



CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, May 21, 2017

"...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 congregational standing*

Prelude

Call to Worship

Part of God's purpose for us is to be His witnesses to the nations of His love and favor to us, calling them to the same experience, after they have heard and believed "the words of His mouth" from us.

Leader: Let us worship the Lord!

Congregation: Responsive Reading, Psalm 117;

Trinity Hymnal pp. 835, 836

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We express our longing for a thousand times the ability to praise and testify to the glory of our God than what we currently possess.

"O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing" (Trinity Hymnal #164)

* Reading from the Law

The Colossians, like the congregation addressed in the book of Hebrews, were being tempted to fall back into observing the ceremonial law as an end in itself, rather than realizing that its purpose was to point to a reality that had now come, that is, Christ, and that it had been fulfilled in Him. To observe it outwardly was to deny Christ, and to transform its significance into a legalistic basis for salvation, one that would replace Christ rather than point to Him. The sin of many professing Christians is similar: replacing Christ as our hope with all sorts of religious forms, rituals, and practices.

Colossians 4:2-6 ESV

² Continue steadfastly in prayer, being watchful in it with thanksgiving.
³ At the same time, pray also for us, that God may open to us a door for the word, to declare the mystery of Christ, on account of which I am in prison—⁴ that I may make it clear, which is how I ought to speak.⁵ Walk in wisdom toward outsiders, making the best use of the time.⁶ Let your speech always be gracious, seasoned with salt, so that you may know how you ought to answer each person.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

Our lack of faithfulness to our mission is a burden; God's mercy in Jesus is the answer.

Thy throne of grace
 is the pleasure ground of my soul.
Here I obtain mercy in time of need,
here see the smile of thy reconciled face,
here joy pleads the name of Jesus,
here I sharpen the sword of the Spirit,
 anoint the shield of faith,
 put on the helmet of salvation,
 gather manna from thy Word,
am strengthened for each conflict,
nerved for the upward race,

empowered to conquer every foe;
Help me to come to Christ
as the fountain head of descending blessings,
as a wide open flood-gate of mercy.
I marvel at my insensate folly, that
with such enriching favours within my reach
I am slow to extend the hand to take them.
Have mercy upon my deadness for thy Name's sake.
Quicken me, stir me, fill me with holy zeal.
Strengthen me that I may cling to thee
and not let thee go.
May thy Spirit within me draw all blessings
from thy hand.
When I advance not, I backslide.
Let me walk humbly because of good omitted
and evil done.
Impress on my mind the shortness of time,
the work to be engaged in,
the account to be rendered,
the nearness of eternity,
the fearful sin of despising thy Spirit.
May I never forget that
thy eye always sees,
thy ear always hears,
thy recording hand always writes.
May I never give thee rest until Christ is
the pulse of my heart;
the spokesman of my lips,
the lamp of my feet.

From the The Valley of Vision, "O GOD OF MY DELIGHT"

We rejoice in the ASSurAnce of forgiveNeSS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Despite our failure, it is Jesus Christ who is the faithful witness and has accomplished and will bring to fruition the work of His kingdom.

Revelation 1:4-6 ESV

⁴John to the seven churches that are in Asia: Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, ⁵and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of kings on earth. To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood ⁶and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

* Hymn of Assurance

We celebrate the fact that we have just heard from God's Word, that Jesus' kingdom shall be consummated, and that through our witness and activity as kings and priests.

“Jesus Shall Reign” (Trinity Hymnal #441)

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 Job of a Faithful Witness” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

* Acts 6:8-7:60 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.

“For All the Saints”

1. For all the saints, who from their labors rest,
Who Thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy Name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.
Alleluia, Allelu...
2. Thou wast their rock, their fortress and their might;
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true Light.
Alleluia, Allelu...
3. O may Thy soldiers, faithful, true and bold,
Fight as the saints who nobly fought of old,
And win with them the victor's crown of gold.
Alleluia, Allelu...
4. The golden evening brightens in the west;
Soon, soon to faithful warriors comes their rest;
Sweet is the calm of paradise the blessed.
Alleluia, Allelu...
5. But lo! There breaks a yet more glorious day;
The saints triumphant rise in bright array;
The King of glory passes on his way,
Alleluia, Allelu...
6. From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
Through gates of pearl streams in the countless host,
Singing to Father, Son, and Holy Ghost,
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Offering Meditation

God has declared that the treasures of all the nations shall come into the house (Temple) of the Lord, and we the Church are that Temple. Our giving as part of our worship is part of the fulfillment of this prophecy.

Haggai 2:6-9 ESV

6 For thus says the Lord of hosts: Yet once more, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land. 7 And I will shake all nations, so that the treasures of all nations shall come in, and I will fill this house with glory, says the Lord of hosts. 8 The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, declares the Lord of hosts. 9 The latter glory of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts. And in this place I will give peace, declares the Lord of hosts.”

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

Is what we proclaim in this last hymn true for you? We pray that it is, and that if it wasn't before you came to the service today, it is now. If so, sing with all your heart in a spirit of obedience to the role in building His kingdom to which our Lord has called us.

* "I Love to Tell the Story" (Trinity Hymnal #478)

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

May 21, 2017

“The Job of a Faithful Witness” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

Acts 6:8-7:60

Introduction:

What is involved in being a faithful witness for Christ?

- I. Faithful witness involves *the certainty of opposition*, 6:8-15.
 - A. The motivation of opponents.

- B. The power of God.

II. Faithful witness involves *the ministry of the Word*, 7:1-53.

A. The importance of flexibility.

B. The necessity of knowledge.

III. Faithful witness involves *the imitation of Christ*, 7:54-60.

A. The persecution of Jesus.

B. The response of Jesus.

— **For Your Personal Devotions** —

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study: