

CHRIST

— THE KING —

The Lord's Day, Sunday, July 9, 2023

"...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

We are called to worship God and respond by exhorting our souls to bless the Lord because of the manifold expressions of His constant love to us.

Psalms 100, 103:1–5 *ESV*

100:1 Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!

[leader]

2 Serve the LORD with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

3 Know that the LORD, he is God!

*It is he who made us, and we are his;
we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.*

4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving,

and his courts with praise!

Give thanks to him; bless his name!

5 For the LORD is good;

*his steadfast love endures forever,
and his faithfulness to all generations.*

103:1 Bless the LORD, O my soul,

and all that is within me,

bless his holy name!

2 Bless the LORD, O my soul,

and forget not all his benefits,

3 who forgives all your iniquity,

who heals all your diseases,

4 who redeems your life from the pit,

who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,

5 who satisfies you with good

so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

[people]

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

In this hymn we speak once again to our own souls, exhorting ourselves to bless the Lord, and then reminding ourselves of His nature and goodness towards us and all His creation.

"O Come, My Soul, Bless Thou the Lord"

(Trinity Hymnal #6)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

The Sabbath was a sign to Israel of the rest to which God had called them as His holy people. The heart of this holiness was faith: a determination to trust God's Word rather than their own wisdom and effort. Ironically, obedience to the Law, which they could never achieve through their own work and effort, was only achieved through the trust that allowed them to rest from their effort and depend upon God.

Exodus 16:2–4, 14–30 ^{ESV}

And the whole congregation of the people of Israel grumbled against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness,³ and the people of Israel said to them, "Would that we had died by the hand of the LORD in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the meat pots and ate bread to the full, for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger!"⁴ Then the LORD said to Moses, "Behold, I am about to rain bread from heaven for you, and the people shall go out and gather a day's portion every day, that I may test them, whether they will walk in my law or not.

¹⁴ And when the dew had gone up, there was on the face of the wilderness a fine, flake-like thing, fine as frost on the ground.¹⁵ When the people of Israel saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. And Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.¹⁶ This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Gather of it, each one of you, as much as he can eat. You shall each take an omer, according to the number of the persons that each of you has in his tent.'" ¹⁷ And the people of Israel did so. They gathered, some more, some less.¹⁸ But when they measured it with an omer, whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack. Each of them gathered as much as he could eat.¹⁹ And Moses said to them, "Let no one leave any of it over till the morning."²⁰ But they did not listen to Moses. Some left part of it till the morning, and it bred worms and stank. And Moses was angry with them.²¹ Morning by morning they gathered it, each as much as he could eat; but when the sun grew hot, it melted.

²² On the sixth day they gathered twice as much bread, two omers each. And when all the leaders of the congregation came and told Moses,²³ he said to them, "This is what the LORD has commanded: 'Tomorrow is a day of solemn rest, a holy Sabbath to the LORD; bake what you will bake and boil what you will boil, and all that is left over lay aside to be kept till the morning.'" ²⁴ So they laid it aside till the morning, as Moses commanded them, and it did not stink, and there were no worms in it.²⁵ Moses said, "Eat it today, for today is a Sabbath to the LORD; today you will not find it

in the field.²⁶ Six days you shall gather it, but on the seventh day, which is a Sabbath, there will be none.”

²⁷ On the seventh day some of the people went out to gather, but they found none.²⁸ And the LORD said to Moses, “How long will you refuse to keep my commandments and my laws? ²⁹ See! The LORD has given you the Sabbath; therefore on the sixth day he gives you bread for two days. Remain each of you in his place; let no one go out of his place on the seventh day.”³⁰ So the people rested on the seventh day.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

Notice that the psalmist here not only cries to the Lord for mercy, but also turns to Him as his “refuge” and “portion,” and asks Him to free him from his prison, recalling the bondage of God’s people in Egypt, and our bondage to the self-reliance which epitomizes the futility and vanity of sin.

Responsive reading, Psalm 142

(Trinity Hymnal p. 837)

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Jesus is the only one who can give us true rest from the curse of the Fall upon our work, converting it to a slavery to endlessly frustrating toil and a struggle for life. His salvation does not mean an abolishment of work or responsibility (“Take my yoke upon you...”), but a transformation of work for God into a delight like unto His own on the Sabbath Day, when our work is done in the power of God for the glory of God.

Matthew 11:28–30 ESV

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.²⁹ Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls.³⁰ For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

We rejoice in the rest the work of our Savior has accomplished for us as we rely by faith totally upon that work to give us life.

"My Faith Has Found a Resting Place"

(Trinity Hymnal #468)

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)

"Sabbath Rest: The Goal of Our Creation" ("Biblical Church Growth" Part III)

* Exodus 31:12–18

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.

"How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds"

(Trinity Hymnal #647)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

We give out of the resources that God has apportioned to us, not according to what others can or have given. This is the "equity" that God has ordained in the matter of giving to build His church.

2 Corinthians 8:9–15 ^{ESV}

For you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that though he was rich, yet for your sake he became poor, so that you by his poverty might become rich. ¹⁰ And in this matter I give my judgment: this benefits you, who a year ago started not only to do this work but also to desire to do it. ¹¹ So now finish doing it as well, so that your readiness in desiring it may be matched by your completing it out of what you have. ¹² For if the readiness is there, it is acceptable according to what a person has, not according to what he does not have. ¹³ For I do not mean that others

should be eased and you burdened, but that as a matter of fairness ¹⁴ your abundance at the present time should supply their need, so that their abundance may supply your need, that there may be fairness. ¹⁵ As it is written, "Whoever gathered much had nothing left over, and whoever gathered little had no lack."

"My Maker and My King"

(w. 1,4)

1. My Maker and my King,
To Thee my all I owe;
Thy sovereign bounty is the spring
Whence all my blessings flow;
Thy sovereign bounty is the spring
Whence all my blessings flow.

4. O! Let Thy grace inspire
My soul with strength divine;
Let every word and each desire
And all my days be Thine.
Let every word and each desire
And all my days be Thine.

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Presentation of Offerings

(See Communion)

* **Doxology**

(Trinity Hymnal #731)

Prayer of Dedication

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

We close our worship with a celebration of the glory of the Church, Christ's body, which we are called not only to be but to build. Notice that the imagery in terms of which the glory and blessedness of the Church is described is drawn from the experience of Israel in the wilderness in Exodus, teaching us that our glory is in God's provision, and our faith in that provision.

"Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken"

(Trinity Hymnal #345)

Benediction

— SERMON NOTES —

July 9, 2023

"Sabbath Rest: The Goal of Our Creation" ("Biblical Church Growth" Part III)

(Mike Biggs)

Exodus 31:12–18

Introduction:

What is the meaning of Sabbath and how do we sanctify it today?

I. The theology of the Sabbath

A. Sabbath in creation.

B. Sabbath in the Mosaic Covenant.

C. Sabbath in the New Covenant.

II. The experience of the Sabbath

A. Sabbath as holiness.

B. Sabbath as rest.

C. Sabbath as delight.

III. The blessing of the Sabbath.

A. For us.

B. For the world.

— 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...

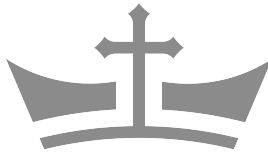
- adding people (incorporation)
- building people (edification)

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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