

Christ Church

Prelude

Moments of Concern

Call to Worship: Psalm 72:1, 8-11 – Give the king Your judgments, O God, And Your righteousness to the king's Son...He shall have dominion also from sea to sea, and from the River to the ends of the earth. Those who dwell in the wilderness will bow before Him, and His enemies will lick the dust. The kings of Tarshish and of the isles will bring presents; the kings of Sheba and Seba will offer gifts. Yes, all kings shall fall down before Him; all nations shall serve Him.

Heidelberg Catechism: Lord's Day 1 (pages 7-8)

Q. What is your only comfort in life and death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong body and soul, in life and in death-to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with His precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to Him, Christ, by His Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me whole-heartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

Q. What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

A. Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are; second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery; third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.

***Hymn of Adoration:** 323 *"Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God Almighty"*

***Collect of the Day (unison):** Almighty God, just as You sent the star to direct the magi, captivate us by revealing Your glory so that we will give ourselves to seeking Your Son in the Scriptures and in His body, the Church. We pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

***Old Testament Lesson:** *Numbers 24:15-20*

¹⁵ So he took up his oracle and said: "The utterance of Balaam the son of Beor, and the utterance of the man whose eyes are opened;

¹⁶ The utterance of him who hears the words of God, and has the knowledge of the Most High, who sees the vision of the Almighty, who falls down, with eyes wide open:

¹⁷ "I see Him, but not now; I behold Him, but not near; a Star shall come out of Jacob; a Scepter shall rise out of Israel, and batter the brow of Moab, and destroy all the sons of tumult.

¹⁸ "And Edom shall be a possession; Seir also, his enemies, shall be a possession, while Israel does valiantly.

¹⁹ Out of Jacob One shall have dominion, and destroy the remains of the city."

²⁰ Then he looked on Amalek, and he took up his oracle and said: "Amalek was first among the nations, but shall be last until he perishes."

***Epistle Lesson:** *Revelation 22:16* – "I, Jesus, have sent My angel to testify to you these things in the churches. I am the Root and the Offspring of David, the Bright and Morning Star."

***Gospel Lesson:** *Matthew 2:1-6*

¹ Now after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea in the days of Herod the king, behold, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem,

² saying, "Where is He who has been born King of the Jews? For we have seen His star in the East and have come to worship Him."

³ When Herod the king heard this, he was troubled, and all Jerusalem with him.

⁴ And when he had gathered all the chief priests and scribes of the people together, he inquired of them where the Christ was to be born.

⁵ So they said to him, "In Bethlehem of Judea, for thus it is written by the prophet:

⁶ 'But you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are not the least among the rulers of Judah; for out of you shall come a Ruler Who will shepherd My people Israel.' "

Children's Sermon

Sermon: *"Are You Paying Attention to What Has Happened?"*

***Hymn of Preparation:** *Psalm 72:9-15* (back of bulletin)

Reading of the Law: *Exodus 20:1-17* (page 68)

Call to Confession: *1 Corinthians 11:27-29* – Therefore whoever eats this bread or drinks this cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty of the body and blood of the Lord. But let a man examine himself, and so let him eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For he who eats and drinks in an unworthy manner eats and drinks judgment to himself, not discerning the Lord's body.

Prayer of Confession: Father, forgive us for forsaking our new identity in

Christ. We often act as if our lives are our own to do with as we please.

We fail to cooperate with the Spirit who brings us assurance of salvation and grants us godly affections. Instead, we are prone to worry and to

yearn for what You have not given or revealed to us. Forgive us for rejecting the comfort You provide and not cherishing the precious Savior

whose blood was shed to save us as if neither are sufficient. Purify us, we ask, 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: *John 3:16-17* – For God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish but have everlasting life. For God did not send His Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world through Him might be saved.

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.

Holy Communion

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:** *"In Christ Alone"* (PB #34)

***Benediction**