



CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, Sunday, July 25, 2021

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



CHRIST - 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.

** Indicates congregational standing*

WE APPROACH THE LORD

Prelude

Call to Worship

We are motivated to praise the Lord and sing for joy by the fact that God deals with His people in mercy rather than judgment.

Psalms 32, 33:1–5 ESV

A Maskil of David.

- ¹ Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven,
whose sin is covered.
- ² Blessed is the man against whom the LORD counts no iniquity,
and in whose spirit there is no deceit.
- ³ For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away
through my groaning all day long.
- ⁴ For day and night your hand was heavy upon me;
my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. *Selah*
- ⁵ I acknowledged my sin to you,
and I did not cover my iniquity;
I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the LORD,"
and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. *Selah*
- ⁶ Therefore let everyone who is godly
offer prayer to you at a time when you may be found;
surely in the rush of great waters,
they shall not reach him.
- ⁷ You are a hiding place for me;
you preserve me from trouble;
you surround me with shouts of deliverance. *Selah*
- ⁸ I will instruct you and teach you in the way you should go;
I will counsel you with my eye upon you.
- ⁹ Be not like a horse or a mule, without understanding,
which must be curbed with bit and bridle,
or it will not stay near you.
- ¹⁰ Many are the sorrows of the wicked,
but steadfast love surrounds the one who trusts in the LORD.
- ¹¹ Be glad in the LORD, and rejoice, O righteous,
and shout for joy, all you upright in heart!
- ^{33:1} Shout for joy in the LORD, O you righteous!
Praise befits the upright.
- ² Give thanks to the LORD with the lyre;
make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!

- ³ Sing to him a new song;
play skillfully on the strings, with loud shouts.
⁴ For the word of the LORD is upright,
and all his work is done in faithfulness.
⁵ He loves righteousness and justice;
the earth is full of the steadfast love of the LORD.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We begin our worship today by praising God for His mercy and grace

"Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven"

(Trinity Hymnal #76)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

The standard for judgment among the people of God, not only in legal courts, but also in all of life, is to be righteous judgment according to God's law, without partiality.

Deuteronomy 1:16, 17 ^{ESV}

"And I charged your judges at that time, 'Hear the cases between your brothers, and judge righteously between a man and his brother or the alien who is with him. 17 You shall not be partial in judgment. You shall hear the small and the great alike. You shall not be intimidated by anyone, for the judgment is God's. And the case that is too hard for you, you shall bring to me, and I will hear it.'"

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

This confession frankly acknowledges that, were God to deal with us strictly in accord with His law and our conformity to it (or lack thereof!), we would have no hope. It therefore asserts and appeals to God's mercy in Christ as our only hope and as the Rock on which we stand.

O eternal God and merciful Father, we humble ourselves before Your great Majesty against which we have frequently and grievously sinned. We acknowledge that we deserve nothing less than eternal death. We are unclean before You and children of wrath. We continually transgress Your commandments; failing to do what You have commanded us, and doing that which You have expressly forbidden. We all like sheep have gone astray; we have turned everyone to his own way. We acknowledge our waywardness, and are heartily sorry for all our sins. We confess to our humiliation and to the praise of Your mercy that our transgressions are innumerable, and that our debt is so great that we cannot even begin to repay. We are not worthy to be called Your children, nor to lift up our eyes heavenward to You in prayer.

Nevertheless, O Lord God and gracious Father, we know that You do not desire the death of the sinner, but rather that he should turn to You and live; we know that Your mercy toward those who turn to You is infinite; and so we take courage to call upon You from the depths of our hearts, trusting in our Mediator Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God Who takes away the sin of the world. Forgive all our sins for Christ's sake. Have compassion upon us in our infirmities. Wash us in the pure fountain of His blood, so that we may become clean and white as snow. Cover us with His innocence and righteousness, for the glory of Your Name. Deliver our understanding from all blindness, and our hearts from all willfulness and rebellion. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Our hope is in the fact that, for the sake of Christ, God deals with us in mercy and grace, not in terms of what we merit by our deeds.

Romans 4:1–8 ^{ESV}

What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? ² For if Abraham was justified by works, he

has something to boast about, but not before God. ³ For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." ⁴ Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. ⁵ And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness, ⁶ just as David also speaks of the blessing of the one to whom God counts righteousness apart from works:

⁷ "Blessed are those whose lawless deeds are forgiven,
and whose sins are covered;

⁸ blessed is the man against whom the Lord will not count his sin."

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

*** Hymn of Assurance**

Our focus in this hymn of gratitude is on the mercy and grace of God, qualities which, as we shall see again in today's sermon, we are called to emulate.

"Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder"

(Trinity Hymnal #172)

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)

"Partiality: An Inappropriate Judgment"

* James 2:1-13

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.

"Hallelujah! Raise, O Raise"

(Trinity Hymnal #54)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

We give because our giving funds the Church's mission to those in need in the world, which our love demands, if it is love in deed, and not in word only.

1 John 3:16–18 ^{ESV}

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. ¹⁷ But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? ¹⁸ Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

"Thou Who Wast Rich beyond All Splendor" *(Trinity Hymnal #230)*

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 today singing a prayer that God will take an offering of our lives (Romans 12:1, 2) in selfless service to Him and to others, which is part of the essence, as we have seen, of true religion.

"Take My Life, and Let It Be" *(Trinity Hymnal #585)*

Benediction

— SERMON NOTES —

July 25, 2021

"Partiality: An Inappropriate Judgment"

James 2:1–13

(Mike Biggs)

Introduction:

How should believers in Christ conceive of the sin of partiality?

I. We should *perceive the sinfulness* that partiality entails, vv. 1-4.

A. Judging and discrimination.

B. Sin and discrimination.

II. We should *correct the confusion* that partiality produces, vv. 5-7.

A. God-centered distinction.

B. Self-centered distortion.

III. We should *beware the judgment* that partiality invites, vv. 8-13.

A. Judgment and law.

B. Judgment and mercy.

— FOR YOUR PERSONAL DEVOTION —

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study: