



CHRIST
CHURCH

April 27, 2025

Prelude

Welcome

Miriam Engler (8:30)
Nina Gortmaker (11:15)
Members of AWA

Silent meditation

The unusually strong imagery of this section is enough to make us want to catch our breath and think all over again about how certain and how awesome the judgment of God is in the final day. –Walter Kaiser

Blow a trumpet in Zion; sound an alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near.... Joel 2:1

“Turn to me and be saved,
all the ends of the earth!
For I am God, and there is no other.” Isaiah 45:22

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship

Psalm 29

Pastor Roger Qi

Ascribe to the LORD, O heavenly beings,
ascribe to the LORD glory and strength.
Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name;
worship the LORD in the splendor of holiness.

The voice of the LORD is over the waters;
the God of glory thunders,
the LORD, over many waters.

The voice of the LORD is powerful;
the voice of the LORD is full of majesty.

The voice of the LORD breaks the cedars;
the LORD breaks the cedars of Lebanon.
He makes Lebanon to skip like a calf,
and Sirion like a young wild ox.

The voice of the LORD flashes forth flames of fire.
The voice of the LORD shakes the wilderness;
the LORD shakes the wilderness of Kadesh.

The voice of the LORD makes the deer give birth
and strips the forests bare,
and in his temple all cry, "Glory!"

The LORD sits enthroned over the flood;
the LORD sits enthroned as king forever.
May the LORD give strength to his people!
May the LORD bless his people with peace!

* *Arise, O God, and Shine*

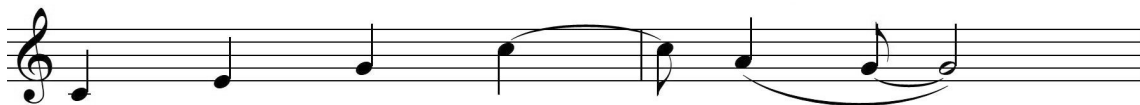
text, William Hurn
music, Chris Miner



1. A - rise, O God, and _____ shine _____
2. Bring _____ dis - tant na - tions _____ near _____
3. Put _____ forth Thy glo - rious _____ pow'r, _____
4. To _____ God, the on - ly _____ Wise, _____



in all Thy sav - ing _____ might, And _____
 to sing Thy glo - rious _____ praise; Let _____
 that ev - 'ry - one may _____ see And _____
 the one im - mor - tal _____ King, Let _____



pros - per each de - - - sign _____
 ev - 'ry peo - ple _____ hear _____
 earth pres - ent her _____ store, _____
 hal - le - lu - jahs _____ rise, _____



to spread Thy glo - rious _____ light; _____
 and learn Thy ho - ly _____ ways. _____
 in child - ren born to _____ Thee. _____
 from eve - ry liv - ing _____ thing; _____



Let heal - ing streams of mer - cy _____ flow _____
 Reign, migh - ty God, as - sert _____ Thy _____ cause _____
 God, our own God, His Church will _____ bless, _____
 Let all that breathe, on ev - 'ry _____ coast, _____



that all the earth Thy truth may _____ know.
 and gov - ern by Thy righ - teous _____ laws.
 and fill the world with right - eous - - - ness.
 praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly _____ Ghost.

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Old Testament reading

II Kings 21:1-12, 18-22, 26; 22:1-2, 11-13, 15-20;
23:1-4, 21-27, 31-32, 36-37

*6 readers from the congregation are needed for the following passage and have not been assigned.
Anyone is welcome to read. Please go to a microphone or ask someone to bring you one.*

Reader 1 Manasseh was twelve years old when he began to reign, and he reigned fifty-five years in Jerusalem.... And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to the despicable practices of the nations whom the Lord drove out before the people of Israel. For he rebuilt the high places that Hezekiah his father had destroyed, and he erected altars for Baal and made an Asherah, as Ahab king of Israel had done, and worshiped all the host of heaven and served them. And he built altars in the house of the Lord, of which the Lord had said, "In Jerusalem will I put my name." And he built altars for all the host of heaven in the two courts of the house of the Lord. And he burned his son as an offering and used fortune-telling and omens and dealt with mediums.... He did much evil in the sight of the Lord, provoking him to anger. And the carved image of Asherah that he had made he set in the house of which the Lord said to David and to Solomon his son, "In this house, and in Jerusalem, which I have chosen out of all the tribes of Israel, I will put my name forever. And I will not cause the feet of Israel to wander anymore out of the land that I gave to their fathers, if only they will be careful to do according to all that I have commanded them, and according to all the Law that my servant Moses commanded them." But they did not listen, and Manasseh led them astray to do more evil than the nations had done whom the Lord destroyed before the people of Israel.

And the Lord said by his servants the prophets, "Because Manasseh king of Judah has committed these abominations and has done things more evil than all that the Amorites did, who were before him, and has made Judah also to sin with his idols, therefore thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Behold, I am bringing upon Jerusalem and Judah such disaster that the ears of everyone who hears of it will tingle.

And Manasseh slept with his fathers and was buried in the garden of his house....

Reader 2 Amon was twenty-two years old when he began to reign, and he reigned two years in Jerusalem.... And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, as Manasseh his father had done. He walked in all the way in which his father walked and served the idols that his father served and worshiped them. He abandoned the Lord, the God of his fathers, and did not walk in the way of the Lord.... And he was buried in his tomb....

Reader 3

Josiah was eight years old when he began to reign, and he reigned thirty-one years in Jerusalem.... And he did what was right in the eyes of the Lord and walked in all the way of David his father, and he did not turn aside to the right or to the left.

When the king heard the words of the Book of the Law, he tore his clothes. And the king commanded...“Go, inquire of the Lord for me, and for the people, and for all Judah, concerning the words of this book that has been found. For great is the wrath of the Lord that is kindled against us, because our fathers have not obeyed the words of this book, to do according to all that is written concerning us.”

And she [Huldah the prophetess] said to them, “Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: ‘Tell the man who sent you to me, Thus says the Lord, Behold, I will bring disaster upon this place and upon its inhabitants, all the words of the book that the king of Judah has read. Because they have forsaken me and have made offerings to other gods, that they might provoke me to anger with all the work of their hands, therefore my wrath will be kindled against this place, and it will not be quenched. But to the king of Judah, who sent you to inquire of the Lord, thus shall you say to him, Thus says the Lord, the God of Israel: Regarding the words that you have heard, because your heart was penitent, and you humbled yourself before the Lord, when you heard how I spoke against this place and against its inhabitants, that they should become a desolation and a curse, and you have torn your clothes and wept before me, I also have heard you, declares the Lord. Therefore, behold, I will gather you to your fathers, and you shall be gathered to your grave in peace, and your eyes shall not see all the disaster that I will bring upon this place.’” And they brought back word to the king.

Then the king sent, and all the elders of Judah and Jerusalem were gathered to him. And the king went up to the house of the Lord, and with him all the men of Judah and all the inhabitants of Jerusalem and the priests and the prophets, all the people, both small and great. And he read in their hearing all the words of the Book of the Covenant that had been found in the house of the Lord.

And the king stood by the pillar and made a covenant before the Lord, to walk after the Lord and to keep his commandments and his testimonies and his statutes with all his heart and all his soul, to perform the words of

this covenant that were written in this book. And all the people joined in the covenant.

And the king commanded ... the high priest and the priests of the second order and the keepers of the threshold to bring out of the temple of the Lord all the vessels made for Baal, for Asherah, and for all the host of heaven. He burned them outside Jerusalem in the fields of the Kidron and carried their ashes to Bethel.

And the king commanded all the people, "Keep the Passover to the Lord your God, as it is written in this Book of the Covenant." For no such Passover had been kept since the days of the judges who judged Israel, or during all the days of the kings of Israel or of the kings of Judah. But in the eighteenth year of King Josiah this Passover was kept to the Lord in Jerusalem.

Moreover, Josiah put away the mediums... and the household gods and the idols and all the abominations that were seen in the land of Judah and in Jerusalem, that he might establish the words of the law....Before him there was no king like him, who turned to the Lord with all his heart and with all his soul and with all his might, according to all the Law of Moses, nor did any like him arise after him.

- Reader 4 Still the Lord did not turn from the burning of his great wrath, by which his anger was kindled against Judah, because of all the provocations with which Manasseh had provoked him. And the Lord said, "I will remove Judah also out of my sight, as I have removed Israel, and I will cast off this city that I have chosen, Jerusalem, and the house of which I said, My name shall be there."
- Reader 5 Jehoahaz was twenty-three years old when he began to reign, and he reigned three months in Jerusalem.... And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his fathers had done.
- Reader 6 Jehoiaquim was twenty-five years old when he began to reign, and he reigned eleven years in Jerusalem.... And he did what was evil in the sight of the Lord, according to all that his fathers had done.

GOD CALLS US TO RENEWAL

Call to confession

Revelation 3:3

Remember, then, what you received and heard. Keep it, and repent. If you will not wake up, I will come like a thief, and you will not know at what hour I will come against you.

Prayer of confession *followed by a time of silent confession*

Declaration of Forgiveness

Revelation 19:11-16

Then I saw heaven opened, and behold, a white horse! The one sitting on it is called Faithful and True, and in righteousness he judges and makes war. His eyes are like a flame of fire, and on his head are many diadems, and he has a name written that no one knows but himself. He is clothed in a robe dipped in blood, and the name by which he is called is The Word of God. And the armies of heaven, arrayed in fine linen, white and pure, were following him on white horses. From his mouth comes a sharp sword with which to strike down the nations, and he will rule them with a rod of iron. He will tread the winepress of the fury of the wrath of God the Almighty. On his robe and on his thigh he has a name written, King of kings and Lord of lords.

8:30 service On the final verse of the song below, 4- to 6-year-olds are dismissed to the foyer for Christ Kids Worship and will return following the sermon.

11:15 service Church bags for 4- to 6-year-olds are available in the foyer.

** In Christ Alone*

Keith Getty & Stuart Townend



1. In Christ a - lone my hope is found. He is my
2. In Christ a - lone, who took my flesh, full - ness of
3. There in the ground His bo - dy lay, Light of the
4. No guilt in life, no fear in death: This is the



Light, my strength, my song. This Cor - ner-stone, this sol - id
 God in help - less Babe. This gift of love and right-eous -
 world by dark - ness slain. Then burst - ing forth in glo - rious
 pow'r of Christ in me. From life's first cry to fin - al



ground firm through the fierc - est draughts and storm. What heights of
 ness scorned by the ones He came to save till on that
 day, up from the grave He rose a - gain. And as He
 breath, Je - sus com - mands my des - ti - ny. No - pow'r of



love! What depths of peace, when fears are stilled, when striv - ings
 cross as Je - sus died the wrath of God was sat - is -
 stands in vic - to - ry, sin's curse has lost its grip on
 hell, no scheme of man can ev - er pluck me from His



cease. My Com - fort - er, my all in all, here in the
 fied, for ev - 'ry sin on Him was laid. Here in the
 me. For I am His and He is mine, bought with the
 hand till He re - turns, or calls me home; here in the



love of Christ I stand.
 death of Christ I live.
 pre - cious blood of Christ.
 pow'r of Christ I'll stand.

GOD'S WORD GIVEN TO US

* Scripture reading

Zephaniah 1, 2:4-15

^{1:1} The word of the LORD that came to Zephaniah the son of Cushi, son of Gedaliah, son of Amariah, son of Hezekiah, in the days of Josiah the son of Amon, king of Judah.

² "I will utterly sweep away everything from the face of the earth," declares the LORD.

³ "I will sweep away man and beast; I will sweep away the birds of the heavens and the fish of the sea, and the rubble with the wicked. I will cut off mankind from the face of the earth," declares the LORD.

⁴ "I will stretch out my hand against Judah and against all the inhabitants of Jerusalem; and I will cut off from this place the remnant of Baal and the name of the idolatrous priests along with the priests,

⁵ those who bow down on the roofs to the host of the heavens, those who bow down and swear to the LORD and yet swear by Milcom,

⁶ those who have turned back from following the LORD, who do not seek the LORD or inquire of him."

⁷ Be silent before the LORD God! For the day of the LORD is near; the LORD has prepared a sacrifice and consecrated his guests.

⁸ And on the day of the LORD's sacrifice—"I will punish the officials and the king's sons

and all who array themselves in foreign attire.

⁹ On that day I will punish everyone who leaps over the threshold, and those who fill their master's house with violence and fraud.

¹⁰ "On that day," declares the LORD, "a cry will be heard from the Fish Gate, a wail from the Second Quarter, a loud crash from the hills.

¹¹ Wail, O inhabitants of the Mortar! For all the traders are no more; all who weigh out silver are cut off.

¹² At that time I will search Jerusalem with lamps, and I will punish the men who are complacent, those who say in their hearts, 'The LORD will not do good, nor will he do ill.'

¹³ Their goods shall be plundered, and their houses laid waste. Though they build houses, they shall not inhabit them; though they plant vineyards, they shall not drink wine from them."

¹⁴ The great day of the LORD is near, near and hastening fast; the sound of the day of the LORD is bitter; the mighty man cries aloud there.

¹⁵ A day of wrath is that day, a day of distress and anguish, a day of ruin and devastation, a day of darkness and gloom,

a day of clouds and thick darkness,

¹⁶ a day of trumpet blast and battle cry
against the fortified cities
and against the lofty battlements.

¹⁷ I will bring distress on mankind,
so that they shall walk like the blind,
because they have sinned against the LORD;
their blood shall be poured out like dust,
and their flesh like dung.

¹⁸ Neither their silver nor their gold
shall be able to deliver them
on the day of the wrath of the LORD.

In the fire of his jealousy,
all the earth shall be consumed;
for a full and sudden end
he will make of all the inhabitants of the earth.

^{2:4} For Gaza shall be deserted,
and Ashkelon shall become a desolation;
Ashdod's people shall be driven out at noon,
and Ekron shall be uprooted.

⁵ Woe to you inhabitants of the seacoast,
you nation of the Cherethites!
The word of the LORD is against you,
O Canaan, land of the Philistines;
and I will destroy you until no inhabitant is left.

⁶ And you, O seacoast, shall be pastures,
with meadows for shepherds
and folds for flocks.

⁷ The seacoast shall become the possession
of the remnant of the house of Judah,
on which they shall graze,
and in the houses of Ashkelon
they shall lie down at evening.
For the LORD their God will be mindful of them
and restore their fortunes.

⁸ "I have heard the taunts of Moab
and the revilings of the Ammonites,
how they have taunted my people

and made boasts against their territory.

⁹ Therefore, as I live," declares the LORD of hosts,
the God of Israel,

"Moab shall become like Sodom,
and the Ammonites like Gomorrah,
a land possessed by nettles and salt pits,
and a waste forever.

The remnant of my people shall plunder them,
and the survivors of my nation
shall possess them."

¹⁰ This shall be their lot in return for their pride,
because they taunted and boasted
against the people of the LORD of hosts.

¹¹ The LORD will be awesome against them;
for he will famish all the gods of the earth,
and to him shall bow down,
each in its place,
all the lands of the nations.

¹² You also, O Cushites,
shall be slain by my sword.

¹³ And he will stretch out his hand against the north
and destroy Assyria,
and he will make Nineveh a desolation,
a dry waste like the desert.

¹⁴ Herds shall lie down in her midst,
all kinds of beasts;

even the owl and the hedgehog
shall lodge in her capitals;
a voice shall hoot in the window;
devastation will be on the threshold;
for her cedar work will be laid bare.

¹⁵ This is the exultant city
that lived securely,
that said in her heart,
"I am, and there is no one else."

What a desolation she has become,
a lair for wild beasts!
Everyone who passes by her
hisses and shakes his fist.

Elder: The Word of the Lord
All: Thanks be to God!

* Prayer

Sermon

Illusion Interrupted

Pastor Andrew VanderMaas

Whoa, it is ugly in here ...

Woe at the Day of the Lord ...

W/O a Sacrifice we are lost ...

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD

* *My Lord, What a Mourning*

Trinity Hymnal 328

Reception of New Members 8:30 service

Rocky & Claudia Chang
Colin Helder

Living out our faith announcements about the life of the church

Prayers of the People

Deacon Randy Bosma (8:30 service)
Deacon Paul Lammers (11:15 service)

During the offertory please pass the red friendship pads found at the end of the rows.

Give online at christchurchgr.org or by texting (616) 208-2820

Offertory *I Know That My Redeemer Lives*

solo

I know that my redeemer lives
What comfort this sweet sentence give.
He lives, he lives who once was dead.
He lives, my ever-living head.

He lives, all glory to his name.
He lives, my Jesus still the same.
Oh, the sweet joy this sentence gives:
I know that my redeemer lives!

He lives triumphant from the grave.
He lives eternally to save.
He lives my mansion to prepare.
He lives to lead me safely there.

* *Gloria Patri*

Trinity Hymnal 735

Kids and All: You are invited to come forward and play rhythm instruments as we sing our closing Amen song.

* *It Is So*

by Aaron Lindsey & William McDowell



(all.) A-men, a - men, a - men, a - men, it is so,
(men.)



2. He's the Al pha and the O - me - ga, the be -



gin - ning, and the end. And all God's



prom - is - es made in Je - sus are _____



yes _____ and _____ a -

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* Postlude