

The Lord's Day, May 19, 2019



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

The call to worship in this psalm reminds us that our worship is to be public, at least in part a testimony to the nations of the salvation of the Lord, and that because of the fact that He will judge the world in righteousness (more on that next week).

Psalm 96 FSV

- 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.
- 7 Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the LORD glory and strength!
- 8 Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into his courts!
- 9 Worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth!
- Yes, the world is established; it shall never be moved; he will judge the peoples with equity."
- Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it;
- 12 let the field exult, and everything in it!

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy

13 before the LORD, for he comes,

for he comes to judge the earth. He will judge the world in righteousness, and the peoples in his faithfulness.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We respond to the above call by doing in this hymn what it commands: ascribing glory to Him in worship. We do so because, as verses I and 6 proclaim, He has turned every sorrow and trial into blessing.

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

We AcknoWLedge Our Sin

* Reading from the Law

This proverb, as a "snapshot of covenantally faithful life," exhorts us through its promise to truthful speech toward our neighbors, even when it is unpleasant.

Proverbs 28:23 ESV

Whoever rebukes a man will afterward find more favor than he who flatters with his tongue.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

We confess in this hymn the weakness and lack of trust in God that leads us to bend the truth for our own protection and advantage in dealing with others.

"Heal Us, Emmanuel"

CH: Heal us, Emmanuel, here we stand
Waiting to feel Thy touch
To deep wounded souls reach forth Thy hand
Oh Savior, we are such

- Our faith is feeble, we confess We faintly trust Thy word; But will You pity us the less? Be that far from You Lord!
- Remember him who once applied With trembling for relief; "Lord, I believe," with tears he cried; "O help my unbelief!"
- 3. She, too, who touched you in the press And healing virtue stole,
 Was answered, "Daughter, go in peace;
 Thy faith has made thee whole."
- 4. Like her, with hopes and fears we come
 To touch You if we may;
 O send us not despairing home;
 Send none unhealed away.

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We rejoice in the ASSurAnce of forgiveneSS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

The gospel which gives us hope and peace must be proclaimed faithfully, truthfully, and fully if it is to be effective.

I Thessalonians 1:4-2:5 ESV

⁴ For we know, brothers loved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵ because our gospel came to you not only in word, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction. You know what kind of men we proved to be among you for your sake. ⁶ And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for you received the word in much affliction, with the joy of the Holy Spirit, ⁷ so that you became

an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. 8 For not only has the word of the Lord sounded forth from you in Macedonia and Achaia, but your faith in God has gone forth everywhere, so that we need not say anything. 9 For they themselves report concerning us the kind of reception we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols to serve the living and true God, 10 and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead, lesus who delivers us from the wrath to come. For you yourselves know, brothers, that our coming to you was not in vain. 2 But though we had already suffered and been shamefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we had boldness in our God to declare to you the gospel of God in the midst of much conflict. 3 For our appeal does not spring from error or impurity or any attempt to deceive, 4 but just as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, so we speak, not to please man, but to please God who tests our hearts. 5 For we never came with words of flattery, as you know, nor with a pretext for greed—God is witness.

Leader: This is the gospel. Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

God's Word provides a foundation for our faith, because it is absolutely true and reliable, including His promise to be with us when we bear witness to it, and to bring us through any related persecution.

"How Firm A Foundation"

- How firm a foundation, ye saints of the Lord, Is laid for your faith in His excellent Word!
 What more can He say than to you He hath said, You, who unto Jesus for refuge have fled?
- In every condition, in sickness, in health;
 In poverty's vale, or abounding in wealth;
 At home and abroad, on the land, on the sea,
 As thy days may demand, shall My strength ever be.

- 3. "Fear not, I am with thee, O be not dismayed,
 For I am thy God and will still give thee aid;
 I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand
 Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand."
- 4. "When through the deep waters I call thee to go, The rivers of grief shall not thee overflow For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless, And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress."
- 5. "When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie, My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply; The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design Thy dross to consume, and thy gold to refine."
- 6. "The soul that on Jesushath leaned for repose, I will not, I will not desert to his foes; That soul, though all hell should endeavor to break, I'll never, no never, no never forsake."

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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 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

"Testimony Above Reproach" (Rev. Mike Biggs)

* Acts 24:1-21 ESV

And after five days the high priest Ananias came down with some elders and a spokesman, one Tertullus. They laid before the governor their case against Paul. 2 And when he had been summoned, Tertullus began to accuse him, saying: "Since through you we enjoy much peace, and since by your foresight, most excellent Felix, reforms are being made for this nation, 3 in every way and everywhere we accept this with all gratitude. 4 But, to detain you no further, I beg you in your kindness to hear us briefly. 5 For we have found this man a plague, one who stirs up riots among all the lews throughout the world and is a ringleader of the sect of the Nazarenes. 6 He even tried to profane the temple, but we seized him. 8 By examining him yourself you will be able to find out from him about everything of which we accuse him." 9 The lews also joined in the charge, affirming that all these things were so. 10 And when the governor had nodded to him to speak, Paul replied: "Knowing that for many years you have been a judge over this nation, I cheerfully make my defense. 11 You can verify that it is not more than twelve days since I went up to worship in Jerusalem, 12 and they did not find me disputing with anyone or stirring up a crowd, either in the temple or in the synagogues or in the city. 13 Neither can they prove to you what they now bring up against me. 14 But this I confess to you, that according to the Way, which they call a sect, I worship the God of our fathers, believing everything laid down by the Law and written in the Prophets, 15 having a hope in God, which these men themselves accept, that there will be a resurrection of both the just and the unjust. 16 So I always take pains to have a clear conscience toward both God and man. 17 Now after several years I came to bring alms to my nation and to present offerings.

¹⁸ While I was doing this, they found me purified in the temple, without any crowd or tumult. But some Jews from Asia— ¹⁹ they ought to be here before you and to make an accusation, should they have anything against me. ²⁰ Or else let these men themselves say what wrongdoing they found when I stood before the council, ²¹ other than this one thing that I cried out while standing among them: 'It is with respect to the resurrection of the dead that I am on trial before you this day.'"

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.

"Sing to the Lord, Sing His Praise" (Trinity Hymnal #62)

We respond to the grace of the Lord

Offering Meditation

One of the ways we ascribe glory to God is to bring offerings to Him in public worship.

Psalm 96:8 FSV

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

As we leave today we bear a testimony to each other, of our love (and willingness!) to tell those who do not yet understand the wonderful story of God's redemption in Christ, which is the only real hope anyone has.

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

Benediction