

CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, Sunday, December 17, 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 call each other to adore the One who "abhorred not the Virgin's womb" and took upon Himself the likeness of sinful flesh, that we might become "citizens of heaven above."

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

(Trinity Hymnal #208)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

We have been given dominion over the works of God's hands, but have we faithfully executed this responsibility?.

Psalm 8 ^{ESV}

- ¹ O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!
You have set your glory above the heavens.
- ² Out of the mouth of babies and infants,
you have established strength because of your foes,
to still the enemy and the avenger.
- ³ When I look at your heavens, the work of your fingers,
the moon and the stars, which you have set in place,
- ⁴ what is man that you are mindful of him,
and the son of man that you care for him?
- ⁵ Yet you have made him a little lower than the heavenly beings
and crowned him with glory and honor.
- ⁶ You have given him dominion over the works of your hands;
you have put all things under his feet,
- ⁷ all sheep and oxen,
and also the beasts of the field,
- ⁸ the birds of the heavens, and the fish of the sea,
whatever passes along the paths of the seas.
- ⁹ O LORD, our Lord,
how majestic is your name in all the earth!

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

We appeal to God to forgive and enable us, whom He has called to represent Him in His Kingdom, to glorify Him as we exercise the dominion He has granted us, all to His glory.

Almighty God, Ruler of heaven and earth, who has granted mankind the inestimable privilege and honor of bearing your image and embodying your rule, we confess our negligence, self-centeredness, and rebellion in not only failing to represent you faithfully by subduing all things, including ourselves, to your righteous Law, but also participating in the idolatry of an alternate, rival kingdom, established and promoted by the god of this world, the enemy of our souls, the Devil. In persistent foolishness we have followed him, the prince of the power of the air, seeking to gratify the cravings of our sinful flesh, rather than fulfilling our covenant obligations to submit to and follow the Prince of Peace, and so

become subject to vanity. We lament our sin and misery, and now turn back again in faith to our faithful Redeemer, the One who alone can save us and restore us to the place you have ordained for us. We remember the redemption that you have provided through Christ our Lord, and your promise that sin shall not be the master of those who trust in Him, because we are under grace. We trust in His shed blood to atone for our sin. We submit to the Spirit, whom He has poured out to subdue us again to His rule and write His Law on our hearts. We look to His return and the consummation of His Kingdom, that in us, restored to your image, we might rule with Him and apply your ultimate rule, and thus bring you glory, honor, praise, and delight. Amen.

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Both our right and our ability to rule over God's creation, and accordingly the Kingdom of God, have been restored in Christ, the true image of God, in whom that same image is renewed in us (Ephesians 4:22-24; Colossians 3:10).

Hebrews 2:5–9 ESV

For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. ⁶ It has been testified somewhere,

“What is man, that you are mindful of him,
or the son of man, that you care for him?

⁷ You made him for a little while lower than the angels;
you have crowned him with glory and honor;

⁸ putting everything in subjection under his feet.”

Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him.

⁹ But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

We rejoice together at the Good News that Christ, who was born to save, has opened heaven's door, and man is blessed forevermore.

"Good Christian Men, Rejoice"

(Trinity Hymnal #207)

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 (XIII)—'The Lion Who Is the Lamb'"

* Luke 1:67–79

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.

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

(Trinity Hymnal #311)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

God gave because He loved, and so we give out of our love for Him.

John 3:16, 17 ^{ESV}

For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life. ¹⁷ For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

(Trinity Hymnal #648)

Presentation of Offerings

(See Communion)

* Doxology

(Trinity Hymnal #731)

Prayer of Dedication

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

We close today's worship continuing our theme of identifying as little children who in that spirit embrace the Kingdom of God which Jesus came to restore.

"Once in Royal David's City"

(Trinity Hymnal #225)

Benediction

— SERMON NOTES —

December 17, 2023

"The Jesus You Can Know (XIII)—'The Lion Who Is the Lamb'"

(Mike Biggs)

Luke 1:67–79

Introduction:

How does Jesus ensure the fulfillment of God's covenant promises?

I. Jesus fulfills the Abrahamic Covenant.

A. The Covenant of Promise.

B. The Seed of the Woman.

II. Jesus fulfills the Sinaitic (Mosaic) Covenant.

A. The Covenant of Law.

B. The Sender of the Spirit.

III. Jesus fulfills the Davidic Covenant.

A. The Covenant of Kingdom.

B. The Son of David.

— 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...

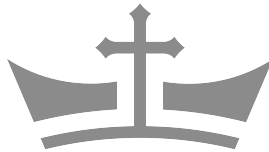
- adding people (incorporation)
- building people (edification)

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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