



CHRIST

- THE KING -

The Lord's Day, Sunday, July 27, 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

These two psalms go together; unity among the people of God leads to vibrant public worship.

Psalms 133:1–3 ESV

- ¹ Behold, how good and pleasant it is
when brothers dwell in unity!
- ² It is like the precious oil on the head,
running down on the beard,
on the beard of Aaron,
running down on the collar of his robes!
- ³ It is like the dew of Hermon,
which falls on the mountains of Zion!
For there the Lord has commanded the blessing,
life forevermore.

Psalm 134:1–2 ESV

- ¹ Come, bless the Lord, all you servants of the Lord,
who stand by night in the house of the Lord!
- ² Lift up your hands to the holy place
and bless the Lord!

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

We praise the God of Abraham because we have the same God as Abraham, and are part of the same people, because we are “Abraham’s seed” (Galatians 3:26-29).

"The God of Abraham Praise"

(Trinity Hymnal #34)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

The unity of God's people has implications for how we relate to one another. This type of relationship is in many ways contrary to what is natural for us, and is completely dependent on the vitality and health of our relationship with God.

Colossians 3:11–15 ESV

"Here there is not Greek and Jew, circumcised and uncircumcised, barbarian, Scythian, slave, free; but Christ is all, and in all.

¹² Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassionate hearts, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience, ¹³ bearing with one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. ¹⁴ And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. ¹⁵ And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful."

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

The psalmist's confession here is motivated in part by his memory of "the days of long ago," as should ours be, since we are part of the same people as those of long ago.

Responsive reading, Psalm 143

(Trinity Hymnal pp. 837–838)

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

The Church is described here by the apostle Peter in exactly the same terms as those by which God described Israel at the time of their constitution as his covenant people at Mt. Sinai in Exodus 19:5, 6. This is indeed a glorious identity, and Peter goes on in the next two verses (not printed here) to declare the obligations this identity imposes upon us as God's people.

I Peter 2:1–10 ^{ESV}

"So put away all malice and all deceit and hypocrisy and envy and all slander. ² Like newborn infants, long for the pure spiritual milk, that by it you may grow up into salvation— ³ if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴ As you come to him, a living stone rejected by men but in the sight of God chosen and precious, ⁵ you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶ For it stands in Scripture:

"Behold, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious,
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame."

⁷ So the honor is for you who believe, but for those who do not believe,
"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone,"

⁸ and

"A stone of stumbling,
and a rock of offense."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, a people for his own possession, that you may proclaim the excellencies of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light. ¹⁰ Once you were not a people, but now you are God's people; once you had not received mercy, but now you have received mercy.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

* Hymn of Assurance

*We praise the God who has created the Church to be His blessed people,
and ask and thank Him for the blessings He has promised, thus exulting
in Him.*

"Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

(Trinity Hymnal # 342)

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)

God's Beautiful Bride (Ephesians) VI: "Babel in Reverse"

* Ephesians 2:11-3:13

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.

"This One Was Born There - of Psalm 87"

Who is it that knows me on the holy Mount?
City that I love the most in all of Jacob's land
Glorious things of you are spoken, O city of God

Chorus:

I will mention Rahab, and Babylon, too
Behold that old Philistia and Tyre with Cush
"This one was born there," they'll say, "in Zion"

For the Lord God Most High will establish her
The Lord making a record, as He registers:
"This one was born there, and this one, that one" on and on...

(Chorus)

All the merry dancers and the ones who sing
Say for each within her gates is found his own spring
"This one was born there," forever their dance and their song

(Chorus)

Tab:

"This one was born there," they'll say, "in Zion"

"Hail to the Brightness of Zion's Glad Morning" (Trinity Hymnal #346)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

Isaac Watts perhaps said it best: "Love so amazing, so divine, demands [our] soul[s], [our lives], [our] all."

Romans 12:1–2 ESV

"I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.² Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect."

See Communion Songs

Presentation of Offerings

* Doxology

(Trinity Hymnal #731)

Prayer of Dedication

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

As we prepare to leave our worship today, we remind ourselves of the task before us, to bear the message of reconciliation.

"Facing a Task Unfinished"

(see insert, hymn of the month)

Benediction

— SERMON NOTES —

July 27, 2025

God's Beautiful Bride (Ephesians) VI: "Babel in Reverse"

(Mike Biggs)

Ephesians 2:11–3:13

Introduction:

What must we understand about our relationship to God as His people?

I. We must understand that there is only one *people of God*.

A. Old Testament (Covenant) token.

B. New Testament (Covenant) reality.

II. We must understand that there is only one *plan of God*.

A. The “mystery” of the plan.

B. The purpose of the plan.

III. We must understand there is only one *covenant with God*.

A. Promise.

B. Law.

C. Presence.

— 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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