



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

Our call to worship today mentions at least two themes we will expound upon today: God's gathering of the "outcasts of Israel," a designation which includes us, and the fact that God takes pleasure in those who fear Him, and despite that hope in His steadfast love. These two seem at odds with one another, but properly understood, they feed our worship like few other things, if any.

Psalm 147:1-11 ESV

1 Praise the LORD!

For it is good to sing praises to our God;
for it is pleasant, and a song of praise is fitting.

2 The LORD builds up Jerusalem;
he gathers the outcasts of Israel.

3 He heals the brokenhearted
and binds up their wounds.

4 He determines the number of the stars;
he gives to all of them their names.

5 Great is our Lord, and abundant in power;
his understanding is beyond measure.

6 The LORD lifts up the humble;
he casts the wicked to the ground.

7 Sing to the LORD with thanksgiving;
make melody to our God on the lyre!

8 He covers the heavens with clouds;
he prepares rain for the earth;
he makes grass grow on the hills.

9 He gives to the beasts their food,
and to the young ravens that cry.

10 His delight is not in the strength of the horse,
nor his pleasure in the legs of a man,

11 but the LORD takes pleasure in those who fear him,
in those who hope in his steadfast love.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We express our Christian desire that all of God's creation be filled with praise for our Savior in this hymn of adoration. Sing it from your heart!

“When Morning Gilds the Skies” (Trinity Hymnal #167)

We Acknowledge Our Sin

* Reading from the Law

We see here a repetition of an Old Testament theme which we have seen before (Deuteronomy 4:5-8). We are commanded to live holy lives so that those around us who do not know God might be stimulated to come to know Him, seek salvation, and praise Him on the Day of Judgment.

1 Peter 2:11, 12 ^{ESV}

¹¹ Beloved, I urge you as sojourners and exiles to abstain from the passions of the flesh, which wage war against your soul. ¹² Keep your conduct among the Gentiles honorable, so that when they speak against you as evildoers, they may see your good deeds and glorify God on the day of visitation.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

Today, as we use Psalm 51 again as our confession, we note particularly that David prays for God to produce righteousness and a right spirit in him so that sinners will be turned to God.

Responsive Reading, Psalm 51; Trinity Hymnal p. 804

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Once again we note that it is for the purpose of our turning from sin and living righteously that Christ has taken the penalty for our sins. The Gospel includes all of this: salvation from both the penalty and the power of sin.

1 Peter 2:24 ESV

He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

* Hymn of Assurance

Penned by George Matheson at a time of deep grief and despair, this hymn beautifully expresses faith and hope in the grace of God which not only produces forgiveness, but transforms lives into an incomparable experience of joy and blessing, even in the midst of pain and tragedy.

“O Love that Will Not Let Me Go”

1. O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.
2. O light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.
3. O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.

4. O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

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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

“Biblical Church Growth” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

* Acts 2:42-47 ^{ESV}

⁴² And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. ⁴³ And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. ⁴⁴ And all who believed were together and had all things in common. ⁴⁵ And they were selling their possessions and belongings and distributing the proceeds to all, as any had need. ⁴⁶ And day by day, attending the temple together and breaking bread in their homes, they received their food with glad and generous hearts, ⁴⁷ praising God and having favor with all the people. And the Lord added to their number day by day those who were being saved.

Leader:

This is the Word of the Lord.

Congregation:

Thanks be to God!

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.

“Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken”

1. Glorious things of thee are spoken, Zion, city of our God;
He whose word cannot be broken Formed thee for his own abode;
On the Rock of Ages founded, What can shake thy sure repose?
With salvation's walls surrounded, Thou may'st smile at all thy
foes.
2. See, the streams of living waters, Springing from eternal love,
Well supply thy sons and daughters, And all fear of want remove:
Who can faint, while such a river Ever flows their thirst t' assuage?
Grace which, like the Lord, the giver, Never fails from age to age.
3. Round each habitation hov'ring, See the cloud and fire appear
For a glory and a cov'ring, Showing that the Lord is near:
Thus deriving from their banner Light by night and shade by day,
Safe they feed upon the manna Which he gives them when they pray.
4. Saviour, if of Zion's city I, through grace, a member am,
Let the world deride or pity, I will glory in the Name:
Fading is the worlding's pleasure, All his boasted pomp and show;
Solid joys and lasting treasure None but Zion's children know.

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“Jesus Paid it All” (Trinity Hymnal #308)

We reSpond to the grAce of the Lord

Offering Meditation

One biblical perspective on our giving in worship is that it is a tribute offered in reverence to the One of whom we are in awe, seeing that the price of our ransom from sin was the blood of His only Son, Himself God come in flesh.

1 Peter 1:17-19 ESV

¹⁷ And if you call on him as Father who judges impartially according to each one's deeds, conduct yourselves with fear throughout the time of your exile, ¹⁸ knowing that you were ransomed from the futile ways inherited from your forefathers, not with perishable things such as silver or gold, ¹⁹ but with the precious blood of Christ, like that of a lamb without blemish or spot.

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 our worship today with this prayer that God would truly conform our lives to the mind of Christ in every way, so that we might be productive servants of His in this world, effectively building His kingdom.

* "May the Mind of Christ My Savior" (Trinity Hymnal #644)

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

February 19, 2017

“Biblical Church Growth” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

Acts 2:42-47

Introduction:

What are the features of biblical church growth?

- I. Biblical church growth *begins with the proper focus, v. 42.*
 - A. That to which the early Church *did not* devote themselves.

- B. That to which the early Church *did* devote themselves.

II. Biblical church growth *thrives in a sanctified environment*, vv. 43-46.

A. Reverential awe.

B. Self-sacrificial love.

C. Communal joy.

III. Biblical church growth *results from a credible testimony* v. 47.

A. The corporate source of evangelistic credibility.

B. The ultimate cause of ecclesiastical growth.

— **For Your Personal Devotions** —

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study: