PREACHING THE CHRIST OF SCRIPTURE

CHRIST CHURCH
DOWNINGTOWN

A MISSION WORK OF
THE ORTHODOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

UNDER THE OVERSIGHT OF THE
SESSION OF EMMANUEL OPC IN
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE

CHURCH PLANTING PASTOR
GREG O’BRIEN
December 26, 2021

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Silent Prayer

Call to Worship

Revelation 5:9-14

9 And they sang a new song, saying, “Worthy are you to take the scroll and to open its seals, for you were slain, and by your blood you ransomed people for God from every tribe and language and people and nation, 10 and you have made them a kingdom and priests to our God, and they shall reign on the earth.”

11 Then I looked, and I heard around the throne and the living creatures and the elders the voice of many angels, numbering myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, 12 saying with a loud voice, “Worthy is the Lamb who was slain, to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!”

13 And I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, saying, “To him who sits on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!”

14 And the four living creatures said, “Amen!” and the elders fell down and worshiped
Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

1. Glori-ous things of thee are spo-ken, Zi-on, cit-y of our God;
   he whose word can-not be bro-ken formed thee for his own a-bode;
on the Rock of A-ges found-ed, what can shake thy sure re-pose?
   With sal-va-tion’s walls sur-round-ed, thou may’st smile at all thy foes.

2. See the streams of liv-ing wa-ters, spring-ing from e-ter-nal love,
   well sup-ply thy sons and daugh-ters, and all fear of want re-move;
who can faint while such a riv-er ev-er flows their thirst t’as-suage?
   Grace, which like the Lord, the giv-er, nev-er fails from age to age.

3. Round each hab-i-ta-tion hov’ring, see the cloud and fire ap-pear
   for a glo-ry and a cov’ring, show-ing that the Lord is near;
thus de-riv-ing from their ban-ner light by night and shade by day,
safe they feed up-on the man-na which he gives them when they pray.

4. Sav-i-or, if of Zi-on’s cit-y I, thro’ grace, a mem-ber am,
   let the world de-ride or pit-y, I will glo-ry in thy name;
fad-ing is the world-ling’s plea-sure, all his boast-ed pomp and show;
sol-id joys and last-ing trea-sure none but Zi-on’s chil-dren know.
Prayer of Adoration and Salutation

God’s Commandments

Exodus 20:1-21

20 And God spoke all these words, saying, 2 “I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.

3 “You shall have no other gods before me.

4 “You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. 5 You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, 6 but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.

7 “You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.

8 “Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. 9 Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, 10 but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God.
On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates.

11 For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.

12 “Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

13 “You shall not murder.

14 “You shall not commit adultery.

15 “You shall not steal.

16 “You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

17 “You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.”

18 Now when all the people saw the thunder and the flashes of lightning and the sound of the trumpet and the mountain smoking, the people were afraid and trembled, and they stood far off and said to Moses, “You speak to us, and we will listen; but do not let God speak to us, lest we die.”
Moses said to the people, “Do not fear, for God has come to test you, that the fear of him may be before you, that you may not sin.”

The people stood far off, while Moses drew near to the thick darkness where God was.

### Prayer of Confession

### Declaration of Pardon

**Isaiah 43:10-13, 25**

10 “You are my witnesses,” declares the Lord, “and my servant whom I have chosen, that you may know and believe me and understand that I am he. Before me no god was formed, nor shall there be any after me. 11 I, I am the Lord, and besides me there is no savior. 12 I declared and saved and proclaimed, when there was no strange god among you; and you are my witnesses,” declares the Lord, “and I am God. 3 Also henceforth I am he; there is none who can deliver from my hand; I work, and who can turn it back?”

25 “I, I am he who blots out your transgressions for my own sake, and I will not remember your sins.

### Offering

The offering plate is on the welcoming table.
1. In Christ al - one my hope is found, he is my light, my strength, my
song; this cor - ner - stone, this sol - id ground, firm through the
fierc - est drought and storm. What heights of love, what depths of peace,
when fears are stilled, when striv - ings cease! My com - for -
the wrath of God was sat - is - fied; for ev - 'ry
sin’s curse has lost its grip on me; for I am
can ev - er pluck me from his hand; 'til he re -

2. In Christ a - lone! Who took on flesh, full - ness of God in help - less
babe! This gift of love and righ - teous - ness, scorned by the
grave he rose a - gain! And as he stands in vic - to - ry,
the only medi - ator and re - deemer
for ev - ry
for I am

3. There in the ground his bod - y lay, light of the world by dark - ness
slain; then burst - ing forth in glo - rious day, up from the
mands my des - ti - ny. No pow’r of hell, no scheme of man,
the only medi - ator and re - deemer

4. No guilt in life, no fear in death: this is the pow’r of Christ in
me. From life’s first cry to fin - al breath, Je - sus com -
Christ, the Only Mediator and Redeemer

Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
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IN CHRIST ALONE L.M.D.
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend
Arr. Ruth Coleman

Thou Art the Way 266

1. Thou art the Way: to thee alone from sin and death we flee;

2. Thou art the Truth: thy Word alone true wisdom can impart;

3. Thou art the Life: the rending tomb proclaims thy conquering arm,

4. Thou art the Way, the Truth, the Life: grant us that Way to know,

and he who would the Father seek, must seek him, Lord, by thee.

and those who put their trust in thee nor death nor hell shall harm.

that Truth to keep, that Life to win, whose joys eternal flow.

George W. Doane, 1824

ARLINGTON C.M.
Thomas A. Arne, 1762
Arr. Ralph Harrison, 1784
Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Our Father who 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.

Sermon Text

Psalm 2

2 Why do the nations rage and the peoples plot in vain? 2 The kings of the earth set themselves, and the rulers take counsel together, against the LORD and against his Anointed, saying,
3 “Let us burst their bonds apart and cast away their cords from us.”

4 He who sits in the heavens laughs; the Lord holds them in derision. 5 Then he will speak to them in his wrath, and terrify them in his fury, saying,
6 “As for me, I have set my King on Zion, my holy hill.”

7 I will tell of the decree: The LORD said to me, “You are my Son; today I have begotten you.
8 Ask of me, and I will make the nations your heritage, and the ends of the earth your possession.
9 You shall break them with a rod of iron and dash them in pieces like a potter's vessel.”
Now therefore, O kings, be wise; be warned, O rulers of the earth. 

Serve the LORD with fear, and rejoice with trembling. 

Kiss the Son, lest he be angry, and you perish in the way, for his wrath is quickly kindled. Blessed are all who take refuge in him.

“Kiss the Son”

Pastor Greg O’Brien
1. When I survey the wondrous cross on which the
Prince of glory died, my richest gain I
count but loss, and pour contempt on all my pride.

2. Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast, save in the
dead of Christ my God: all the vain things that
charm me most, I sacrifice them to his blood.

3. See, from his head, his hands, his feet, sorrow and
love flow mingled down: did e'er such love and
sorrow meet, or thorns compose so rich a crown?

4. Were the whole realm of nature mine, that were a
present far too small; love so amazing,
so divine, demands my soul, my life, my all.
Confession of Faith

*The Apostles’ Creed*

I believe in God the Father Almighty Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord: who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He 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 is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there he will 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.

*(The Nicene Creed at the rear of the Bulletin)*

The Lord’s Supper

☞ Invitation to Participate in the Lord’s Supper ☞

All visiting believers in our Lord Jesus Christ who have been baptized in the name of the Trinity, who have made public profession of their faith in Jesus Christ alone for salvation, and who are members in good and regular standing in a true church are invited to join us at the Lord’s Table. A true church bears the following marks: faithful preaching of the Word of God; the proper administration of the sacraments of baptism and the Lord’s Supper; and the faithful exercise of church discipline.

Diaconal Offering

The offering plate is on the welcoming table. Please write Diaconal in the memo line of your check.
Crown Him with Many Crowns

1. Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;
2. Crown him the Lord of life, triumphant o'er the grave,
3. Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
4. Crown him the Lord of peace; whose pow'r a scepter sways
5. Crown him the Lord of years, the Potentate of time;

hark! how the heav'nly anthem drowns all music but its own:
who rose victorious from the strife for those he came to save.
* rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified:
from pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in pray'r and praise:
Creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime:

awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
His glories now we sing, who died and reigns on high;
* no angel in the sky can fully bear that sight,
his reign shall know no end; and round his pierced feet
all hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me:

and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
he died, eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
* but downward bends his burning eye at mysteries so bright.
fair flow'rs of paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.
thy praise shall never, never fail through-out eternity.

Matthew Bridges, 1851
DIADEMATA S.M.D.
George J. Elvey, 1868
God’s Blessing

Congregational Response

The Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'ly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Announcements

Good morning, and welcome to Christ Church!

Our life purpose, or chief end in the words of our catechism, is to glorify God and enjoy him forever. When we gather for worship, we do both things, satisfying our souls with the knowledge of God’s goodness in Jesus Christ and then responding with praise.

“More to be desired than gold, much fine gold, and sweeter than honey, drippings from the honeycomb,” Ps. 19:10. As the new year approaches we want to encourage everyone to make personal and family Bible reading a priority in 2022. To that end, there are several reading plans available on the welcome table. You can also download the ESV app which has multiple different plans to choose from and the ability to receive a daily notification from your plan.
In addition to a good Bible reading program, consider downloading the Trinity Psalter Hymnal app on your mobile phone or tablet as it is a rich resource for private and family worship.

The Men’s Study will resume on January 6 at 7:30 PM. We will be discussing chapters 9 & 10 of the Westminster Confession of Faith in the book Confessing the Faith. We are now meeting at St. Paul’s United Church of Christ (101 Worthington Road, Exton, Pa. 19341). Contact the pastor for more information.

The Presbytery of Philadelphia (OPC) is hosting the Winterlight Youth Retreat for 8th-12th graders on February 25-26th, 2022 at Covenant Church in Sinking Spring, Pa. The speaker, Joe Smith, is a former high school teacher and OPC elder who will be speaking on "Living Transparently in the Church". This should be a wonderful winter opportunity for your youth to be encouraged by teaching from God's Word amidst good fellowship with other Christian youth and mentorship from older counselors. For more information go to https://www.philadelphia.opc.org/winterlight
The Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only begotten Son of God, begotten of the Father before all worlds; God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God; begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made.

Who, for us and for our salvation, came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary, and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; he suffered and was buried; and the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures; and ascended into heaven, and sits on the right hand of the Father; and he shall come again, with glory, to judge the living and the dead; whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and Giver of life; who proceeds from the Father and the Son; who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; who spoke by the prophets.

And we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church. We acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins; and we look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.
SUNDAY SERVICES TIMES AND LOCATION
Worship - 10 AM
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www.philadelphia.opc.org (presbytery)
www.opc.org (denomination)