



CHRIST

— THE KING —

The Lord's Day, Sunday, August 30, 2026

"...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 shout our praise because God has declared that He will be exalted among the nations by subduing them to Himself through His people, in whose midst He dwells.

Psalm 46:4-11; 47:1-7 ESV

⁴ *There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.*

⁵ *God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.*

⁶ *The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.*

⁷ *The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

⁸ *Come, behold the works of the Lord,
how he has brought desolations on the earth.*

⁹ *He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
he burns the chariots with fire.*

¹⁰ *"Be still, and know that I am God.
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth!"*

¹¹ *The Lord of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.*

47 *Clap your hands, all peoples!
Shout to God with loud songs of joy!*

² *For the Lord, the Most High, is to be feared,
a great king over all the earth.*

³ *He subdued peoples under us,
and nations under our feet.*

⁴ *He chose our heritage for us,
the pride of Jacob whom he loves.*

⁵ *God has gone up with a shout,
the Lord with the sound of a trumpet.*

⁶ *Sing praises to God, sing praises!
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!*

⁷ *For God is the King of all the earth;
sing praises with a psalm!*

Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

* Hymn of Praise

This hymn, which we sing to the tune of Beethoven's "Ode to Joy," traces the progression of the Kingdom of God from creation mandate, fall, and restoration through Jesus Christ, ending with a prayer that God would grant us grace to do His will in the obedience of His law, and thus, with all the rest of creation over which we have restored dominion, would glorify and adore Him forever.

"God, All Nature Sings Thy Glory"

(Trinity Hymnal #122)

WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR SIN

* Reading from the Law

*The instructions to Joshua concerning taking possession of the Land of their inheritance is applicable to the mission of His people today to make disciples of all nations. Crucial to those instructions were two: be strong and courageous, and obey God's Law. Courage was fulfilled by the fact that the priests had to move into the Jordan **before** they saw God open the way through it into Canaan. God would do His crucial and definitive work only after Israel demonstrated its faith and commitment to His promise, and the same is true for us today, who wage war and take dominion with different weapons, but in the context of the same dynamics.*

Joshua 1:1-6; 3:7-17; Matthew 28:18-20; II Corinthians 10:3-5 ^{ESV}

Silent Confession of Sin

Corporate Confession of Sin

This general confession is a classic expression of godly sorrow, faith in God, and hope in His promise, all of which apply significantly to the work of the Kingdom.

Responsive reading, Psalm 130

(Trinity Hymnal p. 833)

WE REJOICE IN THE ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Assurance of Pardoning Grace

Jesus's promise that the citizens of the Kingdom (in this beatitude, described as "the meek") will "inherit the earth" confirms that the gospel is the Gospel of the Kingdom, "kingdom" being the overriding concept that includes all aspects of God's redemption of His people. What is restored in the work of Christ is what Adam lost: dominion under God over all His creation as the mediator of His rule, and this is confirmed here by Christ's promise.

Matthew 5:5 ESV

Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

Leader: This is the gospel.

Congregation: Hallelujah!

*** Hymn of Assurance**

"Heaven" as the inheritance of believers, biblically speaking, has reference not simply to a non-physical existence apart from the earth, but to the ultimate inheritance of the New Heavens and the New Earth, in which God makes His dwelling with men (Revelation 21:1-7). This hymn celebrates and anticipates this Kingdom inheritance, which is our hope.

"By Grace I Am an Heir of Heaven"

(Trinity Hymnal #695)

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)

Kingdom Musings IV:

“Mysterious Truths from the Parables of the Kingdom”

* Matthew 13:1-52

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.

“Almighty God, Your Word is Cast”

(Trinity Hymnal #383)

WE RESPOND TO THE GRACE OF THE LORD

Offering Meditation

This prophecy is fulfilled today in our hearing, as we from the nations present our treasure to the God who has made us His, as an act of worship.

Haggai 2:6-9 ESV

⁶ For thus says the Lord of hosts: Yet once more, in a little while, I will shake the heavens and the earth and the sea and the dry land. ⁷ And I will shake all nations, so that the treasures of all nations shall come in, and I will fill this house with glory, says the Lord of hosts. ⁸ The silver is mine, and the gold is mine, declares the Lord of hosts. ⁹ The latter glory of this house shall be greater than the former, says the Lord of hosts. And in this place I will give peace, declares the Lord of hosts.”

“Now Blessed Be the Lord Our God”

(Trinity Hymnal #11)

Presentation of Offerings

*** Doxology**

(Trinity Hymnal #731)

Prayer of Dedication

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

As we leave today, we exhort one another to engage in the battle which, according to God’s promise, we are destined to win, as we seek to disciple the nations to bow to the already existing authority of King Jesus.

“Stand Up, Stand Up for Jesus”

(Trinity Hymnal #571)

Benediction

— SERMON NOTES —

August 30, 2026

Kingdom Musings IV:

“Mysterious Truths from the Parables of the Kingdom”

Matthew 13:1-52

(Mike Biggs)

Introduction:

What do we learn from these parables about how to relate to the Kingdom of God?

I. We must *embrace* the *method* of Kingdom expansion, vv. 1-23.

A. Achieved through the sowing of the Seed.

B. Determined by the condition of the soil.

II. We must *appreciate* the *ambiguity* of Kingdom *membership*,
vv. 24-30, 36-43, 47-50.

A. The apparent impurity of the Kingdom.

B. The reason for the impurity.

III. We must *expect* the *inevitability* of Kingdom *dominance* vv.
31-33.

A. Expansion.

B. Permeation.

IV. We must *commit to the supremacy of Kingdom value*, vv. 44-46.

A. Hidden value.

B. Sacrificial commitment.

— 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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