

A close-up photograph of a birch tree trunk. The bark is white with characteristic horizontal lenticels and a few dark, circular scars. A heart shape is carved into the bark, with the words "ETCHED ON THEIR HEART" written inside in a simple, hand-drawn font. The background is a soft-focus view of autumn foliage in shades of yellow and orange.

ETCHED
ON THEIR
HEART



Welcome to worship at Christ Church!

Our aim is to enjoy the goodness of our triune God in fellowship within the community he has formed, lifting our hearts as an offering to the Lord using the varied and unique gifts of this local congregation. We await his transformative word in our lives.

We are glad that you have joined us.

Young children are an important part of our community as well. We are very happy to be part of this very significant stage in their lives — learning to worship together in the community of believers. You are welcome to keep your children with you throughout the service, or you may choose to use one of our nurseries for children ages 3 years and younger, and Christ Kids Worship for 4- to 6-year olds during the sermon. If you have a baby and would like a quiet space, you are welcome to use the nursery or the library.

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

John Anema & Ellen Maxwell

Silent Meditation Isaiah 1:17

Learn to do good;
seek justice,
 correct oppression;
bring justice to the fatherless,
 plead the widow's cause.

G O D C A L L S U S T O W O R S H I P


Call to worship Psalm 68:4-6

Elder Dick Friedrich


Sing to God, sing praises to his name;
 lift up a song to him who rides through the deserts;
his name is the Lord;
 exult before him!
Father of the fatherless and protector of widows
 is God in his holy habitation.
God settles the solitary in a home;
 he leads out the prisoners to prosperity,
 but the rebellious dwell in a parched land.

* Come Again, Lord Jesus

by Kirk Ward



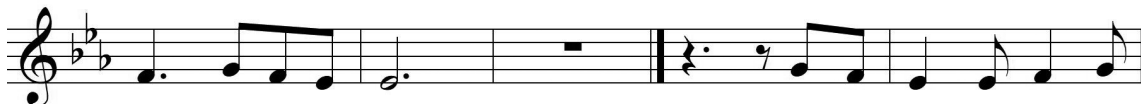
Come a - gain, Lord Je - sus! All cre-




a - tion join and sing. _____ Come a - gain, Lord Je -




sus! Come a - gain and be our King, come a -



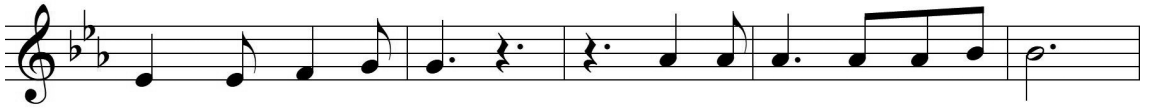
gain, and be our King. 1.To the poor and the for -
2.To the vic - tim and the



sa - ken, bro - ken - heart - ed and a - lone, come a - gain and bring us
pris - 'ner with no po - wer and no name, come a - gain and bring us



HOPE. You're the one true Son of Da - vid, wor - thy
JOY. You're the one true Right - eous Shep - herd cal - ling



Lamb u - pon the throne.
lost sheep to re - claim.

Come a - gain and bring us PEACE.
Come a - gain and bring us LOVE.



As you came__ be - fore__ Je - sus come__ a - gain, Oh, we



need__ you Lord__ to please come__ a - gain.

CCLI 332344

* Invocation

Scripture memory verses *Today we're reviewing all the verses that have been part of our Etched on Their Heart series and we need nine readers. Anyone is welcome to read. Please go to the microphone or ask someone to bring a microphone to you.*

Readers, please read the scripture reference.

The congregation is welcome to quietly speak the verses with the readers.

Reader 1 2 Corinthians 4:6 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.

Hebrews 10:24-25 And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

- Reader 2 Job 3:23-24 Why is light given to a man whose way is hidden, whom God has hedged in? For my sighing comes instead of my bread, and my groanings are poured out like water.
- Psalm 29:11 May the Lord give strength to his people! May the Lord bless his people with peace!
- Reader 3 John 13:34-5 “A new commandment I give to you, that you love one another: just as I have loved you, you also are to love one another. By this all people will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.”
- Hebrews 4:16 Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.
- Reader 4 Titus 3:4-5 But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit...
- Matthew 11:28-30 “Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and lowly in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light.”
- Reader 5 1 Corinthians 6:19-20 Or do you not know that your body is a temple of the Holy Spirit within you, whom you have from God? You are not your own, for you were bought with a price. So glorify God in your body.
- Isaiah 50:4 The Lord God has given me the tongue of those who are taught, that I may know how to sustain with a word him who is weary. Morning by morning he awakens; he awakens my ear to hear as those who are taught.
- Reader 6 Matthew 5:16 In the same way, let your light shine before others, so that they may see your good works and give glory to your Father who is in heaven.
- Ephesians 5:1-2 Therefore be imitators of God, as beloved children. And walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself up for us, a fragrant offering and sacrifice to God.

Reader 7 Exodus 3:15 God also said to Moses, "Say this to the people of Israel: 'The Lord, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob, has sent me to you.' This is my name forever, and thus I am to be remembered throughout all generations."

Matthew 13:13, 16 This is why I speak to them in parables, because seeing they do not see, and hearing they do not hear, nor do they understand....
But blessed are your eyes, for they see, and your ears, for they hear.

Reader 8 John 17:3 And this is eternal life, that they know you, the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent.

Psalms 116:7 Return, O my soul, to your rest; for the Lord has dealt bountifully with you.

Reader 9 Psalm 73:25-26 Whom have I in heaven but you? And there is nothing on earth that I desire besides you. My flesh and my heart may fail, but God is the strength of my heart and my portion forever.

Matthew 16:17 And Jesus answered him, "Blessed are you, Simon Bar-Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but my Father who is in heaven."

Isaiah 1:17 Learn to do good; seek justice, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause.

GOD CALLS US TO RENEWAL

Call to confession

He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the Lord require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God? Micah 6:8

Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love,
for they have been from of old.
Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions;
according to your steadfast love remember me,
for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!
Good and upright is the Lord;
therefore he instructs sinners in the way.
He leads the humble in what is right,
and teaches the humble his way. Psalm 25:6-9

Prayer of confession *followed by a time of silent confession*

Lord of Sorrow duet Hebrew folk melody; arr Patrick Liebergen

Lord of sorrow, Lord of sorrow, Lord of sorrow, hear my plea:
On the cross have mercy, have mercy at Calvary;
Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on the tree;
Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy, Lord, have mercy on me.

Declaration of forgiveness

Micah 7:18-20

Who is a God like you, pardoning iniquity
and passing over transgression
for the remnant of his inheritance?
He does not retain his anger forever,
because he delights in steadfast love.
He will again have compassion on us;
he will tread our iniquities underfoot.
You will cast all our sins
into the depths of the sea.
You will show faithfulness to Jacob
and steadfast love to Abraham,
as you have sworn to our fathers
from the days of old.

9:00 service During the song below, 4- to 6-year-olds are dismissed to the foyer for Christ Kids Worship and will return following the sermon.

11:00 service Church bags are available in the foyer.

*** *O, the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus***

Trinity Hymnal 535

GOD'S WORD GIVEN TO US

*** Scripture reading** Isaiah 1:1-20

¹ The vision of Isaiah the son of Amoz, which he saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem in the days of Uzziah, Jotham, Ahaz, and Hezekiah, kings of Judah.

² Hear, O heavens, and give ear, O earth; for the LORD has spoken:
"Children have I reared and brought up, but they have rebelled against me.

³ The ox knows its owner, and the donkey its master's crib, but Israel does not know, my people do not understand."

⁴ Ah, sinful nation, a people laden with iniquity, offspring of evildoers, children who deal corruptly! They have forsaken the LORD, they have despised the Holy One of Israel, they are utterly estranged.

⁵ Why will you still be struck down? Why will you continue to rebel? The whole head is sick, and the whole heart faint.

⁶ From the sole of the foot even to the head,
there is no soundness in it,
but bruises and sores
and raw wounds;
they are not pressed out or bound up
or softened with oil.

⁷ Your country lies desolate;
your cities are burned with fire;
in your very presence
foreigners devour your land;
it is desolate, as overthrown by foreigners.

⁸ And the daughter of Zion is left
like a booth in a vineyard,
like a lodge in a cucumber field,
like a besieged city.

⁹ If the LORD of hosts
had not left us a few survivors,
we should have been like Sodom,
and become like Gomorrah.

¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD,
you rulers of Sodom!
Give ear to the teaching of our God,
you people of Gomorrah!

¹¹ “What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices?
says the LORD;
I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams
and the fat of well-fed beasts;
I do not delight in the blood of bulls,
or of lambs, or of goats.

¹² “When you come to appear before me,
who has required of you
this trampling of my courts?

¹³ Bring no more vain offerings;
incense is an abomination to me.
New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations—
I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly.

¹⁴ Your new moons and your appointed feasts
my soul hates;
they have become a burden to me;
I am weary of bearing them.

¹⁵ When you spread out your hands,
I will hide my eyes from you;
even though you make many prayers,
I will not listen;
your hands are full of blood.

¹⁶ Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean;
remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes;
cease to do evil,

¹⁷ learn to do good;
seek justice,
correct oppression;
bring justice to the fatherless,
plead the widow's cause.

¹⁸ “Come now, let us reason together, says the LORD:
though your sins are like scarlet,
they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red like crimson,
they shall become like wool.

¹⁹ If you are willing and obedient,
you shall eat the good of the land;

²⁰ but if you refuse and rebel,
you shall be eaten by the sword;
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

* Prayer

Sermon Just Life
No Way to Live

Pastor Andrew VanderMaas

A Way out of Crisis

The Way Forward

Further discussion/questions? andrewvandermaas@christchurchgr.org
Sermons are available online at www.christchurchgr.org

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD

* **Scripture memory verse** Isaiah 1:17 read or spoken by memory together

Learn to do good;
seek justice,
correct oppression;
bring justice to the fatherless,
plead the widow's cause.

* *Thy Mercy My God*

text, John Stoker; music, Sandra McCracken



1. Thy mer - cy, my God, is the theme
2. With - out thy sweet mer - cy I could
3. Thy mer - cy is more than a match
4. Great Fath - er of mer - cies thy good -



— of my song, ♯ the joy of my heart and the boast
— not live here; ♯ ♯ Sin would re - duce me to ut -
— for my heart ♯ which won - ders to feel its own hard -
- ness I — own and the cov - e - nant love of thy cruc -



— of my tongue. Thy free grace a - lone — from the first
- ter des - pair; but through thy free good - ness my spir -
- ness de - part; dis - solved by thy good - ness I fall
- i - fied Son; all praise to the Spi - rit whose whis -



— to the last — hath won my af - fec - tions and
- its re - vive and he that first made me still
— to the ground and weep for the praise of the
- per di - vine seals mer - cy and par - don and



bound my soul — fast.
keeps me a - live.
mer - cy I've — found.
right - eous - ness — mine!

Prayers of the People

Deacon Joel Klamer (9am) & Deacon George Dykstra (11am)

During the offertory please pass the red friendship pads found at the end of the rows.
Give online at christchurchgr.org or by texting (616) 208-2820

Offertory *We Are Called* duet & congregation

by David Haas

Song leaders

Come, live in the light
Shine with the joy and the love of the Lord
We are called to be light for the kingdom
To live in the freedom of the city of God

We are called to act with justice
We are called to love tenderly
We are called to serve one another
To walk humbly with God

Come, open your heart
Show your mercy to all those in fear
We are called to be hope for the hopeless
So all hatred and blindness will be no more *Refrain*

Congregation

by David Haas



We are called to act with jus-tice, _____ we are



called__ to love ten-der - ly; _____ we are called__ to serve one an-



oth - er, _____ to walk hum - bly with God.

CCLI 332344

Song leaders

Sing, sing a new song
Sing of that great day when all will be one
God will reign and we'll walk with each other
As sisters and brothers united in love *Refrain*

*** Doxology**

Trinity Hymnal 731

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures, here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*** Benediction**

Hebrews 12:2,3

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God. Consider him who endured such opposition from sinful men, so that you will not grow weary and lose heart.

Kids and All: You are invited to come forward
and play rhythm instruments as we sing our closing Amen song.

*** *And All the People Said Amen!***

**And all the people said “Amen!”
Oh, and all the people said “Amen.”
Give thanks to the Lord for his love never ends.
And all the people said “Amen!”**

*** Postlude**

Worship musicians

Julie Churchwell, song leader

Sarah Ingram, song leader

Nola Nielsen, alto recorder

Susan Guerra, piano