

CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, Sunday, August 6, 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 call ourselves, indeed our very souls, to bless the Lord in this psalm, because of many things, the heart of which is His character and Name as echoing Exodus 34:6 (verse 8).

Psalms 103 ^{ESV}

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

The name of Jesus includes everything that is true of Him, especially His authority and power to save, which is what "Jesus" literally means.

"All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name"

(Trinity Hymnal #296)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

Taking the name of the Lord in vain involves much more than cursing or swearing. When we become Christians we identify ourselves with God and all that He is (His "name"). When we live in ways contrary to His ways, we have to that extent taken His name "in vain."

Exodus 20:7 ^{ESV}

You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

This call to praise and thanksgiving is also a confession and prayer for forgiveness, and a reminder of the nature of sin upon reflection on the sins of Israel in their exodus from Egypt and pilgrimage in the wilderness.

Responsive reading, Psalm 106

(Trinity Hymnal pp. 823, 824)

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

What God denied Moses He has brought to give us in Christ in the New Covenant.

II Corinthians 3:7–4:10 ESV

Now if the ministry of death, carved in letters on stone, came with such glory that the Israelites could not gaze at Moses' face because of its glory, which was being brought to an end,⁸ will not the ministry of the Spirit have even more glory?⁹ For if there was glory in the ministry of condemnation, the ministry of righteousness must far exceed it in glory.¹⁰ Indeed, in this case, what once had glory has come to have no glory at all, because of the glory that surpasses it.¹¹ For if what was being brought to an end came with glory, much more will what is permanent have glory.

¹² Since we have such a hope, we are very bold,¹³ not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face so that the Israelites might not gaze at the outcome of what was being brought to an end.¹⁴ But their minds were hardened. For to this day, when they read the old covenant, that same veil remains unlifted, because only through Christ is it taken away.¹⁵ Yes, to this day whenever Moses is read a veil lies over their hearts.¹⁶ But when one turns to the Lord, the veil is removed.¹⁷ Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom.¹⁸ And we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another. For this comes from the Lord who is the Spirit.

^{4:1} Therefore, having this ministry by the mercy of God, we do not lose heart.² But we have renounced disgraceful, underhanded ways. We refuse to practice cunning or to tamper with God's word, but by the open statement of the truth we would commend ourselves to everyone's conscience in the sight of God.³ And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing.⁴ In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God.⁵ For what we proclaim is not ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, with ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake.⁶ 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.

⁷ But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing

power belongs to God and not to us.⁸ We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair;⁹ persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed;¹⁰ always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus may also be manifested in our bodies.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

This hymn imparts and celebrates assurance in Christ by pointing to His promises, but also then produces confident prayer for grace to follow and serve Him and so experience the full blessing of those promises.

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

(Trinity Hymnal #654)

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"

* 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.

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

(Trinity Hymnal #6)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

Our willing offerings to the Lord in worship are always the fruit of His grace at work in our lives.

II Corinthians 9:6–8 ESV

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. ⁷ Each one must give as

he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver.⁸ And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

"My Jesus, I Love Thee"

(Trinity Hymnal #648)

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 6, 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 emphasis 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...

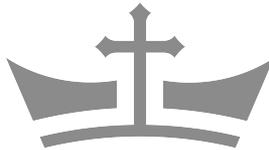
- adding people (incorporation)
- building people (edification)

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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