

CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, Sunday, August 20, 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

This psalm, which raises the question of who may ascend Yahweh's hill (that is, the Temple Mount) and who may stand in the holy place (that is, in the Temple, in God's presence). Those who desire such a thing are those who seek God's face (verse 6). But it is integrity that is the qualification, as this psalm makes clear, and equally clear is that this is not the perfection required for salvation, but the covenantal faithfulness which gives access to the perfect righteousness that only God Himself can provide (v. 5).

A Psalm of David.

Psalms 24 ESV

- 1 The earth is the LORD's and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein,
- 2 for he has founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the rivers.
- 3 Who shall ascend the hill of the LORD?
And who shall stand in his holy place?
- 4 He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to what is false
and does not swear deceitfully.
- 5 He will receive blessing from the LORD
and righteousness from the God of his salvation.
- 6 Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek the face of the God of Jacob. Selah
- 7 Lift up your heads, O gates!
And be lifted up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
- 8 Who is this King of glory?
The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in battle!
- 9 Lift up your heads, O gates!
And lift them up, O ancient doors,
that the King of glory may come in.
- 10 Who is this King of glory?
The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of glory! Selah

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

In this hymn we praise the God whose Presence and constant provision we who know Him enjoy throughout our lives.

"We Praise You, O God, Our Redeemer, Creator" (Trinity Hymnal #97)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

The Lord commands His people to seek His face, and so David complies. But what does it mean to "seek God's face," and when are we failing to do so?

Psalm 27:8 ^{ESV}

You have said, "Seek my face."

My heart says to you,

"Your face, LORD, do I seek."

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

We confess with the psalmist that though our sins are many, our hope in the mercy and steadfast love of the Lord motivates us to seek Him and sustains us.

Responsive reading, Psalm 40:11-17 (Trinity Hymnal pp. 799, 800)

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

God has given us light in Jesus Christ, so that we are able to behold the glory of God in the face of Christ, something withheld from Moses and all Old Covenant saints until the Mount of Transfiguration.

2 Corinthians 4:6 ^{ESV}

For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face

of Jesus Christ.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

Knowing the grace available to us through the work of our Savior, Jesus, we "fly to His bosom" for the pleasures that no worldly pleasures can match.

"Jesus, Lover of My Soul"

1. Jesus, lover of my soul,
Let me to Thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high.
Hide me, O my Savior, hide,
Til life's storm is past;
Safe into the haven guide;
Receive my soul at last.
2. Other refuge have I none,
I helpless, hang on Thee;
Leave, oh leave me not alone,
Support and comfort me.
All my trust on Thee is stayed,
All help from Thee I bring;
Cover my defenseless head
In the shadow of Thy wing.
3. Thou, O Christ, are all I want,
Here more than all I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy Name,
I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of sin I am;
Thou art full of truth and grace.
4. Plenteous grace with Thee is found,
Grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound;
Make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art,
Let me take of Thee;
Spring Thou up within my heart;

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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.

"Loved with Everlasting Love"

(Trinity Hymnal #703)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

If we, like Asaph, have attained to the wisdom that understands that God Himself is the greatest and only indispensable gift, our offerings become much easier and more natural.

Psalm 73:25, 26 ^{ESV}

²⁵ Whom have I in heaven but you?

And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you.

²⁶ My flesh and my heart may fail,

but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

"Be Thou My Vision"

(Trinity Hymnal #642, v. 4)

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 20, 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...

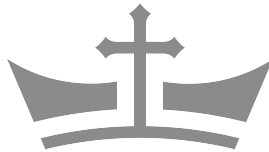
- adding people (incorporation)
- building people (edification)

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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