

Christ Church

Prelude

Moments of Concern

Call to Worship: *Psalm 89:5-7* – And the heavens will praise Your wonders, O Lord; Your faithfulness also in the assembly of the saints. For who in the heavens can be compared to the Lord? Who among the sons of the mighty can be likened to the Lord? God is greatly to be feared in the assembly of the saints, and to be held in reverence by all those around Him.

Heidelberg Catechism: Lord's Day 17 (page 17)

Q. How does Christ's resurrection benefit us?

- A. First, by His resurrection He has overcome death, so that He might make us share in the righteousness He won for us by His death. Second, by His power we too are already now resurrected to a new life. Third, Christ's resurrection is a guarantee of our glorious resurrection.

***Hymn of Adoration:** 377 *"Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee"*

Call to Confession: Ezekiel 18:30-32 "Therefore I will judge you, O house of Israel, every one according to his ways," says the Lord God. "Repent, and turn from all your transgressions, so that iniquity will not be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions which you have committed, and get yourselves a new heart and a new spirit. For why should you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of one who dies," says the Lord God. "Therefore turn and live!"

Prayer of Confession: Father in heaven, the high ransom price of the blood of Your Son, Jesus, was paid for us, and yet we have failed to live the new life of righteousness and self-sacrifice and joy and love and mercy even though Your Word tells us that we have been made alive in Christ. Nor have we properly set our desires on heaven where Christ is bringing us and has promised to reward us. We have failed to serve others with the new life Christ has gifted us. Forgive our faithlessness and cleanse us of it. We offer our plea in the name of Jesus who gave Himself that we might live. Amen.

Agnus Dei:

Women & Children: O Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

Men: O Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.

All: O Christ, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world, grant us your peace. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: *Isaiah 53:4-5* – Surely He has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows; yet we esteemed Him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. But He was wounded for our transgressions, He was bruised for our iniquities; the chastisement for our peace was upon Him, and by His stripes we are healed.

C: Thanks be to God.

Gloria Patri: Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost: as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Collect of the Day (unison): Almighty God, give us Your Spirit that we might partake of the resurrection life of Christ and give ourselves to serving each other as He has taught us. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Old Testament Lesson:** *Isaiah 53:2* – For He shall grow up before Him as a tender plant, and as a root out of dry ground. He has no form or comeliness; and when we see Him, there is no beauty that we should desire Him.

***Epistle Lesson:** *1 Thessalonians 2:1-8*

- ¹ For you yourselves know, brethren, that our coming to you was not in vain.
- ² But even after we had suffered before and were spitefully treated at Philippi, as you know, we were bold in our God to speak to you the gospel of God in much conflict.
- ³ For our exhortation did not come from error or uncleanness, nor was it in deceit.
- ⁴ But as we have been approved by God to be entrusted with the gospel, even so we speak, not as pleasing men, but God who tests our hearts.

⁵ For neither at any time did we use flattering words, as you know, nor a cloak for covetousness—God is witness.

⁶ Nor did we seek glory from men, either from you or from others, when we might have made demands as apostles of Christ.

⁷ But we were gentle among you, just as a nursing mother cherishes her own children.

⁸ So, affectionately longing for you, we were well pleased to impart to you not only the gospel of God, but also our own lives, because you had become dear to us.

***Gospel Lesson:** *Luke 7:47* – Therefore I say to you, her sins, which are many, are forgiven, for she loved much. But to whom little is forgiven, the same loves little.

Children’s Sermon

***Hymn of Preparation:** *Psalm 98* (back of bulletin)

Sermon: *1 Thessalonians 2:5-8*

Prayers of the People

Lord’s Prayer (unison): Our Father, which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

***Offertory Response:** Doxology

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.

***Prayer of Dedication**

***Hymn of Response:** 454 *“Trust and Obey”*

***Benediction**

***Threefold Amen**

***Postlude**