



CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, Sunday, December 3, 2023

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



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— 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.

** Indicates congregational standing*

WE APPROACH THE LORD

Call to Worship

We rehearse in our call to worship the worship of Christ in heaven, recorded in Revelation, and praising Him for opening the seals of (ratifying) the New Covenant, symbolized by a scroll, thus bringing to fulfillment all of God's covenant promises.

Revelation 5 [in the following exchange] ^{ESV}

Leader: Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that He can open the scroll and its seven seals.

Men: Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.

Women: Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!

Congregation: To Him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!

All: Amen!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We begin our celebration of the Christmas season singing the same refrain the angels sang to the first recipients of the announcement of the birth of the Savior, a few humble shepherds on a hillside.

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

(Trinity Hymnal #214)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

Looking to the bronze snake was a sign of looking to Jesus lifted up on a cross, identified with Satan as He bore the sin of His people. Looking to Him in faith is the means of our deliverance from that sin and bondage to Satan.

Numbers 21:4-9 ^{ESV}

From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom. And the people became impatient on the way. ⁵ And the people spoke against God and against Moses, "Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we loathe this worthless food." ⁶ Then the LORD sent fiery serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many people of Israel died. ⁷ And the people came to Moses and said, "We have sinned, for we have spoken against the LORD and against you. Pray to the LORD, that he take away the serpents from us." So Moses prayed for the people. ⁸ And the LORD said to Moses, "Make a fiery serpent and set it on a pole, and everyone who is bitten, when he sees it, shall live." ⁹ So Moses made a bronze serpent and set it on a pole. And if a serpent bit anyone, he would look at the bronze serpent and live.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

God's Kingdom, as we shall see, includes many who were once vile sinners. In this confession, we acknowledge our complicity in such sin, and pray for the grace to participate rather in the establishment of the Kingdom of God.

Almighty and most holy God, who is too holy to look upon evil, and who declares Himself to be a most jealous God, who will not tolerate the idols with which your people at times would replace you, we confess before you our utter shame in excusing and minimizing our offenses against you, treating them as trivial and insignificant, and our self-congratulatory toleration of the evil around us. We have failed to love what you love, and hate what you hate, and have instead embraced the vile things which repulse you and would destroy us. Forgive our foolishness and wickedness we pray, and give us grace enabling us to transcend our desire for peace when there is no peace, and to endure whatever strife is necessary to commit ourselves single-mindedly to the establishment of your Kingdom, beginning with the ruthless mortification of the iniquity within our own hearts, through the power of our risen and victorious Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Looking to the bronze snake was a sign of the means of salvation, looking to Christ lifted up on a cross, while bearing the sin fomented by the ancient Serpent, Satan, for all of His people

John 3:14 ^{ESV}

"And as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up."

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

*We rejoice at the coming of the One who has promised in His covenant to be the God who is **with us**.*

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

(Trinity Hymnal #194)

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, and 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

(Mike Biggs)

"The Jesus You Can Know (XII)—'The Surprising Significance of Genealogies'"

* Matthew 1:1–17

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 and encourage wine for those who take part in Communion. For those with conscientious convictions against the use of wine, however, we offer grape juice, which is contained in the inner circle of the communion trays. The cups containing wine are in the outer circles.

"O Praise the Lord, for He Is Good"

(Trinity Hymnal #83)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

The twenty-four elders, who symbolize the Church, "cast their crowns," that which they have received as a reward from God, "before the throne" in acknowledgment that all comes from God and that He should be recognized and thanked as the reason for and source of all of what we have. We do the same as we "cast" our gifts, the return of a portion of that with which God has blessed us, back to Him in our tithes and offerings, as an act of worship.

Revelation 4:9–11 ESV

And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever,¹⁰ the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying,

11 "Worthy are you, our Lord and God,
to receive glory and honor and power;
for you created all things,
and by your will they existed and were created."

"The Ends of All the Earth Shall Hear"

(Trinity Hymnal #368)

Presentation of Offerings

(See Communion)

* Doxology

(Trinity Hymnal #731)

Prayer of Dedication

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

We depart today remembering Jesus fulfillment of the promise of the coming of a Messiah, and praying for His final coming, and the raising of us to His glorious throne that awaits.

"Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus"

(Trinity Hymnal #196)

Benediction

— SERMON NOTES —

November 26, 2023

"The Jesus You Can Know (XII)—'The Surprising Significance of Genealogies'"
(Mike Biggs)

Matthew 1:1–17

Introduction:

What does the genealogy of Jesus teach about the purpose of His incarnation?

I. Jesus came to *redeem sinners*.

A. The kinsman redeemer:

B. The sinful kinsmen.

II. Jesus came to *fulfill* promises.

A. Father Abraham.

B. Number forty-two.

III. Jesus came to *establish the Kingdom*.

A. King David.

B. Number 14.

— FOR YOUR PERSONAL DEVOTION —

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study:

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)

CoreValues (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



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