



CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, Sunday, September 12, 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

Call to Worship

This passage juxtaposes the two facets of God's character that, when brought together, inspire our worship: His transcendent greatness and His divine humility, epitomized in the Incarnation of Christ.

Psalm 95:1–7b ESV

- ¹ Oh come, let us sing to the LORD;
let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!
- ² Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;
let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise!
- ³ For the LORD is a great God,
and a great King above all gods.
- ⁴ In his hand are the depths of the earth;
the heights of the mountains are his also.
- ⁵ The sea is his, for he made it,
and his hands formed the dry land.
- ⁶ Oh come, let us worship and bow down;
let us kneel before the LORD, our Maker!
- ⁷ For he is our God,
and we are the people of his pasture,
and the sheep of his hand.

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

*** Hymn of Praise**

We express as we begin our worship our desire for all glory to go to God rather than to any degree to ourselves or anyone or anything else.

"To God Be the Glory"

(Trinity Hymnal #55)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

This passage calls pride “the lamp of the wicked,” unlike the righteous, to whom the Word of the Lord is a lamp and a light. Meditate on the meaning of that contrast.

Proverbs 21:4 ESV

Haughty eyes and a proud heart,
the lamp of the wicked, are sin.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

In this prayer of confession we emphasize acknowledgment of our pride, which leads us to think that we can exist apart from God.

O Most merciful Father, Who gives life to everything that breathes and Whose eyes are too pure to gaze upon iniquity, we lay before You our sin and uncleanness in utter shame and humiliation. In direct defiance of our continuing debt to live unto You, acknowledge You, serve You and obey You, we have turned into ourselves and to our own way, pursuing our own ends as if we could create our own meaning, so rendering ourselves liable to Your just wrath and the penalty of death. We despise our ways, but confess that we are utterly powerless to change them or to please You truly to any degree. But we remember that You have declared Yourself to be the gracious and compassionate God, slow to anger and abounding in love and faithfulness. We thus cast ourselves upon Your mercy, believing Your precious promise that those who come to You You will in no wise cast out. We know and trust that, for the sake of Your dear Son, our Savior, You will not only forgive both our sins and our sin, but also grant us power like unto that by which You raised Him from the dead to walk in newness of life, not for the sake of any merit which we obtain thereby, but solely for the glory of the Name which is above every name, in which we offer this our prayer. Amen.

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

In this picture of the new heavens and earth, fulfilled in the New Covenant, we see that those who experience this blessing are the "humble and contrite in spirit."

Isaiah 65:17–66:2 ^{ESV}

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

The work of Christ on the cross, by which our sin was atoned, is also the model for the humility and selflessness we are called to emulate.

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

(Trinity Hymnal #252)

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)

"Crucifying Pride"

* James 4:13–5:20

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.

"Not unto Us, O Lord of Heaven"

(Trinity Hymnal #67)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

This story exemplifies how the gospel of God's grace confronts the proud with their uncleanness before God and leads them to the humility that embraces His salvation (read the story!). It also shows how this humility, borne of the reception of grace, results in a powerful impulse toward the grace of giving, which we all likewise have the opportunity to express in worship now.

2 Kings 5:15 ^{ESV}

Then he returned to the man of God, he and all his company, and he came and stood before him. And he said, "Behold, I know that there is no God in all the earth but in Israel; so accept now a present from your servant."

"Thou Art the Way"

(Trinity Hymnal #154)

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 close our worship today with a declaration that we will take our stand, not on our autonomous pride and against God, but in devotion to His glory and the determination to glory in Him alone.

"Beneath the Cross of Jesus"

(Trinity Hymnal #251)

Benediction

SERMON NOTES

September 12, 2021

"Crucifying Pride"

James 4:13–5:20

(Mike Biggs)

Introduction:

What are the key elements of dealing with sinful pride in our lives?

I. We must abandon the presumption of sovereignty over our lives, 4:13-17.

A. Autonomy.

B. Arrogance.

C. Impertinence.

II. We must embrace the reality of accountability for our lives,
5:1-6.

A. The delusion of ethical immunity.

B. The wickedness of abusive privilege.

C. The terror of divine accountability.

III. We must accept the experiences of suffering in our lives,
5:7-20.

A. Dependent patience.

B. Dependent prayer.

— FOR YOUR PERSONAL DEVOTION —

Points of Application:

Memorable Illustrations:

Evaluation:

Questions for Further Study: