



CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, July 1, 2018

“...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

Our God delights to give good things to those who are the poorest and most helpless.

Psalm 113 ^{ESV}

1 Praise the LORD!

Praise, O servants of the LORD,
praise the name of the LORD!

2 Blessed be the name of the LORD
from this time forth and forevermore!

3 From the rising of the sun to its setting,
the name of the LORD is to be praised!

4 The LORD is high above all nations,
and his glory above the heavens!

5 Who is like the LORD our God,
who is seated on high,

6 who looks far down
on the heavens and the earth?

7 He raises the poor from the dust
and lifts the needy from the ash heap,

8 to make them sit with princes,
with the princes of his people.

9 He gives the barren woman a home,
making her the joyous mother of children.
Praise the LORD!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

Our God is so good in providing constantly for us everything that we need. In this hymn accordingly we repeat the exhortation to thank the Lord, thus acknowledging all his love.

“We Plow the Fields” (Trinity Hymnal #714)

We Acknowledge Our Sin

Reading from the Law

All wealth comes from God; remembering Him means enjoying it as a gift from His hands, and using it in accord with His commandments.

* Deuteronomy 8:11-18 ESV

¹¹ “Take care lest you forget the Lord your God by not keeping his commandments and his rules and his statutes, which I command you today, ¹² lest, when you have eaten and are full and have built good houses and live in them, ¹³ and when your herds and flocks multiply and your silver and gold is multiplied and all that you have is multiplied, ¹⁴ then your heart be lifted up, and you forget the Lord your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, ¹⁵ who led you through the great and terrifying wilderness, with its fiery serpents and scorpions and thirsty ground where there was no water, who brought you water out of the flinty rock, ¹⁶ who fed you in the wilderness with manna that your fathers did not know, that he might humble you and test you, to do you good in the end. ¹⁷ Beware lest you say in your heart, ‘My power and the might of my hand have gotten me this wealth.’ ¹⁸ You shall remember the Lord your God, for it is he who gives you power to get wealth, that he may confirm his covenant that he swore to your fathers, as it is this day.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

We constantly waste God's gifts and forget His love. In this confession, we acknowledge and seek forgiveness for both.

Corporate Confession: Most holy and merciful Father, we acknowledge and confess before You our sinful nature—prone to evil and slothful in good—and all our shortcomings and offenses against You. You alone know how often we have sinned in wandering from Your ways, in wasting Your gifts, in forgetting Your love. O Lord, have mercy on us, who are ashamed and sorry for all wherein we have displeased You. Teach us to hate our errors, cleanse us from our secret faults, and forgive our sins for the sake of Your dear Son. And O most holy and loving Father, send Your purifying grace into our hearts, we beseech You, that we may henceforth live in Your light and walk in Your ways, according to the commandments of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

We rejoice in the ASSurAnce of forgiveNeSS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

God's greatest gift is the gift of His Son, through whom we not only are redeemed and receive forgiveness of sins, but also assured that He withholds from us nothing that is truly good for us.

Romans 8:32 ^{ESV}

He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things?

* Hymn of Assurance

The mercies of God, which we observe whenever anything good comes to us, are the fount from which flow unrestrained praise and worship from those who have eyes to see.

“When All Thy Mercies”

1. When all Thy mercies, O my God,
My rising soul surveys,
Transported with the view, I'm lost
In wonder, love, and praise
Unnumbered comforts to my soul
Thy tender care bestowed,
Before my infant heart conceived
From Whom those comforts flowed.

*CH: Through all eternity to Thee
A joyful song I'll raise
For oh, eternity's too short
To utter all Thy praise!*

2. When worn with sickness, oft hast Thou
With health renewed my face
And when in sins and sorrow sunk
Renewed my soul with grace
Ten thousand thousand precious gifts
My daily thanks employ;
Nor is the least a cheerful heart
That tastes those gifts with joy.

3. Through every period of my life
Thy goodness I'll pursue,
And after death, in distant worlds,
The glorious theme renew.

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

“A Sobering Consideration of Wealth” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

* Ecclesiastes 5:8-6:12 ESV

⁸ If you see in a province the oppression of the poor and the violation of justice and righteousness, do not be amazed at the matter, for the high official is watched by a higher, and there are yet higher ones over them. ⁹ But this is gain for a land in every way: a king committed to cultivated fields. ¹⁰ He who loves money will not be satisfied with money, nor he who loves wealth with his income; this also is vanity. ¹¹ When goods increase, they increase who eat them, and what advantage has their owner but to see them with his eyes? ¹² Sweet is the sleep of a laborer, whether he eats little or much, but the full stomach of the rich will not let him sleep. ¹³ There is a grievous evil that I have seen under the sun: riches were kept by their owner to his hurt, ¹⁴ and those riches were lost in a bad venture. And he is father of a son, but he has nothing in his hand. ¹⁵ As he came from his mother's womb he shall go again, naked as he came, and shall take nothing for his toil that he may carry away in his hand. ¹⁶ This also is a grievous evil: just as he came, so shall he go, and what gain is there to him who toils for the wind? ¹⁷ Moreover, all his days he eats in darkness in much vexation and sickness and

anger. ¹⁸ Behold, what I have seen to be good and fitting is to eat and drink and find enjoyment in all the toil with which one toils under the sun the few days of his life that God has given him, for this is his lot. ¹⁹ Everyone also to whom God has given wealth and possessions and power to enjoy them, and to accept his lot and rejoice in his toil—this is the gift of God. ²⁰ For he will not much remember the days of his life because God keeps him occupied with joy in his heart. ¹ There is an evil that I have seen under the sun, and it lies heavy on mankind: ² a man to whom God gives wealth, possessions, and honor, so that he lacks nothing of all that he desires, yet God does not give him power to enjoy them, but a stranger enjoys them. This is vanity; it is a grievous evil. ³ If a man fathers a hundred children and lives many years, so that the days of his years are many, but his soul is not satisfied with life's good things, and he also has no burial, I say that a stillborn child is better off than he. ⁴ For it comes in vanity and goes in darkness, and in darkness its name is covered. ⁵ Moreover, it has not seen the sun or known anything, yet it finds rest rather than he. ⁶ Even though he should live a thousand years twice over, yet enjoy no good—do not all go to the one place? ⁷ All the toil of man is for his mouth, yet his appetite is not satisfied. ⁸ For what advantage has the wise man over the fool? And what does the poor man have who knows how to conduct himself before the living? ⁹ Better is the sight of the eyes than the wandering of the appetite: this also is vanity and a striving after wind. ¹⁰ Whatever has come to be has already been named, and it is known what man is, and that he is not able to dispute with one stronger than he. ¹¹ The more words, the more vanity, and what is the advantage to man? ¹² For who knows what is good for man while he lives the few days of his vain life, which he passes like a shadow? For who can tell man what will be after him under the sun?

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.

“Man in His Pride (Psalm 49)”

- I. Hear this O peoples of the earth
Hear all you rich and poor
I'll speak with wisdom and my heart
Will now an old proverb explore

Why should I fear in troubled times
Surrounded by my foes
Who to their treasure and their wealth
For refuge and boasting go

*CH: Man in his pride
Like any beast shall die
This is the path of all arrogant fools
Yet men still approve haughty eyes*

2. A man can never pay to God
His life for another's soul
The ransom price is far too great
To let the man live and grow old

He sees that even wise men die
Wealth left to others' hands
Their graves are where they'll always live
Instead of their namesake lands

3. Like sheep the grave shall be their lot
Death shepherds them in hell
The upright rule them all by day
Consumed they'll have no place to dwell

But my God will redeem me from
The power of the grave
Of him whose riches all increase
You shall not be afraid

4. When rich men die they nothing keep
Though they think they are blessed
While praised when prosp'rous they'll soon go
To be with their fathers in death

Words by Tyler Cowden. Music by Emily Moore. Used with permission.

“Be Thou My Vision”

3. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise,
Thou mine inheritance, now and always:
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart,
High king of heaven, my treasure Thou art.

4. High king of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Public Domain. Ancient Irish hymn.

We reSpond to the grAce of the Lord

Offering Meditation

Setting our hope on God alone enables us to have open hands and share, and this is why true giving is an act of worship.

1 Timothy 6:17-19 ^{ESV}

¹⁷ As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. ¹⁸ They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, ¹⁹ thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.

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

Our final hymn presents the opportunity to express our focus upon God, which makes all other things in life, including wealth, meaningful and enjoyable, enabling us to have peace amongst all the pitfalls the accompany the good things of this life.

* "Like a River Glorious" (Trinity Hymnal #699)

Presentation of Mercy Ministry Offerings

(during hymn)

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

July 1, 2018

“A Sobering Consideration of Wealth” (Rev. Mike Biggs)

Ecclesiastes 5:8-6:12

Introduction:

How do we deal with the facts of life with respect to material wealth?

I. We must *understand* the fact that wealth *has real pitfalls*, vv. 1-3.
A. Tyranny.

B. Covetousness.

C. Dependents.

D. Inner turmoil.

- II. We must *embrace* the fact that that wealth is *a good thing*, vv. 4, 5.
 - A. A gift of grace.

B. Two kinds of goodness.

- III. We must *face* the fact that wealth *cannot resolve life's ultimate quandaries*, vv. 6, 7.
 - A. No guarantee of enjoyment.

B. No ultimate meaning.

~~For Your Personal Devotions~~

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study: