

CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, Sunday, August 13, 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

*This psalm is uniquely appropriate for a call to worship today, because of the various elements it contains, which mesh with the themes of our sermon text. It enjoins us to praise God for the fact that He is the transcendent source of all our blessings (vv. 1-6). It then calls us to thank Him for His abundant goodness (benefits bestowed on all His creatures), based on His **steadfast love** (Hebrew "hesed"; vv. 7-11). Finally, it calls for praise from His people, rehearsing His blessings to them, culminating in the mention of the gracious revelation of His Law (vv. 12-20).*

Psalms 147 ESV

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

The name of Jehovah (actually "Yahweh," as we have seen) we now praise, call each other to praise, and rejoice in its eventual universal praise among all His creatures.

"All You That Fear Jehovah's Name"

(Trinity Hymnal #9)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

*The imperative in this story is that we must relate to the name of Jesus in the proper way, that is, **covenantally**. The power of Jesus' name is a blessing only to those who commit themselves to Him in faith as Lord. His name is never a magical incantation that can be gratuitously used to obtain power for ourselves.*

Acts 19:11-20 ESV

And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, ¹² so that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them. ¹³ Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists undertook to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had

evil spirits, saying, "I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims." ¹⁴ Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing this. ¹⁵ But the evil spirit answered them, "Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?" ¹⁶ And the man in whom was the evil spirit leaped on them, mastered all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. ¹⁷ And this became known to all the residents of Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks. And fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was extolled. ¹⁸ Also many of those who were now believers came, confessing and divulging their practices. ¹⁹ And a number of those who had practiced magic arts brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted the value of them and found it came to fifty thousand pieces of silver. ²⁰ So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

*We **take courage** to seek the mercy of the Lord, because of the revelation to us that He is a gracious God who desires our salvation, and will give it to all who seek Him in faith. We also acknowledge that He does this for the glory of His Name, in which we who have been saved exult.*

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

*You might think, at first glance, that this passage is not an expression of the gospel as you have understood it. Yet the gospel, as we have seen many times before, is the gospel of the Kingdom, which is the emphasis of this passage as the "good news" about the eventual recognition that Jesus is Lord, and that this is the **name** He has inherited **as a man** for us. In the first place, the gospel is the announcement of the historical **events** through which this is established, which form the content of this passage.*

Philippians 2:5–11 ^{ESV}

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶ who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷ but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸ And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹ Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰ so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹ and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

The revelation of God's holiness leads us to an awareness of our uncleanness and sin. The revelation of His love and mercy leads us to seek reconciliation through His grace.

"Poor Sinner, Dejected, with Fear"

1. Poor sinner, dejected with fear;
Unbosom thy mind to the Lamb;
No wrath on His brow He does wear;
Nor will He poor mourners condemn;
His arm of omnipotent grace
Is able and willing to save;
A sweet and a permanent peace
He'll freely and faithfully give.
2. Come just as thou art, with thy woe,
Fall down at the feet of the Lamb;
He will not, He cannot say, "Go",
But surely will take out thy stain
A fountain is opened for sin,
And thousands its virtues have proved
He'll take thee, and plunge thee therein,
And wash thee from filth in His blood.
3. The soul that on Jesus relies,
He'll never; no never deceive;
He freely and faithfully gives
More blessings than we can conceive;
Yea, down to old age He will keep,
Nor will He forsake us at last;
He knows and is known by His sheep;
They're His, and He will hold them fast.

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)

"Knowing God through the Covenant of Grace" (continued)

* Exodus 34

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.

"Jesus, My Great High Priest"

(Trinity Hymnal #306)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

The sacrifices of the New Covenant are in part those which we offer in our worship, sharing what we have (what God has given us) as sacrifices of praise to God.

Hebrews 13:15, 16 ESV

Through him then let us continually offer up a sacrifice of praise to God, that is, the fruit of lips that acknowledge his name. ¹⁶ Do not neglect to do good and to share what you have, for such sacrifices are pleasing to God.

"Praise the Savior, Ye Who Know Him"

(Trinity Hymnal #677)

Presentation of Offerings

(See Communion)

*** Doxology**

(Trinity Hymnal #731)

Prayer of Dedication

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

As we leave today, we again meditate upon and sing of one of the most profound truths which God's Word expounds: that the God who loves us with an everlasting, unrelenting love causes that Love to triumph in and through all the trials and tribulations this world impinges upon us, **at His sovereign direction**, so that, in the end, the flow of our lives might be infinitely rich and full, in the ocean-depths of that Love.

"O Love That Will Not Let Me Go"

(hymn of the month)

1. O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.
2. O light that followest all my way,
I yield my flickering torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,
That in thy sunshines blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.
3. O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.
4. O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust lifes glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

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Benediction

— SERMON NOTES —

August 13, 2023

"Knowing God through the Covenant of Grace"

(Mike Biggs)

Exodus 34

Introduction:

What must we understand about how the covenant of grace enables us to know God?

- I. The Covenant of Grace makes known the grace of God.
 - A. The meaning of LORD (Yahweh).
 - B. The emphasis on grace.
 - C. The retention of justice.

II. The Covenant of Grace makes known the goodness of the Law.

A. Faithfulness of God.

B. Marriage to God.

C. Fellowship with God.

III. The Covenant of Grace makes known the indispensability of Jesus.

A. The insufficiency of Moses.

B. The sufficiency 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...

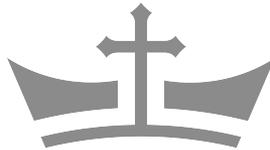
- adding people (incorporation)
- building people (edification)

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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