

CHRIST THE KING

PRAYER AS WE GATHER:

Eternal God, we gather as members of your family to worship you as our Living God. Community-making God, you have called us to be in community with each other. Enable us to center ourselves for renewal in your presence. Open our hearts to commit ourselves to your mission. Help us to share your love with all – especially the overlooked, oppressed, forgotten and powerless here and around the world. Equip us with your Holy Spirit to witness to your love and power, healing and reconciliation, transformation, and new life. Inspire us once again to be the tellers of the old, old story in ever new contexts, that Jesus has come so that all may have more than simple existence, but life in its fullness, through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

PASTORAL WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY:

❖ In you, the talent is there and you are expected to use it...whether you ever get any worldly success or return out of it, is a matter of no concern to you...you do not write the best you can for the sake of art, but for the sake of returning your talent, increased to the invisible God, to use or not use, as God sees fit.

-Flannery O'Connor

❖ I used to ask God if he would come and help me, and then I asked God, if I might come and help him, and then I ended by asking God to do his own work through -James Hudson Taylor me.

Here On Jesus Christ I Will Stand (music at end of bulletin) PRAISE SONG:

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: God of mission, you call us to seek your kingdom first,

All: God of abundant living, you call us to steep our lives in your grace and mercv.

One: God of infinite provisions, you tell us not to worry about missing out, and promise us that you will take care of our everyday concerns.

All: Help us to focus on all we have, instead of longing for what we have not

One: God of grace, you summon us back to your kingdom, as the goal and purpose of our lives.

All: God of faith, hope, and love, you equip your children with various talents and personalities for the sake of your mission.

One: Most holy God, you call us to live out your Gospel through word and deed,

All: by the way we live our lives.

One: O God of mystery, we are constantly surprised by the working of your Spirit in our midst.

All: O Holy Spirit, continue to guide us, as we offer ourselves to you and commit ourselves to work for the reign of God.

One: In the name of One Eternal God,

All: Jesus the Christ, our Savior. Amen.

OUR CONFESSION PRAYER:

One: God of grace, you have called us to give ourselves completely to you. Yet, we often hold back part for worldly pursuits.

All: Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

One: You have given us the gift of time. You give us time to serve, time to learn, time to grow, time to share, yet we spend much of our time serving ourselves.

All: Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

One: You provide us with opportunity to serve in numerous ways using the talents and abilities we have been given. We tend to hide our gifts.

All: Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

One: You have provided even the least among us with more financial resources than most of the world. We resist sharing because of fear for the future.

All: Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

One: You have provided us with a beautiful creation to enjoy. We take it for granted and abuse this incredible earth.

All: Lord, in your mercy, forgive us.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE:

While God knows our sin, God also hears our cries. In our sin, God still reaches out to forgive and restore us. Having confessed our sins, rejoice in forgiveness through Christ and live in God's love.

THE CONFESSION RESPONSE: Help Us, O Lord (music at end of bulletin)

THE READING: I Peter 2:4-10 (selected verses)

Welcome to the living Stone, the source of life. The workmen took one look and threw it out; God set it in the place of honor. Present yourselves as building stones for the construction of a sanctuary vibrant with life, in which you'll serve as holy priests offering Christ-approved lives up to God. ... To you who trust him, he's a Stone to be proud of. But for the untrusting, they trip and fall because they refuse to obey, just as predicted.

But you are the ones chosen by God, chosen for the high calling of priestly work, chosen to be a holy people, God's instruments to do his work and speak out for him, to tell others of the night-and-day difference he made for you—from nothing to something, from rejected to accepted.

THE GOSPEL: Matthew 6:19-21

¹⁹ "Do not lay up for yourselves treasures on earth, where moth and rust^[a] destroy and where thieves break in and steal, ²⁰ but lay up for yourselves treasures in heaven, where neither moth nor rust destroys and where thieves do not break in and steal. ²¹ For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also.

MESSAGE: "Joined Together in Christ" Pastor Cristy School

MESSAGE RESPONSE: Build Your Kingdom Here (music at end of bulletin)

THE PRAYERS

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, Your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are Yours now and forever. Amen.

THE SENDING OUT:

One: May God whom heaven and earth cannot contain burst forth into new life in you. May Christ bless you with the power of the Gospel to disturb and heal you. May the Holy Spirit accompany you beyond the known path so that you may proclaim your faith in action without fear and without apology.

All: Amen!

THE SENDING SONG: All The People Said Amen (music at end of bulletin)

THE DISMISSAL:

Leader: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.



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