

WWW.CHRISTCHURCHBENTONVILLE.ORG

April 21, 2024

LOVING DEEPLY

&
LIVING FREELY

WELCOME TO

CHRIST CHURCH

BENTONVILLE

To all who are spiritually weak and seek rest; to all who mourn and long for comfort; to all who struggle and desire victory; to all who sin and need a Savior; to all who are strangers and want fellowship; to all who hunger and thirst after righteousness; and to whosoever will come, this church opens wide her doors and offers welcome in the name of the Lord Jesus.

TO OUR GUESTS: First, we are glad you could join us for worship! We would love to connect with you and answer any questions you may have about Christ Church. Please take a minute and scan the QR code with your phone camera and leave us your contact information. We will be in touch early in the week. **Second**, because what we are about to do may be a little different than what you are probably used to, we ask that you give us 6 weeks. Take 6 weeks to visit, become familiar with the form, ask questions, and get to know us. We believe you'll be glad you did. **Finally**, for an explanation of the content and order of worship, read the rubric along the left hand side of the bulletin as well as the section entitled "**The Liturgical Elements of Worship**" on page 8 of the bulletin.



Preparation for Worship

This is a time to prepare for the worship of our holy God. Pray that God would meet His people as we gather.

Call to Worship

It is the Lord who calls His people to worship Him in Spirit and in Truth. We do not call ourselves. Worship is a reflexive and deliberate response to His gracious call.

Invocation

This prayer exalts the name of the Lord and invokes His presence and communion as we come to worship Him. "For behold, I create new heavens and a new earth, and the former things shall not be remembered or come into mind. But be glad and rejoice forever in that which I create; for behold, I create Jerusalem to be a joy, and her people to be a gladness. I will rejoice in Jerusalem and be glad in my people; no more shall be heard in it the sound of weeping and the cry of distress."

- Isaiah 65:17-19

Pastor: Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Pastor: Grace and peace to you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of

the Holy Spirit.

Pastor: O kingdoms of the earth, sing to God; sing praises to the Lord, Selah

to him who rides in the heavens, the ancient heavens; behold, he sends out his voice, his mighty voice. Ascribe power to God, whose majesty is over Israel, and whose power is in the skies. Awesome is God from his sanctuary; the God of Israel—he is the one who gives power and

strength to his people. Blessed be God!

- Psalm 68:32-35

Come, Thou Almighty King

Hymn of Praise

This hymn draws our hearts and minds to God acknowledging the reality and awe and wonder of who He is.



Corporate Confession of Sin

Having come into His presence, we are reminded that we are sinners in need of the deliverance from sin and its power. We both confess and lament sin as an act of worship and faith in the God Who promises to deliver His people from all their sin and sorrow. We encourage a posture of prayer (sitting or kneeling) that is most

comfortable for you.

Elder: Behold, you were angry, and we sinned; in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved?

All: We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away.

Elder: There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you;

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for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us melt in the All: hand of our iniquities.

But now, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our Elder: potter; we are all the work of your hand.

All: Be not so terribly angry, O Lord, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people. - Isaiah 64:5b-9

Silently confess your sins to the Lord

Psalm 6 (O Lord In Wrath Rebuke Me Not)







Confession/

This hymn focuses acknowledgment of our sin, our need of forgiveness, and the only One in forgiveness and

Assurance of Salvation

Elder:

Having confessed our sins, and raised our prayer for deliverance, we now hear of our salvation through the declaration of the Gospel.

Hymn of Faith

This hymn focuses either on God's faithfulness to us through the ages, on our responsibility to respond in faith, or the many reasons for our faith.

And just as it is appointed for man to die once, and after that comes judgment, so Christ, having been offered once to bear the sins of many, will appear a second time, not to deal with sin but to save those who are eagerly waiting for him. - Hebrews 9:27-28

When Peace, Like a River



Scripture Reading

We read from both Old and New Testaments because they are not two different books but both are a part of God's unfolding plan of redemption.

Hymn of Preparation

This hymn is gospel-focused and sermon-oriented and planned with the children in mind.

Old Testament - Psalm 50:1-6 New Testament - 2 Peter 3:1-13

Elder: This is the Word of the Lord **People: Thanks be to God!**

My Hope is Built on Nothing Less



Sermon

The preaching of God's Word is a means by which God bestows grace on His people.

THE PROMISE OF HIS COMING 2 Peter 3:1-13

A note-taking guide is provided on the final page

For the Children - promise, coming, wait(ing), patience, judgment, Christ

Confession of Faith

Being a part of the communion of saints, we take this time to confess the truth that has been embraced by the church throughout history.

Elder: Christian, what do you believe?

People: 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, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was 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 shall come to judge the living and the dead.

And 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 Apostles' Creed *catholic meaning universal

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Word having been preached, the death of Christ is now showed forth through the sacrament of the Lord's Supper. The worthy receivers are, not after a corporal and carnal manner, but by faith, made partakers of His body and blood, with all his benefits, to their spiritual nourishment and grace.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the LORD.

The bread is gluten-free. Purple cups contain wine; clear cups contain grape juice. Come forward, pause to hear the words of institution, take a piece of bread and a cup, then return to your seats. Once everyone has been served, we will eat and drink together. After the service, please dispose of your used communion cup in the trash cans provided.

Pastoral Prayer

We are a needy people, and this prayer not only reflects that neediness but our dependence upon the Lord.

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!

Offertory/Hymn of Response

Giving is an act of worship. We give of our tithes and offerings because all we are and all we have are gifts of God's grace. We sing in grateful response to God's grace granted to us in both Word and Sacrament.





Book of Psalms for Worship, 2009

DARWALL 6.6.6.6.8.8. John Darwall, 1770

Doxology

We encourage a posture lifting holy hands to the Lord in thanksgiving.

Benediction

We leave with the assurance that God intends to bless His people as we serve him and our neighbors through our various vocations throughout the week.

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! Amen!

Pastor: May grace and peace be multiplied to all of you who are in Christ.

- I Peter 1:2, 5:14

People: And also to you.

Information

CHILDCARE

It has been our desire to offer childcare as we have volunteers. We have intentionally refrained from constant pressure and from relying upon only a few to shoulder the responsibility. At the same time, as the number of little ones increases, we do want to keep the opportunity before you. If you are able and willing to help, please scan the QR code to the right and sign up today. The more the merrier.



THE LITURGICAL ELEMENTS OF OUR WORSHIP

Why do we do what we do during our corporate worship service on Sunday? To a visitor it could seem strange. We do more than just sing, which is usually what people associate with the word "worship". There are times of silence. Prayers are spoken. The Bible is read. A sermon on a particular passage of Scripture is heard. We eat a bite of bread and drink a small amount of wine or juice in celebration of Christ's death. Money is collected. Hands are raised in devotion. Why are these elements a part of what we do together? Why don't we just hang out in small groups and sip coffee? Why don't we just sit back and watch an hour long video on being better people? All of these elements are a part of our worship because we believe they show honor to God in the way he wants to be honored. These aren't just made up elements. They are pieces in a story that is told each Sunday, with each piece either commanded or exemplified in scripture.

WHY OUR PASTORS WEAR ROBES

Wearing a robe **hides the man** - No matter what the pastor wears, whether it be an expensive suit, an inexpensive suit, business casual or holey jeans with his shirt untucked, people are always prone to put too much stock in whatever style he prefers. The black Geneva robe is designed to remove this distraction and allow us to focus on the One whom he represents. That leads to the second point. It also **emphasizes his office.** Just as a judge wears a robe when in the courtroom, a fireman wears a uniform when on duty, or a military officer wears his dress greens or blues to a formal event to announce that they are acting in an official capacity, our pastors wear robes during the worship service to signify that they are acting in their official capacity as men who have been called by God to proclaim His word to His people. The robe reminds the congregation (and the minister!) that he is in the pulpit as an ambassador of Christ, and thus is not to speak his own thoughts, give mere advice or share worldly wisdom, but only the Word of God.

CHILDREN IN WORSHIP

We believe children are a blessing from the Lord, and that they should be included in the worship of God with the people of God. That means at times there will be noise in the worship service. **God put the wiggle in children and that wiggle is welcome in His house!** If you are not used to it, it may take a little time. We understand. Bearing with one another in love is our calling.

Our aim is to help parents in the training of their children in the "pew". We do this in two ways:

1. Sunday evening worship.

Every Sunday, we plan our worship services taking both children and parents into consideration. First, the Hymn of Preparation is chosen with our children in mind. We want it to be a song that they know or at least can learn quickly. Second, we offer childcare for those 0-3 during the sermon. But please know, we enjoy having children in worship! They are not distractions! Keeping them with us in worship is one of the best gifts we can give them as they will learn the blessing of worship and grow in ways we cannot imagine. Feel free to sit up front where it is easier for children to see and hear what is happening.

2. Weekly family worship.

To facilitate learning throughout the week, the following ideas are provided for families to use during their own times of worship. We incorporate the hymns, confession of faith and sermon passage for familiarity and repetition purposes.

Weekly Catechism: WSC Q&A 28

Q: Wherein consists Christ's exaltation?
A: Christ's exaltation consists in his rising again from the dead on the third day, in ascending up into heaven, in sitting at the right hand of God the Father, and in coming to judge the world at the last day.

Monday

Sing "Come, Thou Almighty King". Read 2 Peter 3:1-2, 1 Timothy 4:1-10, and WSC 28.

What is the first letter Peter wrote?
Why did he want to stir up his readers? What prophetic words does he have in mind? What commandments? What is godliness? How can we train for it? What benefits are there in pursuing it?

Tuesday

Sing Psalm 6.
Read 2 Peter 3:3-6, Genesis 1:1-27,
Genesis 7:17-24, and WSC 28.
What are scoffers? What does Peter
say they will challenge? Why will they
challenge it? How does Peter prove
them wrong? What does he mean that
the earth was formed out of water? By
God's word? What does the flood
teach us about God's judgment? How
does it strengthen our belief in the
future day of judgment?

Wednesday

Sing "It Is Well". Read 2 Peter 3:7-9, Psalm 90, and WSC 28.

What concern is Peter addressing in these verses? Why is it important to understand God's eternity? What is the purpose of God's patience and kindness? Why has He not yet judged the world? What should God's patience lead us to do?

Thursday

Sing "My Hope is Built (The Solid Rock)".

Read 2 Peter 3:10-12, Matthew 24:36-51, and WSC 28.

What does it mean that the last day will come like a thief? That earthly works will be exposed? What is Peter's exhortation in light of the coming judgment? Why does he call us to godliness instead of license?

What does it mean to wait for the day? To hasten it? How can we be awake

<u>Friday</u>

Sing Psalm 92. Read 2 Peter 3:13, Isaiah 65:27, Revelation 21:1-8 and 22-27, and WSC 28.

When will there be a new heavens and new earth? How are they described?
What does Peter mean that righteousness dwells in them? Who will live there? Will you? How do you know? What promise is that based on? How should you live as you await that day?

SMALL GROUPS

Bean/Wieda/Tilley - Centerton

1st and 3rd Wednesdays; 6 PM

The Tilley House

Contact: Cody (903) 513-6719 or

Kenny (479) 616-7493

and ready for Christ's return?

Adams - Bentonville

1st and 3rd Wednesdays; 6 PM

The Adams House Contact: Matt (913) 221-7065

Raines - West Bella Vista

1st and 3rd Thursdays; 6 PM
The Raines House
Contact: Aaron (479) 644-6148

Walker - Bentonville

1st and 3rd Wednesdays; 6 PM

The Walker House Contact: Wes (479) 409-8831

Demers - Rogers

1st and 3rd Wednesdays; 6 PM

The Demers House Contact: Grant (254) 493-4067

Warren - East Bella Vista

1st and 3rd Thursdays; 6 PM

The Warren House Contact: John (210) 317-3127

SERMON NOTES

THE PROMISE OF HIS COMING 2 Peter 3:1-13

INTRODUCTION
I. THE PURPOSE OF PETER'S WRITING (vs. 1-6)
II. THE PROMISE OF CHRIST'S COMING (vs. 7-10)
III.THE PICTURE OF OUR WAITING (vs. 11-13)



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MEETING SUNDAY EVENINGS AT 5:00PM

BENTONVILLE COMMUNITY CHURCH OF THE NAZARENE

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