

Christ Church

Prelude

Moments of Concern

Call to Worship: *Psalm 34:11* – Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

Heidelberg Catechism: Lord's Day 31 (pages 25-26)

Q. What are the keys of the kingdom?

A. The preaching of the holy gospel and Christian discipline toward repentance. Both preaching and discipline open the kingdom of heaven to believers and close it to unbelievers.

Q. How does preaching the gospel open and close the kingdom of heaven?

A. According to the command of Christ: The kingdom of heaven is opened by proclaiming and publicly declaring to each and every believer that, as often as he accepts the gospel promise in true faith, God, because of what Christ has done, truly forgives all his sins. The kingdom of heaven is closed, however, by proclaiming and publicly declaring to unbelievers and hypocrites that, as long as they do not repent, the anger of God and eternal condemnation rest on them. God's judgment, both in this life and in the life to come, is based on this gospel testimony.

Q. How is the kingdom of heaven closed and opened by Christian discipline?

A. According to the command of Christ: If anyone, though called a Christian, professes unchristian teachings or lives an unchristian life, if after repeated brotherly counsel, he refuses to abandon his errors and wickedness, and, if after being reported to the church, that is, to its officers, he fails to respond also to their admonition – such a one the officers exclude from the Christian fellowship by withholding the sacraments from him, and God himself excludes him from the kingdom of Christ. Such a person, when he promises and demonstrates genuine reform, is received again as a member of Christ and of his church.

***Hymn of Adoration:** 385 *"Holy God, We Praise Thy Name"*

Call to Confession: *Acts 3:19* – "Repent therefore and be converted, that your sins may be blotted out, so that times of refreshing may come from the presence of the Lord."

Prayer of Confession: Father in heaven, we confess that we have not diligently applied ourselves to understand and heed the preaching of Your Word. We have lived as if there are no keys to the kingdom. This means we have been proud and independent-minded and have downplayed the authority of those You have appointed to lead in Your church. We have not loved discipline and have failed to honor its practice within the body of Christ. We have lacked faith to believe that the sometimes difficult ways you have taught us are best. Forgive us, and make us a body which works together to pursue purity and holiness in doctrine and in life as we love You and each other. We pray in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Have Mercy:

Have mercy on us. Have mercy on us.

Oh Lord, have mercy. Oh Lord, have mercy.

Oh, help my unbelief. Oh, help my unbelief.

Oh Lord, have mercy. Oh Lord, have mercy.

Assurance of Pardon: *2 Chronicles 7:14* – "If My people who are called by My name will humble themselves, and pray and seek My face, and turn from their wicked ways, then I will hear from heaven, and will forgive their sin and heal their land."

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): Lord, grant us deliverance from all that would hold us in bondage or keep us from fulfilling our duty to serve You. Send Your Spirit to help us live in the fear of You and so to learn to delight in You more each day as we surrender to Your will. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Old Testament Lesson:** *Proverbs 29:25* – The fear of man brings a snare, but whoever trusts in the LORD shall be safe.

***Epistle Lesson:** *1 Peter 5:5-7*

⁵ Likewise you younger people, submit yourselves to your elders.
Yes, all of you be submissive to one another, and be clothed with humility, for

“God resists the proud, but gives grace to the humble.”

⁶ Therefore humble yourselves under the mighty hand of God, that He may exalt you in due time,

⁷ casting all your care upon Him, for He cares for you.

***Gospel Lesson:** *John 6:15-21*

¹⁵ Therefore when Jesus perceived that they were about to come and take Him by force to make Him king, He departed again to the mountain by Himself alone.

¹⁶ Now when evening came, His disciples went down to the sea,

¹⁷ got into the boat, and went over the sea toward Capernaum. And it was already dark, and Jesus had not come to them.

¹⁸ Then the sea arose because a great wind was blowing.

¹⁹ So when they had rowed about three or four miles, they saw Jesus walking on the sea and drawing near the boat; and they were afraid.

²⁰ But He said to them, “It is I; do not be afraid.”

²¹ Then they willingly received Him into the boat, and immediately the boat was at the land where they were going.

Children’s Sermon

***Hymn of Preparation:** *Psalm 42* (back of bulletin)

Sermon: *Addressing Fear and Anxiety – Part 5*

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**