

CHRIST HAS COME – OUR PROPHET, PRIEST AND KING

Jesus Our All-Sufficient Priest

Hebrews 7:23-38 and Romans 8:34

Faith Church of Linden

By Daniel Patz on December 14, 2025

The following notes are a draft of my sermon. These are not my pulpit notes or a manuscript I use to preach with but something I type up before writing out my “pulpit notes”. I hope they are helpful. notes”. I hope they are helpful.

Christians and Christmas

CHRIST – Anointed one – Messiah

We celebrate the birth of Christ – Unto Us is born this day in the city of David, a Savior who is Christ the Lord.

You shall call his name “Jesus” for He will save His people from their sins.

Christ – is the Chief **Prophet** – the one who is the Light of the World and who turns lights on – He reveals to us the invisible God and shows us God’s salvation – and He is God’s salvation.

Because Jesus is our Only High **Priest**!

ACCUSED and GUILTY!

Imagine you are accused and indicted – facing death! Evidence has piled up against you and you will be condemned after being convicted by the court – the Judge will pronounce the sentence of execution – the wrath of justice will come upon you.

You need an advocate – you need help – You need a miracle.

True Grit – Maddie says to the outlaw Ned Peppers – “I can get you a good lawyer...” “I don’t need a good lawyer, I need a good judge.”

Well, the good Judge is just and righteous and he will condemn us!

But the miracle that we need is the miracle of grace that takes place.

The judge provides a lawyer – a mediator/advocate – who does what no human court could do – provides the evidence of your innocence by providing the full satisfaction of justice to be poured out on him – the advocate.

Enter the priesthood.

Religions have priests!

We have a problem – God is holy, mighty, and all-knowing – and we are sinful, weak, and in trouble.

The book of Hebrews show us Christ as our Great High Priest.

Hebrews 7:23–28 The former priests were many in number, because they were prevented by death from continuing in office, 24 but he holds his priesthood permanently, because he continues forever. 25 Consequently, he is able to save to the uttermost those who draw near to God through him, since he always lives to make intercession for them. 26 For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens. 27 He has no need, like those high priests, to offer sacrifices daily, first for his own sins and then for those of the people, since he did this once for all when he offered up himself. 28 For the law appoints men in their weakness as high priests, but the word of the oath, which came later than the law, appoints a Son who has been made perfect forever.

Romans 8:34 Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.

Introduction – Our Desperate Need

Beloved, imagine standing outside a court of perfect justice knowing the sentence is already written against you: guilty, condemned, doomed. That is exactly where every one of us stands by nature.

1. We are under the righteous wrath of a holy God. “Whoever does not obey the Son... the wrath of God remains on him.” (John 3:36) We need propitiation.
2. We are slaves to sin, under Satan’s tyranny, and already condemned to die. “Everyone who practices sin is a slave to sin.” (John 8:34) We need redemption.
3. We are far off—enemies, alienated, without God and without hope in the world. “You who once were far off...” (Eph 2:13) We need reconciliation.
4. And even after we are converted, the devil still accuses, temptation still rages, our faith is often weak, and we stumble daily. We need someone not only to save us once, but to keep us every single day until we are safely home.

Joy to the world – this Christmas season – the Lord has come...behold the Great High Priest!

Jesus Christ is our All-Sufficient Priest in two glorious, inseparable ways:

1. He Died as Our Priest to Save Us (Once-for-All Offering – Salvation Accomplished)

On the cross Jesus did what no Levitical priest could ever do: He offered Himself—the Priest became the Sacrifice.

A. Propitiation – God’s wrath is completely satisfied “Whom God put forward as a propitiation by his blood...” (Rom 3:25) “He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.” (1 John 2:2)

Hebrews 2:17 ESV Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

B. Redemption – We are bought out of slavery forever “The Son of Man came...to give his life as a ransom for many.” (Mark 10:45) “In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses.” (Eph 1:7)

Hebrews 9:11-15 ESV But when Christ appeared as a high priest of the good things that have come, then through the greater and more perfect tent (not made with hands, that is, not of this creation) (12) he entered once for all into the holy places, not by means of the blood of goats and calves but by means of his own blood, thus securing an eternal redemption. (13) For if the blood of goats and bulls, and the sprinkling of defiled persons with the ashes of a heifer, sanctify for the purification of the flesh, (14) how much more will the blood of Christ, who through the eternal Spirit offered himself without blemish to God, purify our conscience from dead works to serve the living God. (15) Therefore he is the mediator of a new covenant, so that those who are called may receive the promised eternal inheritance, since a death has occurred that redeems them from the transgressions committed under the first covenant.

C. Reconciliation – Enemies are adopted as beloved children “While we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son...” (Rom 5:10) “Making peace by the blood of his cross...he has now reconciled [you] in his body of flesh by his death.” (Col 1:20–22)

2 Corinthians 5:18-21 ESV All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; (19) that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. (20) Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. (21) For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

The veil is torn. The debt is paid. The war is over. Salvation has been perfectly accomplished.

2. He Lives as Our Priest to Keep Us (Ever-Living Intercession – Salvation Applied and Secured)

Hebrews 7:25 – "...he always lives to make intercession for them." Romans 8:34 – "...who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us."

The same Priest who died for us now lives for us. The Day of Atonement helps us see how these two works belong together:

- First the high priest killed the sacrifice outside the tabernacle → picture of Calvary.
- Then he took the blood and the burning incense and entered the Most Holy Place → picture of Christ's ascension.
- There he sprinkled the blood seven times and waved the sweet incense before the mercy seat → picture of Christ's continual intercession, pleading His own blood and offering the "prayers of acceptance" for His people.

His death was the sacrifice. His intercession is the never-ceasing presentation and application of that sacrifice.

His Presence and His Prayers are there for me!

Before the throne of God above

I have a strong and perfect plea,

A great High Priest whose name is Love,

Who ever lives and pleads for me.

My name is graven on His hands,

My name is written on His heart;

I know that while in heav'n He stands

No tongue can bid me thence depart,

Five bleeding wounds He bears,

Received on Calvary;

They pour effectual prayers,

They strongly plead for me.

"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry,

"Forgive him, O forgive," they cry,

"Nor let that ransomed sinner die!"

A. The Unmatched Glory of His Person

- Holy – "For it was indeed fitting that we should have such a high priest, holy, innocent, unstained, separated from sinners, and exalted above the heavens." (Hebrews 7:26 ESV)
- Heavenly – "We have such a high priest, one who is seated at the right hand of the throne of the Majesty in heaven." (Hebrews 8:1 ESV)

- Perpetual – “You are a priest forever, after the order of Melchizedek.” (Hebrews 7:17, 21 ESV)
- Authoritative – Seated at the right hand of the Majesty on high.
- Unique – “There is one mediator between God and men, the man Christ Jesus, who gave himself as a ransom for all.” (1 Timothy 2:5–6 ESV)

B. The Matchless Glory of His Present Work

1. Legal – He silences every accusation “Who shall bring any charge against God’s elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.” (Romans 8:33–34 ESV) “My little children...I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous.” (1 John 2:1 ESV)
2. Protective – He defeats the Accuser “And I heard a loud voice in heaven, saying...‘they have conquered him by the blood of the Lamb...and they have not loved their lives even unto death.’” (Revelation 12:10–11 ESV)
3. Effectual – His prayers never fail (Example: Luke 22:31–32 – “Simon, Simon, behold, Satan demanded to have you...But I have prayed for you that your faith may not fail.”)
4. Compassionate – He sympathizes perfectly “For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin.” (Hebrews 4:15 ESV)

C. Therefore: Marvel, Rejoice, and Rest!

What a salvation! The Priest who offered Himself is the very Lamb that was slain. He bore our sins in His own body on the tree (1 Peter 2:24). The Father is not against us—He planned this priesthood, swore the oath, and delights to hear His Son plead the blood He Himself provided!

“If I could hear Christ praying for me in the next room, I would not fear a million enemies. Yet distance makes no difference. He is praying for me.” (M’Cheyne)

IMPLICATIONS:

- Good News to be believed and be saved
- Soul comfort for the Christian life – Assurance, Battling Sin, Accusations
 - Merciful
 - Forgiving
 - Personal
 - Adequate
 - Certain
- Realities for a life of worship!

- The Priesthood of the believer – We come to him and we bring Him to others.

Conclusion – Come, Rest, Rejoice!

Hear the question that every guilty conscience asks: “Who is to condemn?” Hear the answer that silences every fear forever:

“Christ Jesus is the one who died— more than that, who was raised— who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us.”

The Father is not against you—He planned this priesthood, swore it with an oath, gave His Son, and now delights to hear Him plead the blood He Himself provided.

So come, weary sinner. Come, stumbling saint. Your All-Sufficient Priest has open arms and an unfailing voice.

Let every heart sing with Charles Wesley:

Arise, my soul, arise,
Shake off your guilty fears;
The bleeding Sacrifice
In my behalf appears.
Before the throne my Surety stands,
My name is written on His hands!
My God is reconciled, His pard’ning voice I hear;
He owns me for His child, I can no longer fear.
With confidence I now draw nigh,
And “Father, Abba, Father!” cry.