermon

“The Roots of Apostasy” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

* Judges 17 ^{ESV}

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.

“One Thing I Ask” (Psalm 27)

1. ¹The LORD is my light and my salvation.
Whom shall I fear? Whom shall I fear?
The LORD is the stronghold of my life.
Of whom shall I be afraid?
2. ²When evildoers come to feed upon my flesh,
My enemies and foes: they stumble and fall.
³Though a force encamps against me,
my heart will not fear;
Through war I'm confident.
3. ⁴One thing I ask from the LORD, that I seek:
To dwell in HIS house all the days of my life,
To look on the beauty of the LORD,
In his temple meditate.
4. ⁵For He'll hide me in his shelter on the troubled day.
He will cover me in the cover of his tent.
On a rock He'll lift me high. ⁶Now my head will be raised up
Above my surrounding foes.
5. And then I will offer in the shelter of his tent
My sacrifice, and shouts of joy.
And so I will sing out unto the LORD,
I will sing in praise.
6. ⁷Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud.
Be gracious to me, and answer me.
⁸You have said, “Seek my face,” and my heart says to you,
“Your face, LORD, do I seek.”

7. ⁹ Don't hide yourself from me, or reject me in your wrath.
You have been my help; do not cast me off!
Don't ever leave me, my Savior, my God,
¹⁰ for my father and mother left.
8. But the LORD will take me in. ¹¹ LORD, teach me your way.
Lead me true, because of my foes.
¹² Don't give me up to them, false and violent men;
Against me they rise up.
9. ¹³ I believe that I'll look on the goodness
Of the LORD in the land of the living.
¹⁴ Wait for the LORD! Be strong! Set your heart,
And wait for the LORD.

Jeremy Casella, Psalter Project. CCL #2223976.

We reSpond to the grAce of the Lord

Offering Meditation

This exhortation is one of several near the end of the book of Hebrews which flow from the implications of Jesus' perfect work as our High Priest and apply the concept of "sacrifices pleasing to God," which is the heading of the section in the ESV. Christ's sacrifice demands proper worship from us, sacrifices which please Him, sharing what He has lavished upon us.

Hebrews 13:16 ESV

Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

Presentation of Offerings

5. And then I will offer in the shelter of his tent
My sacrifice, and shouts of joy.
And so I will sing out unto the LORD,
I will sing in praise.
9. ¹³ I believe that I'll look on the goodness
Of the LORD in the land of the living.
¹⁴ Wait for the LORD! Be strong! Set your heart,
And wait for the LORD.

Jeremy Casella, Psalter Project. CCL #2223976.

* 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 conclude our worship today with a searching question: who follows Christ and His servants of old in their battle with the kingdom of Satan and his playground, the world, in their willingness to sacrifice comfort and endure suffering for the sake of the Kingdom, and in His focus on redemption and His mercy to His and our enemies? As you sing, you might well pray for God's grace to enable us to follow in their train.

* "The Son of God Goes Forth to War" (Trinity Hymnal #578)

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):

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

Goals (what we seek to accomplish):

1. *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?

SERMON NOTES

November 20, 2016

“The Roots of Apostasy” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

Judges 17

Introduction:

What causes apostasy among God's people?

- I. Apostasy results from the failure of faithful parental discipline, vv. 1-4.
 - A. Idolatry.

- B. Covetousness.

II. Apostasy results from the failure of informed self-government, vv. 5, 6.

A. The neglect of the King.

B. The replacement of the King.

- III. Apostasy results from the failure of conscientious ecclesiastical ministry, vv. 7-13.
 - A. Failure of those ministering.

- B. Failure of those receiving ministry.

— **For Your Personal Devotions** —

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study: