



CHRIST

— THE KING —

The Lord's Day, Sunday, April 20, 2025

"...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

Our call today, known as the "Sursum Corda," has been a part of Christian worship from ancient times, in which we recognize our ascent into heaven as we approach God in worship.

The Sursum Corda (in the following exchange)

Leader: *The Lord be with you.*

Congregation: **And also with you.**

Leader: *Lift up your hearts!*

Congregation: **We lift them up to the Lord!**

Leader: *Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.*

Congregation: **It is right and proper so to do.**

All: **Therefore with angels and archangels, and all the host of heaven, we laud and magnify your holy Name, saying,**

Holy, holy, holy is the Lord God of Hosts!

Heaven and earth are full of His glory!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We sing "Alleluia!" (Praise the Lord!) again and again as we contemplate the greatest news in the history of the world: "He is risen! He is risen indeed!"

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"

(Trinity Hymnal #277)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

If we share in Christ's resurrection through faith, we cannot live in accord with our lives before we knew Christ, because resurrection means new life. Do we apply this mindset consistently?

Romans 6:1–14 ESV

What shall we say then? Are we to continue in sin that grace may abound? ² By no means! How can we who died to sin still live in it? ³ Do you not know that all of us who have been baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ We were buried therefore with him by baptism into death, in order that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, we too might walk in newness of life.

⁵ For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we shall certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. ⁶ We know that our old self was crucified with him in order that the body of sin might be brought to nothing, so that we would no longer be enslaved to sin. ⁷ For one who has died has been set free from sin. ⁸ Now if we have died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. ¹⁰ For the death he died he died to sin, once for all, but the life he lives he lives to God. ¹¹ So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

¹² Let not sin therefore reign in your mortal body, to make you obey its passions. ¹³ Do not present your members to sin as instruments for unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and your members to God as instruments for righteousness. ¹⁴ For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

Our confession today focuses on both our need for mercy and our acknowledgement of the fact that God is the only One who can satisfy our need.

Responsive reading, Psalm 123

(Trinity Hymnal p. 831)

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

We rejoice in the confidence imparted to us by the consequences of Christ's resurrection for us who trust in Him.

I Peter 1:3–9 ESV

"Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! According to his great mercy, he has caused us to be born again to a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead,⁴ to an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you,⁵ who by God's power are being guarded through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.⁶ In this you rejoice, though now for a little while, if necessary, you have been grieved by various trials,⁷ so that the tested genuineness of your faith—more precious than gold that perishes though it is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor at the revelation of Jesus Christ.⁸ Though you have not seen him, you love him. Though you do not now see him, you believe in him and rejoice with joy that is inexpressible and filled with glory,⁹ obtaining the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls."

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

We rejoice in the stunning but overwhelmingly joyous truth that Jesus arose!

"Up from the Grave He Arose"

(Trinity Hymnal #276)

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)

"The God Who Gives Life"

* Psalm 116

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.

"Sing, Choirs of New Jerusalem"

(Trinity Hymnal #271)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

*Formal worship, including public offerings, is an essential part of a proper response to God's resurrection of Christ **and us**.*

Psalm 116:12–19 ESV

- 12 What shall I render to the Lord
for all his benefits to me?
13 I will lift up the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord,
14 I will pay my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people.
15 Precious in the sight of the Lord
is the death of his saints.
16 O Lord, I am your servant;
I am your servant, the son of your maidservant.
You have loosed my bonds.
17 I will offer to you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call on the name of the Lord.
18 I will pay my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all his people,
19 in the courts of the house of the Lord,
in your midst, O Jerusalem.
Praise the Lord!

"The Ends of All the Earth Shall Hear"

(Trinity Hymnal #368)

Presentation of Offerings

* **Doxology**

(Trinity Hymnal #731)

Prayer of Dedication

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

As we leave today's public worship, we celebrate — and indeed call all creation to do so as well — the victory of Christ over death and the Curse, resulting in "joy that hath no end."

"The Day of Resurrection!"

(Trinity Hymnal #267)

Benediction

— SERMON NOTES —

April 20, 2025

"The God Who Gives Life"

(Mike Biggs)

Psalm 116

Introduction:

What does the Resurrection teach us about ourselves, God, and the Christian life?

I. Resurrection addresses our distressing predicament.

A. Guilt.

B. Death.

C. Sorrow.

D. Foolishness.

E. Bondage.

II. Resurrection manifests God's magnificent goodness.

A. Grace.

B. Righteousness.

C. Compassion.

D. Wisdom.

E. Power.

III. Resurrection engenders our proper response.

A. Dependence/appeal.

B. Love.

C. Courage.

D. Worship.

— 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)

Core Values (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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