



a feast to
enjoy



CHRIST
CHURCH

September 4, 2022



W*elcome 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

Arni Rich (9am service)
Pastor Andrew VanderMaas (11am service)

Silent Meditation John 5:17

Jesus answered them, “My Father is working until now, and I am working.”

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

Call to worship I Peter 2:9

Elder Bob La Fleur


...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.

* *Come, Christians, Join to Sing*

Trinity Hymnal 302

* Psalm 3: A Shield about Me

Donn Thomas & Charles Williams



Thou, O Lord, art a shield a - bout me, You're my



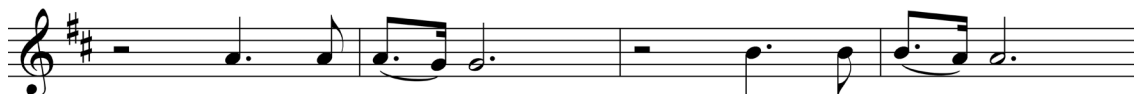
glo - ry; You're the lift - er of my head.



Thou, O Lord, art a shield a - bout me, You're my



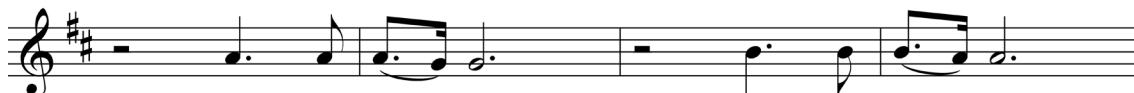
glo - ry; You're the lift - er of my head.



Hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah,



hal - le - lu - jah, You're the lift - er of my head.



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hal - le - lu - jah, You're the lift - er of my head.

* Invocation

Reading from the New Testament

Acts 19:1-20:1

Eight readers are needed for the following passage and have not been assigned. Anyone is welcome to read. Please go to the microphone or ask someone to bring a microphone to you.

- Reader 1 And it happened that while Apollos was at Corinth, Paul passed through the inland country and came to Ephesus. There he found some disciples. And he said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you believed?" And they said, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." And he said, "Into what then were you baptized?" They said, "Into John's baptism." And Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, Jesus." On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. And when Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came on them, and they began speaking in tongues and prophesying. There were about twelve men in all.
- Reader 2 And he entered the synagogue and for three months spoke boldly, reasoning and persuading them about the kingdom of God. But when some became stubborn and continued in unbelief, speaking evil of the Way before the congregation, he withdrew from them and took the disciples with him, reasoning daily in the hall of Tyrannus. This continued for two years, so that all the residents of Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks.
- Reader 3 And God was doing extraordinary miracles by the hands of Paul, so that even handkerchiefs or aprons that had touched his skin were carried away to the sick, and their diseases left them and the evil spirits came out of them.
- Reader 4 Then some of the itinerant Jewish exorcists undertook to invoke the name of the Lord Jesus over those who had evil spirits, saying, "I adjure you by the Jesus whom Paul proclaims." Seven sons of a Jewish high priest named Sceva were doing this. But the evil spirit answered them, "Jesus I know, and Paul I recognize, but who are you?" And the man in whom was the evil spirit leaped on them, mastered all of them and overpowered them, so that they fled out of that house naked and wounded. And this became known to all the residents of Ephesus, both Jews and Greeks.

- Reader 5 And fear fell upon them all, and the name of the Lord Jesus was extolled. Also many of those who were now believers came, confessing and divulging their practices. And a number of those who had practiced magic arts brought their books together and burned them in the sight of all. And they counted the value of them and found it came to fifty thousand pieces of silver. So the word of the Lord continued to increase and prevail mightily.
- Reader 6 Now after these events Paul resolved in the Spirit to pass through Macedonia and Achaia and go to Jerusalem, saying, "After I have been there, I must also see Rome." And having sent into Macedonia two of his helpers, Timothy and Erastus, he himself stayed in Asia for a while. About that time there arose no little disturbance concerning the Way. For a man named Demetrius, a silversmith, who made silver shrines of Artemis, brought no little business to the craftsmen. These he gathered together, with the workmen in similar trades, and said, "Men, you know that from this business we have our wealth. And you see and hear that not only in Ephesus but in almost all of Asia this Paul has persuaded and turned away a great many people, saying that gods made with hands are not gods. And there is danger not only that this trade of ours may come into disrepute but also that the temple of the great goddess Artemis may be counted as nothing, and that she may even be deposed from her magnificence, she whom all Asia and the world worship."
- Reader 7 When they heard this they were enraged and were crying out, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!" So the city was filled with the confusion, and they rushed together into the theater, dragging with them Gaius and Aristarchus, Macedonians who were Paul's companions in travel. But when Paul wished to go in among the crowd, the disciples would not let him. And even some of the Asiarchs, who were friends of his, sent to him and were urging him not to venture into the theater. Now some cried out one thing, some another, for the assembly was in confusion, and most of them did not know why they had come together. Some of the crowd prompted Alexander, whom the Jews had put forward. And Alexander, motioning with his hand, wanted to make a defense to the crowd. But when they recognized that he was a Jew, for about two hours they all cried out with one voice, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians!"

Reader 8 And when the town clerk had quieted the crowd, he said, “Men of Ephesus, who is there who does not know that the city of the Ephesians is temple keeper of the great Artemis, and of the sacred stone that fell from the sky? Seeing then that these things cannot be denied, you ought to be quiet and do nothing rash. For you have brought these men here who are neither sacrilegious nor blasphemers of our goddess. If therefore Demetrius and the craftsmen with him have a complaint against anyone, the courts are open, and there are proconsuls. Let them bring charges against one another. But if you seek anything further, it shall be settled in the regular assembly. For we really are in danger of being charged with rioting today, since there is no cause that we can give to justify this commotion.” And when he had said these things, he dismissed the assembly. After the uproar ceased, Paul sent for the disciples, and after encouraging them, he said farewell and departed for Macedonia.

GOD CALLS US TO RENEWAL

Call to confession

Mark 7:23

...evil things come from within, and they defile a person.

Prayer of confession followed by a time of silent confession

Declaration of forgiveness

Ephesians 1:7-9a

In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose....

*** The Apostles' Creed** spoken together

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;
he descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall 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.**

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.

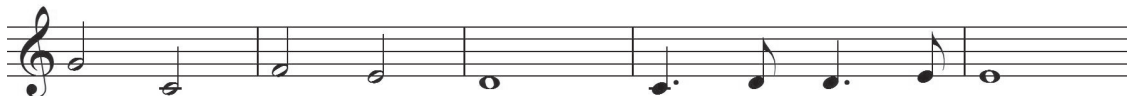
11:00 service Church bags are available in the foyer.

* *The Power of the Cross*

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend



1. O, to see the dawn of the dark - est day; Christ on the
 2. O, to see the pain writ - ten on Your face, bear - ing the
 3. Now the day - light flees; now the ground be - neath quakes as its
 4. O, to see my name writ - ten in the wounds, for through Your



road to Cal - va - ry. Tried by sin - ful men,
 awe - some weight of sin. Ev - 'ry bit - ter thought,
 Ma - ker bows His head. Cur - tain torn in two,
 suf - f'ring I am free. Death is crushed to death,



torn and beat - en, then nailed to a cross of wood.____
 ev - 'ry e - vil deed crown - ing Your blood - stained brow.____
 dead are raised to life "Fin - ished!" the vic - t'ry cry.____
 life is mine to live, won through Your self - less love!____



1. 2. 3. This the pow'r_____ of the cross:_____ Christ be -
 4. This the pow'r_____ of the cross:_____ Son of



came_____ sin for us._____ Took the blame,_____
 God_____ slain for us._____ What a love,_____



bore the wrath; we stand for - gi - ven at the cross.
 what a cost! we stand for - gi - ven at the cross.

GOD'S WORD GIVEN TO US

*** Scripture reading** Ephesians 1:1-2

¹ Paul, an apostle of Christ Jesus by the will of God,

To the saints who are in Ephesus, and are faithful in Christ Jesus:

² Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

*** Prayer**

Sermon Ready for the Feast!
An Unlikely People with ...

Pastor Andrew VanderMaas

... An Unbelievable Story from

An Unmatched Source.

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

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD

* *Christ Our Hope In Life And Death*

Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Jordan Kauffin
and Matthew Merker, Matt Papa



1. What is our hope in life and death? Christ a-
2. What truth can calm the trou - bled soul? God is
3. Un - to the grave, what will we sing? "Christ, he



lone, Christ a - lone. What is our on - ly con - fi - dence? That our
good, God is good. Where is his grace and good-ness known? In our
lives; Christ, he lives!" And what re - ward will heav - en bring? Ev - er -



souls to him be - long. Who holds our days with - in his
great Re - deem - er's blood. Who holds our faith when fears a -
last - ing life with Him. There we will rise to meet the



hand? What comes, a - part from his com - mand? And what will
rise? Who stands a - bove the storm - y trial? Who sends the
Lord; then sin and death will be de - stroyed, and we will



keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand.____
waves that bring us nigh un - to the shore, the rock of Christ?
feast in end - less joy, when Christ is ours for - ev - er - more.____



—
—
—

O sing hal - le - lu - jah! Our hope springs e - ter - nal; O sing ha - le -



lu - jah! Now and ev - er we con - fess Christ our hope in life and death.

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Invitation to the Lord's Table

*Trays will be passed through the rows. The bread served is gluten free.
Hold the bread or cup until all are served and we'll partake together.*

During the passing of the bread *Come As You Are* solo by Ben Glover, David Crowder,
Matt Maher

Come out of sadness from wherever you've been
Come broken-hearted let rescue begin
Come find your mercy O sinner come kneel
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal

Lay down your burdens lay down your shame
All who are broken lift up your face
O wanderer come home
You're not too far
So lay down your hurt lay down your heart
Come as you are

There's hope for the hopeless
And all those who've strayed
Come sit at the table come taste the grace
There's rest for the weary
Rest that endures
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't cure

Come as you are
Fall in His arms
Come as you are

There's joy for the morning O sinner be still
Earth has no sorrow that heaven can't heal

During the passing of the cup

Take this time to meditate on anything from this morning's service: song lyrics, scriptures, sermon notes; see the beauty of creation through the windows.

...in him [Christ] all things hold together.

Colossians 1:17b

Prayers of the People

*During the offertory please pass the red friendship pads found at the end of the rows.
Elders will pass baskets to collect communion cups.*

Give online at christchurchgr.org or by texting (616) 208-2820

We highlight the deacons' fund on the first Sunday of the month.

Designate funds in check memo line, on an envelope, or on the online giving form.

Offertory

Grace and Peace

solo

by Fernando Ortega and John Andrew Schreiner

Grace and peace

Grace and peace

Grace and peace to you

From God our Father

And the Lord Jesus Christ

* *Doxology* Trinity Hymnal 731

*** Benediction** From Ephesians 3:16–19

[May the Lord] according to the riches of his glory .. grant you to be strengthened with power through his Spirit in your inner being, so that Christ may dwell in your hearts through faith—that you, being rooted and grounded in love, may have strength to comprehend with all the saints what is the breadth and length and height and depth, and to know the love of Christ that surpasses knowledge, that you may be filled with all the fullness of God.

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

Carly Besch, song leader
Susan Guerra, piano
Tucker Besch, cajon