



CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, December 17, 2017

“...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

We come to God's Temple (God's people, the Church) both to praise Him and to enjoy the goodness which flows to us when we experience His presence among His people, as these verses declare.

Psalm 65:1-4 ESV

Leader:

- 1 Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion,
and to you shall vows be performed.
- 2 O you who hear prayer,
to you shall all flesh come.

Congregation:

- 3 When iniquities prevail against me,
you atone for our transgressions.
- 4 Blessed is the one you choose and bring near,
to dwell in your courts!
We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house,
the holiness of your temple!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We worship the One Who has come to redeem His people and to live among us forever.

“Joy to the World! The Lord Is Come” (Trinity Hymnal #195)

* Reading from the Law

We are required to understand the threat of the presence of God so that we might appreciate its privilege and blessing.

Exodus 33:1-17 ESV

¹ The Lord said to Moses, “Depart; go up from here, you and the people whom you have brought up out of the land of Egypt, to the land of which I swore to Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, saying, ‘To your offspring I will give it.’ ² I will send an angel before you, and I will drive out the Canaanites, the Amorites, the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Hivites, and the Jebusites. ³ Go up to a land flowing with milk and honey; but I will not go up among you, lest I consume you on the way, for you are a stiff-necked people.” ⁴ When the people heard this disastrous word, they mourned, and no one put on his ornaments. ⁵ For the Lord had said to Moses, “Say to the people of Israel, ‘You are a stiff-necked people; if for a single moment I should go up among you, I would consume you. So now take off your ornaments, that I may know what to do with you.’” ⁶ Therefore the people of Israel stripped themselves of their ornaments, from Mount Horeb onward. ⁷ Now Moses used to take the tent and pitch it outside the camp, far off from the camp, and he called it the tent of meeting. And everyone who sought the Lord would go out to the tent of meeting, which was outside the camp. ⁸ Whenever Moses went out to the tent, all the people would rise up, and each would stand at his tent door, and watch Moses until he had gone into the tent. ⁹ When Moses entered the tent, the pillar of cloud would descend and stand at the entrance of the tent, and the Lord would speak with Moses. ¹⁰ And when all the people saw the pillar of cloud standing at the entrance of the tent, all the people would rise up and worship, each at his tent door. ¹¹ Thus the Lord used to speak to Moses face to face, as a man speaks to his friend. When Moses turned again into the camp, his assistant Joshua the son of Nun, a young man, would not depart from the tent. ¹² Moses said to the Lord, “See, you say to me, ‘Bring up this people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.’ ¹³ Now therefore, if I have found favor in your sight, please show me now your ways, that I may know you in order to find favor in your sight. Consider too that this

nation is your people.”¹⁴ And he said, “My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”¹⁵ And he said to him, “If your presence will not go with me, do not bring us up from here.¹⁶ For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people? Is it not in your going with us, so that we are distinct, I and your people, from every other people on the face of the earth?”¹⁷ And the Lord said to Moses, “This very thing that you have spoken I will do, for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name.”

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

In this hymn we pray for the realization of the heart of God's covenant promises: His presence with us, in the process acknowledging that only His saving presence can ransom us from slavery to our sin.

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” (Trinity Hymnal #194)

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

God has reconciled us to Himself through the body of Christ.

Colossians 1:19-22; Hebrews 10:19-23 ^{ESV}

¹⁹ For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross. ²¹ And you, who once were alienated and hostile in mind, doing evil deeds, ²² he has now reconciled in his body of flesh by his death, in order to present you holy and blameless and above reproach before him, ¹⁹ Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, ²⁰ by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, ²¹ and since we have a great priest over the house of God, ²² let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. ²³ Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful.

* Hymn of Assurance

The herald, the public pronouncement, that angels sing is, as the hymn proclaims, "God and sinners reconciled!"

"Hark the Herald Angels Sing" (Trinity Hymnal #203)

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

“The Dedication of the Temple:A Christmas Celebration”

(Rev. Mike Biggs)

* I Kings 8 ^{ESV}

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.

“Highways in our Hearts - Psalm 84”

1. How lovely your dwelling place, LORD of hosts!
My soul longs and faints even for the LORD's courts!
My heart and my flesh to the living God sing!
A sparrow will there find a home.
A swallow a nest also has for herself,
And there with your altars her young she has laid.
2. My king and my God, LORD of Hosts, they are blessed
Who dwell in your house; they will praise you again !
And blessed is the man who finds his strength in you;
In their heart there are highways. As they journey on,
The Valley of Baca they make like a spring;
It also is covered with blessings by rain.
3. From strength unto strength they will walk, then appear
Before God At Zion. O LORD, God of Hosts,
Attend to my prayer; God of Jacob, give ear.
O God see our shield; Your Messiah's face view!
Because just one day spent inside of your courts
Is better by far than one thousand removed.
4. To stand, O my God, at the door of your house,
I'd choose over living in tents full of sin.
Because the LORD God is a sun and a shield,
The LORD will give glory and grace.
From those walking rightly no good will refuse —
O blessed is the man, LORD of hosts, who trusts in you!

from Highways in our Hearts, released May 28, 2015 Lead vocalist: Esther Ellis CCL #2223976.

“Praise Waits for Thee in Zion” (Trinity Hymnal #372) vv. 1,2

Offering Meditation

We come to the Temple in part, like the psalmist, to offer sacrifices to our God. These sacrifices no longer involve the shedding of blood, because this has been finally and fully done by Christ. But God still wants us to present to Him, in the context of worship, sacrifices of praise and gratitude, in the form of tithes and offerings. So this psalm exemplifies the proper posture of the worshiper for us as well as for Old Testament saints.

Psalm 66:13-15 ESV

- 13 I will come into your house with burnt offerings;
I will perform my vows to you,
14 that which my lips uttered
and my mouth promised when I was in trouble.
15 I will offer to you burnt offerings of fattened animals,
with the smoke of the sacrifice of rams;
I will make an offering of bulls and goats.

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

*As we close our worship today, we pray for the establishment of
our hearts as the Temple of God, with all that that entails.*

* "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates" (Trinity Hymnal #198)

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

December 17, 2017

“The Dedication of the Temple: A Christmas Celebration”

(Rev. Mike Biggs)

I Kings 8

Introduction:

How does the Old Testament Temple point to the Incarnation (Christmas)?

I. The Temple proclaims *the atonement* enabled by the Incarnation, vv. 1-11.

A. Covenant stipulations.

B. Covenant sanctions.

II. The Temple symbolizes *the intimacy* established by the Incarnation, vv. 12-27.

A. The work of the Son of David.

B. The dwelling place of God.

- III. The Temple inspires *the reconciliation* accomplished by the Incarnation, vv. 28-53.
 - A. The place of prayer.

- B. The only hope.

~~For Your Personal Devotions~~

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study: