

Christ the King Sunday
November 26, 2023

Gathering
God invites us to enter His presence

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Preparation for Worship (*Time for Silent Preparation*)

! Call to Worship (*Responsively*)

Susan Obenschain

Our hearts are ready, O Lord,
our hearts are ready!

We will sing and make melody!

We will awaken the dawn!

We will give thanks to you, O Lord, among the peoples,
we will sing praises to you among the nations.

**For your steadfast love is great above the heavens,
and your faithfulness reaches to the clouds.**

! Invocation (*Responsively*)

Susan Obenschain

Praise be to you, LORD,
the God of our father Israel,
from everlasting to everlasting.

**Yours, LORD, is the greatness and the power
and the glory and the majesty and the splendor,**
for everything in heaven and earth is yours.

**Yours, LORD, is the kingdom;
you are exalted as head over all.**

Wealth and honor come from you;
you are the ruler of all things.

**In your hands are strength and power
to exalt and give strength to all.**

Now, our God, we give you thanks,
and praise your glorious name.

! Praise Song *O Love that Will Not Let Me Go*

*O love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee;
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths in flow
may richer, fuller be.*

*O light that follow'st all my way,
I yield my flick'ring torch to thee;
My heart restores its borrowed ray,*

*That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
may brighter, fairer be.*

*O joy that seekest me through pain,
I can not close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.*

*O cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
life that shall endless be.*

Confessing
God invites us to be honest with Him

Call to Confession

Susan Obenschain

“Come now, let us settle the matter,” says the LORD.
“Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;
though they are red as crimson, they shall be like wool.”

Prayer of Confession *(Responsively)*

Susan Obenschain

God of grace,
we confess that we have elevated
the things of this world above you.
We have made idols of possessions and people
and used your name for causes
that are not consistent with you and your purposes.
We have permitted our schedules to come first
and have not taken the time to worship you.
We have not always honored those who guided us in life.
We have participated in systems
that take life instead of give it.
We have been unfaithful in our covenant relationships.
We have yearned for, and sometimes taken, that which is not ours,
and we have misrepresented others' intentions.
**Forgive us, O God,
for the many ways we fall short of your glory.
Help us to learn to live together according to your ways
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Time for Silent Confession

Assurance of Pardon

Susan Obenschain

Remember these things, O Jacob,
and Israel, for you are my servant;
I formed you, you are my servant;

O Israel, you will not be forgotten by me.
I have swept away your transgressions like a cloud,
and your sins like mist;
return to me, for I have redeemed you.

Leader: This is the Promise of the Lord

All: 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.
A-men, A-men.*

Offering

Thankful of the gifts God has given us, we offer ourselves to Him

Invitation He who supplies seed to the sower and bread for food will supply and multiply your seed for sowing and increase the harvest of your righteousness. You will be enriched in every way for your great generosity, which will produce thanksgiving to God through us; for the rendering of this ministry not only supplies the needs of the saints but also overflows with many thanksgivings to God.
In joy, we offer our gifts now to God.

Offering

Offertory

 **Doxology**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. A-men.*

 **Prayer of Dedication**

All good things come from you, O God, and with gratitude we return to you what is yours. You created all that is, and with love formed us in your image. When our love failed, your love remained steadfast. You gave your only Son, Jesus Christ, to be our Savior. All that we are and all that we have are a trust from you. And so, in gratitude for all your gifts, we offer you ourselves and all that we have, in union with Christ's offering for us. by your Holy Spirit make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world, through Jesus Christ, our Savior. **Amen.**

Proclaiming

God speaks to us through His Word

Children's Sermon

Off with the Old, On with the New

*Susan
Obenschain*

Scripture Reading

Galatians 6:11-18

¹¹ Look at what large letters I use as I write to you in my own handwriting. ¹² Those who want to make a good impression in the flesh are the ones who would compel you to be circumcised—but only to avoid being persecuted for the cross of Christ. ¹³ For even the circumcised don't keep the law themselves, and yet they want you to be circumcised in order to boast about your flesh. ¹⁴ But as for me, I will never boast about anything except the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ. The world has been crucified to me through the cross, and I to the world. ¹⁵ For both circumcision and uncircumcision mean nothing; what matters instead is a new creation. ¹⁶ May peace come to all those who follow this standard, and mercy even to the Israel of God.

¹⁷ From now on, let no one cause me trouble, because I bear on my body the marks of Jesus. ¹⁸ Brothers and sisters, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit. Amen.

Sermon

*"New Creation"
Rev. Tim Latham*

 **Praise Song**

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Chorus

*We will feast in the house of Zion
We will sing with our hearts restored
He has done great things we will say together
We will feast and weep no more*

Verse 1

*We will not be burned by the fire
He is the Lord our God
We are not consumed by the flood
Upheld protected gathered up*

Verse 2

*In the dark of night before the dawn
My soul be not afraid
For the promised morning oh how long
Oh God of Jacob be my strength*

Verse 3

*Every vow we've broken and betrayed
You are the faithful one
And from the garden to the grave
Bind us together bring shalom*

Responding

We respond to God's Word

 **Profession of Faith** (*Job 19*)

**I know that my Redeemer lives,
and that at the last he will stand upon the earth;
and after my skin has been thus destroyed,
then in my flesh I shall see God.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving (*Responsively*)

Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.

God's love is everlasting.

Come, let us praise God joyfully.

Let us come to God with thanksgiving.

For the good world:

for things great and small, beautiful and awesome,
for seen and unseen splendors,

thank you, God.

For human life:

for talking and moving and thinking together,
for common hopes and hardships shared from birth until our dying,

thank you, God.

For work to do and strength to work:

for the comradeship of labor,
for exchanges of good humor and encouragement,

thank you, God.

For marriage:

for the mystery and joy of flesh made one,
for mutual forgiveness and burdens shared,
for secrets kept in love,

thank you, God.

For family:

for living together and eating together,
for family amusements and family pleasures,

thank you, God.

For children:

for their energy and curiosity,
for their brave play and startling frankness,
for their sudden sympathies,

thank you, God.

For the young:

for their high hopes,
for their irreverence toward worn-out values,
for their search for freedom,
for their solemn vows,

thank you, God.

For growing up and growing old:

for wisdom deepened by experience,
for rest in leisure,
for time made precious by its passing,

thank you, God.

For your help in times of doubt and sorrow:

for healing our diseases,
for preserving us in temptation and danger,

thank you, God.

For the church into which we have been called:
for the good news we receive by Word and sacrament,
for our life together in the Lord,

we praise you, God.

For your Holy Spirit,
who guides our steps and brings us gifts of faith and love,
who prays in us and prompts our grateful worship,

we praise you, God.

For your Son Jesus Christ,
who lived and died and lives again for our salvation:
for our hope in him,
for the joy of serving him,

**we thank and praise you, eternal God,
for all your goodness to us.**

Give thanks to the Lord, who is good.

God's love is everlasting. Amen.

Commissioning

God sends us out into the world as His witnesses



Hymn 531

Soon and Very Soon



Benediction & Blessing



Postlude