

CHRIST - THE KING -

The Lord's Day, Sunday, April 17, 2022

"...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

(the Sursum Corda (modified))

We worship the triune God in the power of the Spirit, and here express the propriety of the worship in which we now engage, combining an ancient expression of the Church's conviction with words from the recorded worship of heaven in Revelation 5.

Leader: Lift up your hearts!

Congregation: **We lift them up to the Lord!**

Leader: Let us worship God.

Congregation: **It is fitting and right so to do.**

Leader: And so with angels, the ascended saints, and all the hosts of heaven, we laud and magnify your holy Name, saying,

All: **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God of hosts! Heaven and earth are full of His Glory! To Him who sits upon the throne and to the Lamb who was slain be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!**

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

With all the joy that awareness of Christ's Resurrection triumph produces, we call each other to worship Him.

"Worship Christ, the Risen King!"

(Trinity Hymnal #286)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

God's law always pointed to the reality of the resurrection, both that of Christ, and then of them that belong to Him. We are obligated thus to trust in its realization.

Numbers 19:11–13 ^{ESV}

Whoever touches the dead body of any person shall be unclean seven days. ¹² He shall cleanse himself with the water on the third day and on the seventh day, and so be clean. But if he does not cleanse himself on the third day and on the seventh day, he will not become clean. ¹³ Whoever touches a dead person, the body of anyone who has died, and does not cleanse himself, defiles the tabernacle of the LORD, and that person shall be cut off from Israel; because the water for impurity was not thrown on him, he shall be unclean. His uncleanness is still on him.

Silent Confession of Sin Corporate Confession of Sin

This prayer of confession, as you might notice, is based on the theology of resurrection as it points to the new life to which we aspire and which we ask God in His mercy to produce in us following the mortification (i.e., the putting to death) of our sin.

Lord God! Eternal and Almighty Father, we acknowledge and confess before Your holy Majesty that we are poor sinners, conceived and born in guilt and in corruption, prone to do evil, unable of ourselves to do any good, who, by reason of our depravity, transgress without end Your holy commandments. Therefore, we have drawn upon ourselves, by Your just sentence, condemnation and death. But, Oh Lord! With heartfelt sorrow, we repent and deplore our offenses. We condemn ourselves and our evil ways, with true repentance beseeching that Your grace may relieve our distress.

Be pleased to have compassion on us, O most gracious God, Father of all mercies, for the sake of Your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. And in removing our guilt and our pollution, grant us the daily increase of the grace of Your Holy Spirit, that acknowledging from our inmost heart our own unrighteousness, we may be touched with sorrow that shall work true repentance, and that Your Spirit, mortifying all sin within us, may produce the fruits of holiness, righteousness, and new life well pleasing in Your sight. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Christ has provided the definitive answer to death, conquering it by resolving the problem of our sin through His death and perfect life.

I Corinthians 15:20–23, 29 ESV

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. ²¹ For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. ²² For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive. ²³ But each in his own order: Christ the firstfruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ.

²⁹ Otherwise, what do people mean by being baptized on behalf of the dead? If the dead are not raised at all, why are people baptized on their behalf?

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

We rejoice together in the center of the Gospel: Christ's resurrection victory!

"The Day of Resurrection!"

(Trinity Hymnal #267)

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 will participate in corporate prayer as the worship leader mentions a list of topics. As each item is mentioned, the congregation should respond with, "We offer these our prayers," followed by a brief silent, individual prayer.

WE HEAR INSTRUCTION FROM THE LORD

Sermon

(Mike Biggs)

"Why Death Is Necessary"

* I Corinthians 15:35–58

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.

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

The Sadducees, who were the priestly class, presided over the ritual sacrifices brought to the Temple by God's people. But ironically, as unbelievers in resurrection, they were presiding over offerings to a God who proclaimed Himself the God of those who were dead. Jesus offers a needed correction to both them and us as we present our offerings to God.

Matthew 22:23–33 ESV

The same day Sadducees came to him, who say that there is no resurrection, and they asked him a question, ²⁴ saying, "Teacher, Moses said, 'If a man dies having no children, his brother must marry the widow and raise up offspring for his brother.' ²⁵ Now there were seven brothers among us. The first married and died, and having no offspring left his wife to his brother. ²⁶ So too the second and third, down to the seventh. ²⁷ After them all, the woman died. ²⁸ In the resurrection, therefore, of the seven, whose wife will she be? For they all had her."

²⁹ But Jesus answered them, "You are wrong, because you know neither the Scriptures nor the power of God. ³⁰ For in the resurrection they neither marry nor are given in marriage, but are like angels in heaven. ³¹ And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God: ³² 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not God of the dead, but of the living." ³³ And when the crowd heard it, they were astonished at his teaching.

"Jesus, I Live to Thee"

(Trinity Hymnal #516)

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 leave our fellowship today with the grand truth upon our lips: Christ
the Lord is risen, both today and forevermore!*

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

(Trinity Hymnal #277)

Benediction

— SERMON NOTES —

April 17, 2022

"Why Death Is Necessary"

(Mike Biggs)

I Corinthians 15:35-58

Introduction:

Why is death necessary in most cases for saved Christian?

I. Death is necessary because it was always a part of God's plan for His people, vv. 35-41.

A. *The impression our perception generates.*

B. *The wonder our experience produces.*

II. Death is necessary because it is the pathway to the fullness of eternal life, vv. 42-49.

A. Realizing what matters.

B. Prioritizing what matters.

III. Death is necessary because it is the mechanism for the revelation of God's glory, vv. 50-58.

A. The sting of death.

B. The victory of Christ.

— 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...

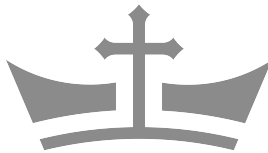
- adding people (incorporation)
- building people (edification)

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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