



CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, November 22, 2020

"...taking every thought captive to the obedience of Christ..."



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-THE KING-

— 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.

The nursery is currently understaffed.

** Indicates congregational standing*

WE APPROACH THE LORD

Prelude

Call to Worship

We declare as we approach our worship today that our trust is not in "princes," in civil rulers or anyone rather than the Lord our God.

Psalm 146:1–7a ESV

¹ Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD, O my soul!

² I will praise the LORD as long as I live;

I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

³ Put not your trust in princes,

in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

⁴ When his breath departs, he returns to the earth;

on that very day his plans perish.

⁵ Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,

whose hope is in the LORD his God,

⁶ who made heaven and earth,

the sea, and all that is in them,

who keeps faith forever;

⁷ who executes justice for the oppressed,

who gives food to the hungry.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We cast aside all idols as we declare the praises of our only God and King.

"All Praise to God, Who Reigns Above"

(Trinity Hymnal #4)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

The key command here is: "To the Law and to the Testimony" (God's written Word)! This is our plumb-line and our guide always, and we should consult and trust it above all other standards, measuring all things by it.

Isaiah 8:19, 20 ESV

"And when they say to you, "Inquire of the mediums and the necromancers who chirp and mutter," should not a people inquire of their God? Should they inquire of the dead on behalf of the living? ²⁰ To the teaching and to the testimony! If they will not speak according to this word, it is because they have no dawn."

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

This psalm, in addition to seeking forgiveness and mercy, you might notice, asks not for a favorable word from God, but a true one that corrects and guides to the righteousness that brings blessing.

Responsive reading, Psalm 143

(Trinity Hymnal pp. 837, 838)

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

This passage points us to Jesus not only as the one who provided purification for sins, but who is the ultimate revelation to us of God and the one who now is reigning over all things at God's right hand. All this is part of the gospel presented in Scripture.

Hebrews 1:1–4 ^{ESV}

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, ² but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. ³ He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, ⁴ having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

We celebrate both the irony and the beauty of God's grace to His enemies in the well known and beloved hymn, but to a new tune.

"Alas, and Did My Savior Bleed"

(hymn of the month)

Alas and did my savior bleed
Did my Sovereign die?
Would He devote that sacred head
For such a fool as I?

Chorus: The strangeness of love,
my life in Your death
In Your brokenness
my wholeness revealed
Your bonds are my freedom,
Your sorrow my song
And by Your wounds I am healed

Was it for crimes that I have done
He groaned upon the tree?
Amazing pity! Grace unknown!
And love beyond degree!

But drops of grief can ne'er repay
The debt of love I owe:
Here, Lord, I give my self away
'Tis all that I can do.

TAG: And by Your wounds I am healed.

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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

"An Indictment of Leadership"

(Mike Biggs)

* Micah 3

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.

"O Lord, Thou Judge of All the Earth"

(Trinity Hymnal #49)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

Note that David refused to offer to God anything which cost him nothing. Such is the attitude of a man after God's own heart, which should be ours as well.

I Chronicles 21:18-24 ^{ESV}

"Now the angel of the LORD had commanded Gad to say to David that David should go up and raise an altar to the LORD on the threshing floor of Ornan the Jebusite. ¹⁹ So David went up at Gad's word, which he had spoken in the name of the LORD. ²⁰ Now Ornan was threshing wheat. He turned and saw the angel, and his four sons who were with him hid themselves. ²¹ As David came to Ornan, Ornan looked and saw David and went out from the threshing floor and paid homage to David with his face to the ground. ²² And David said to Ornan, "Give me the site of the threshing floor that I may build on it an altar to the LORD—give it to me at its full price—that the plague may be averted from the people." ²³ Then Ornan said to David, "Take it, and let my lord the king do what seems good to him. See, I give the oxen for burnt offerings and the threshing sledges for the wood and the wheat for a grain offering; I give it all." ²⁴ But King David said to Ornan, "No, but I will buy them for the full price. I will not take for the LORD what is yours, nor offer burnt offerings that cost me nothing."

"For the Beauty of the Earth"

(Trinity Hymnal # 116)

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 depart today with the prayer for God to lead us, knowing that He is the only one who can do so infallibly, so that the leaders under Him reflect His rule, will, and leadership.

"Lead On, O King Eternal"

(Trinity Hymnal #580)

Benediction

EBENEZER STONE SERVICE

Dear Friends,

This year we have decided to do something special for our congregation for Thanksgiving. Given the challenges we have all faced during 2020, we believe that a special service geared toward encouraging us by reminding us of God's goodness could be just what the doctor ordered. We have scheduled such a service for Sunday night, November 22, the Sunday before Thanksgiving.

The service is called an "Ebenezer Stone" service. It includes some creative participation from everyone, with the result, hopefully, that all will be reminded of how thankful we should be for the powerful and faithful ways God has worked in our lives. Here is how it works.

As many of you know, the Ebenezer Stone is a reference to the monument set up by the prophet Samuel in I Samuel 7 in response to God's giving Israel victory over the Philistines in battle. It means "stone of help." Samuel places the stone, saying "Till now, the Lord has helped us." Having an Ebenezer Stone Thanksgiving service is an opportunity to come together as a congregation and publicly express gratitude to God for the various ways that He has helped us. Everyone, from the oldest to the youngest in the congregation, is encouraged to participate. This allows everyone to see visual reminders of the Lord's presence and faithfulness to each person and to offer collaborative and celebratory thanksgiving together.

Each person brings an object of personal significance with him to the service. This object can be a literal or symbolic representation of his expression of gratitude to God. He will stand in front of the congregation, briefly (a few sentences at most) describe his

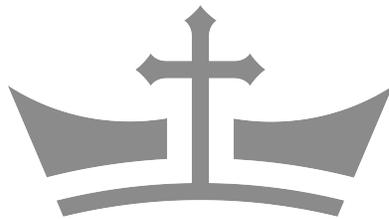
reasons for choosing the object and how it represents God's goodness/presence to him, and place the object on the stone (or near it). Parents may speak on behalf of shy or reluctant children. Objects and expressions of gratitude can be very simple (ex. a favorite stuffed animal, a photograph, a colorful leaf thanking God for changing seasons, a Bible thanking God for His word) or very profound. None need be super spiritual. The purpose is to recognize God's presence and goodness to us collectively and to acknowledge our need for Him to be with us—He is the one who gives, and specifically, who gives victory over His and our enemies. We'll pray specifically for our continual acknowledgement that we need Him, for our tendency to wander, and for His continual work to make His Church (His people) holy—a fitting dwelling for a holy God.

Because we want to maximize participation, the time for the service will be strictly adhered to, so as to respect people's time during the holiday season. We encourage everyone at least to attend, and as many who are willing to participate in sharing their items and thanksgiving. Hopefully, this will be a blessing for our congregation and an encouragement in a difficult year.

Blessings,

Mike (on behalf of the Session of CTK)

Tonight 7:00 p.m.



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