



TRINITY CHURCH

— KIRKWOOD —

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

September 8, 2019

Visiting with us today?

We are glad you are here! We would love to reach out to you (not in a nagging way) this week. Please fill out a card in the seat pockets and place in the offering basket or hand to an usher or pastor, or text your name to: **314-384-2444**.

We are happy your little ones are here too. They are welcome throughout the worship service, but if you prefer we offer:

- Nursery care for children 6 weeks through pre-school age.
- Children's Church gathers in the 1st & 2nd gr. classroom (room 111) during the offering for ages 4yrs through 2nd grade (and stays there for the remainder of the service).
- The worship service is streamed to the Fireplace Room for nursing moms.

If you are not able to find seats in the sanctuary, overflow is set up in the Youth Room.

www.trinitychurchkirkwood.org • 314.821.7311

WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO IS OUR LIGHT

Liturgist: Matt Pannkuk

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Greg Boehne

Scripture Reader: Shaun Thomason

Quotes and Reflections

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?

The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

— Psalm 127:1

“It is of no advantage to be near the light if one’s eyes are closed.”

— Augustine

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

WE READY OURSELVES TO WORSHIP

Reflect quietly and prayerfully on these words as we prepare to enter into worship.

One of my favorite parts of the *Lord of the Rings* trilogy is when the Elvish Queen Galadriel is seeing off the fellowship of the ring and giving to them unique gifts that she foresees will be of great value to them on their perilous journey. In that exchange, Galadriel says to Frodo,

“And for you, Frodo Baggins, I give you the light of Earendil our most beloved star. May it be a light to you in dark places when all other lights go out.”

For Frodo, that light came in handy when he was plunged into darkness, when he had to fight, and when he was uncertain about which way to go. On each occasion, it shone brightest when his faith in its promise was most alive.

One must be careful in over-allegorizing the *Lord of the Rings*, and yet, at the same time there are things said in this majestic story that are deeply rooted in biblical ideas. This quote reminds us of one of them and it is this: *There is a kind of light that transcends all others and that will shine on when all other kinds of light go out.*

In our text for this morning, Jesus essentially says that he is the light that will never go out, even when all others vanish. In my life as a pastor I have sat with people time and time again, who when facing the loss of a great light in their life have found solace in the one light, Jesus Christ, that will never go out.

As we come to the scriptures this morning, ask yourself this question: Can I tell the difference between the lesser lights and the one true light that never goes out?

Song of Preparation

Come Light Our Hearts

Words and Music by Sandra McCracken

CHORUS

F B \flat

For You, O Lord, our souls in still - ness wait. For

5 F B \flat F

You, O Lord, our souls in still - ness wait. Tru - ly our hope is in You,

3rd time to Coda Φ

VERSE

10 C F

tru - ly our hope is in You. 1. O Lord of life, our on - ly hope, Your ra - diance
2. O joy a - bove all oth - er loves, in You we

15 B \flat C

shines on all who look to You in the dark. Em - man - u - el
find more than e - nough. We come as we are; O heal and re -

18 F D.C. al Coda

come, come light our hearts. For
-store, come light our hearts.

Φ Coda

21 F

You.

***Call to Worship—Psalm 139 (selected)**

"Loyal subjects approach the throne of their monarch with humility and only at the invitation of the crown." — Anon.

Leader: How precious to me are your thoughts, O God! How vast is the sum of them!

People: If we would count them, they are more than the sand.

Leader: I awake, and I am still with you.

People: Search us, O God, and know our heart! Try us and know our thoughts!

All: See if there be any grievous way in us, and lead us in the way everlasting!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

***Song of Adoration**

Lead On, O King Eternal
Trinity Hymnal #580

*Song of Adoration

All Glory Be to Christ

Dustin Kensrue and Kings Kaleidoscope

D **A** D D^(add9) (omit 3) B min G

Should noth - ing of our ef - ferts stand no leg - a - cy sur - vive Un -
(His) will be done His king - dom come on earth as is a - bove Who

D D^(add9) (omit 3) G D

6 less the Lord does raise this house in vain its build - ers strive To
is Him - self our dail - y bread praise Him the Lord of love Let

D D^(add9) (omit 3) B min G

10 you who boast tom - or - row's gain tell me what is your life A
liv - ing wa - ter sat - is - fy the thirst - y with - out price We'll

D D^(add9) (omit 3) G D

14 mist that van - i - shes at dawn All glor - y be to Christ! All
take this cup of kind - ness yet

D E min D/F# G

B

glor - y be to Christ our King! All glor - y be to Christ! His

D D^(add9) (omit 3) G 1. D G D 2. D

22 rule and reign we'll ev - er sing, all glor - y be to Christ! His Christ!

C E E E (add9 omit 3) C#min A

29
 When on the day the great I AM the faith - ful and the true the

E E (add9 omit 3) A E

33
 Lamb who was for sin - ners slain is mak - ing all things new Be -

E E (add9 omit 3) C#min A

37
 hold our God shall live with us and be our stead - fast light And

E E (add9 omit 3) A E

41
 we shall ere his peo - ple be All glor - y be to Christ! All

E F#min E/G# A

D
 glor - y be to Christ our King! All glor - y be to Christ! His

E E (add9 omit 3) A

49
 rule and reign we'll ev - er sing, all glor - y be to Christ All Christ!

1. E 2.

*Prayer of Adoration

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your 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.

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

New Testament Reading—Philemon 4-22

Paul's Plea for Onesimus' Freedom

I thank my God always when I remember you in my prayers, because I hear of your love and of the faith that you have toward the Lord Jesus and for all the saints, and I pray that the sharing of your faith may become effective for the full knowledge of every good thing that is in us for the sake of Christ. For I have derived much joy and comfort from your love, my brother, because the hearts of the saints have been refreshed through you.

Accordingly, though I am bold enough in Christ to command you to do what is required, yet for love's sake I prefer to appeal to you—I, Paul, an old man and now a prisoner also for Christ Jesus—I appeal to you for my child, Onesimus, whose father I became in my imprisonment. (Formerly he was useless to you, but now he is indeed useful to you and to me.) I am sending him back to you, sending my very heart. I would have been glad to keep him with me, in order that he might serve me on your behalf during my imprisonment for the gospel, but I preferred to do nothing without your consent in order that your goodness might not be by compulsion but of your own accord. For this perhaps is why he was parted from you for a while, that you might have him back forever, no longer as a bondservant but more than a bondservant, as a beloved brother—especially to me, but how much more to you, both in the flesh and in the Lord.

So if you consider me your partner, receive him as you would receive me. If he has wronged you at all, or owes you anything, charge that to my account. I, Paul, write this with my own hand: I will repay it—to say nothing of your owing me even your own self. Yes, brother, I want some benefit from you in the Lord. Refresh my heart in Christ. Confident of your obedience, I write to you, knowing that you will do even more than I say. At the same time, prepare a guest room for me, for I am hoping that through your prayers I will be graciously given to you.

Reader: The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever!

People: Thanks be to God!

WE CONFESS OUR UTTER UNWORTHINESS BEFORE GOD

Call to Confession—Jeremiah 18:9-12

"And if at any time I declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, and if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will relent of the good that I had intended to do to it. Now, therefore, say to the men of Judah and the inhabitants of Jerusalem: 'Thus says the Lord, Behold, I am shaping disaster against you and devising a plan against you. Return, every one from his evil way, and amend your ways and your deeds.' But they say, 'That is in vain! We will follow our own plans, and will every one act according to the stubbornness of his evil heart.'"

25 2. D Bm G A^{sus} D 3. D

- come a tal - ent show. Lead us back to life in you. throw - ing heav - y

30 Bm G A^{sus} D INSTRUMENTAL D Bm G A^{sus} D

stones. Lead us back to life in you.

37 D Bm G A^{sus} 1. D 2. D ENDING D

We're a val - ley of dry - come a tal - ent

43 Bm G A^{sus} 1. D 2. D

bones. show. Lead us back to life in you. We've be - you. We've been

47 D Bm G A^{sus} D

throw - ing heav - y stones. Lead us back to life in you.

"Holy tears are the sponge of sin." — Sir Thomas Manton

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD
Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Jer. 31:33-34

"For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the Lord: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, 'Know the Lord,' for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the Lord. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more."

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for His covenant
faithfulness

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: Now may the peace of Christ be with you all!

People: And also with you!

*Song of Rejoicing

Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

Words and Music by Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson and Michael Farren



What gift of grace is Je sus my Re - deem - er There is no
The night is dark, but I am not for - sak - en. for by my
No fate I dread, I know I am for - giv - en, the fu - ture
With ev - 'ry breath I long to fol - low Je - sus, for he has



more for heav - en now to give. He is my joy. my right-eous-ness and
side the Sav - ior, he will stay. I la - bor on in weak-ness and re -
sure, the price, it has been paid. For Je - sus bled and suf - fered for my
said that he will bring me home. And day by day I know he will re -



free - dom, my stead-fast love, my deep and bound - less peace. To this I
joic - ing, for in my need, His pow - er is dis-played. To this I
par - don, and he was raised to o - ver - throw the grave. To this I
new me un - til I stand with joy be - fore the throne. To this I



hold: my hope is on - ly Je - sus. For my life is whol - ly bound to
hold: my Shep-herd will de - fe - nd me, Through the deep - est val - ly he will
hold: my sin has been de - feat - ted. Je - sus now, and ev - er, is my
hold: my hope is on - ly Je - sus. All the glo - ry ev - er - more to



his. _____ Oh how strange and di - vine, I can sing: all is mine! Yet not
lead. _____ Oh the night has been won and I shall o - ver - come! Yet not
plea. _____ Oh the chains are re - leased, I can sing: I am free! Yet not
him. _____ When the race is com - plete, still my lips shall re - peat: Yet not



I, but through Christ in me.
I, but through Christ in me.
I, but through Christ in me.
I, but through Christ in me.

WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

(Children ages 4yr to 2nd grade may be excused for Children's Church in the 1st/2nd grade classroom.)

Sermon

"Stumbling Over the Light"

John 8:12-59

Rev. Chris Polski

"No ministry is worthy of anything that is not first and last and all the time a ministry beneath the cross." — James S. Stewart

*Song of Response

Open The Eyes Of My Heart

Words and Music by Paul Baloche
A/C#

1. **D⁵**

O - pen the eyes _ of my heart, _ Lord, _ o - pen the eyes _ of my heart; .

4 **G²/B** **G²** **D^{sus}** **D**

_ I want to see You, _ I want to see You. _

8 **D^{sus}** **A** **Bm**

To see You high and lift - ed up, ___ shin-

12 **G²** **A^{sus}** **A**

- ing in the light of Your glo - ry. ___ Pour out Your pow'r and love; .

15 **Bm** **Em¹¹** **A^{sus}**

_ As we sing ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. ___

20 **D⁵** **A/C#**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ___ ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly; ___

24 **G²/B** **G²** **D^{sus}** **D**

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, ___ I want to see You. ___

27 **D^{sus}** **D**

see You. ___

*Benediction

Adult Sunday School

Adult Sunday School Class — Hot Topics (Sanctuary)

Join us on September 8 and 15 as we wrap up our Sunday school series on Biblical Sexuality with two panels that will be available to our congregation to respond to our questions. On September 8 we will have Aaron Goldstein (Instructor in Biblical Languages at Covenant Seminary) and Dr. Robbie Griggs (Professor of Systematic Theology at Covenant) to help us work through biblical textual and theological issues that touch on same sex attraction. Then on September 15 we will have Sean Maney and Kyle Keating to help us process a number of the most important pastoral issues. Sean directs FirstLight Ministries which offers guidance and counsel to individuals struggling with sexual brokenness. Kyle is a Ruling Elder at South City Church (PCA) and a person who has dealt with same sex attraction in his own life, but who is now married with children.

Children/Youth Sunday School

Classes

Teachers

Pre K & K

Jessica Doiron, Michelle Goldstein, Melissa Jorgensen, Melissa Kocher

1st & 2nd grade

Mimi Steele, Sue Freeman, Beth Kling, Janice Koch

3rd, 4th & 5th grade

Gary & Patty Peterson, Bill & Laurel Elzinga, Scott & Amy Mitchell

Jr. & Sr. High

Ben & Elisa Tharp

Jr. High Foundations

The Foundations class is designed for students to study the major framework of scripture, foundational books of the Bible, and key reformed theological principles. Join us this Fall as we study the framework of God's Word (creation, fall, redemption, and restoration) and how it relates to the world we live in today.

Sr. High Formations

The Formations class is designed for the spiritual formation of students as they become more like Christ. They will primarily study books of the Old & New Testament that focus on the Christian Life, as well as key theological doctrines and figures. Join us this Fall for our class going through the book of Acts as we learn about the importance of God's Church.

These are just announcement highlights. If you'd like to know more about Trinity, connect with us in one of the following ways...

- 314/821-7311 • www.trinitychurchkirkwood.org • Facebook: Trinity Church Kirkwood

Worship and General Church Information

- **Sunday school for all ages meets today.** The adults will meet in the sanctuary.
- **Volunteers next week:** Nursery: Taylor, Schlitt, Petty, Kling. SS: Harlow, Van Duren. Ushers: Hendricks, Oehlerking, Garner, Moen, Smith.
- **Small Groups** are kicking off this month. This is a great way to get plugged in and fellowship with others. **Sign-up lists are in the hallway.** Contact Pastor Nate with questions.
- **Men's Bible Study this Friday at 6:30am.** Pastor Polski is leading the men in a study of the Book of Revelation on the 2nd, 3rd and 4th Friday of each month.
- **Women's Bible Study:** The Tues. evening group meets twice a month at 7pm (next gathering is Sept. 10th) at Melissa Jorgensen's home. The morning group will meet weekly on Wednesdays at 9am at Trinity. Childcare is available for Wed. mornings.
- **Trinity Students, Jr. & Sr. High** small groups meet this Wed. from 7-8:30pm. **If you would like to participate in the Bake Sale** for Party on the Lawn to help offset the cost of Fall retreats, please see Mrs. Bailey.
- **Calling all singers!** We need YOUR voices for our choral ensemble which will be singing during the service on Sun., Sept. 15th. No experience necessary to join this group, and we'd love to have many voices. Join us for rehearsal **THIS Wed., Sept. 11th from 6-7pm**, at Trinity. If you are planning to sing, or have questions, please contact Katie Polski.
- **Men's Discipleship Groups** are starting back up soon. Currently we have three groups, but would love to expand. If you're interested in being part of a small group of men who meet twice/month for the purpose of study, prayer, and sharing of life's struggles, then email Pastor Chris or Pastor Nate.
- **Parents:** We would greatly appreciate it if you would help us care for our instruments and sound equipment by **not allowing your children on the stage or to play with the instruments.**
- **Trinity Kid's Connect (membership class)** will take place on **Sept. 14th from 9-11:30am at Trinity.** If you have a child reading age through 5th grade, who is interested in becoming a communing member of Trinity, please contact Pastor Nate or Pastor Ben.
- The churches in St. Louis have a **special opportunity to participate in a joint choir** for the Getty Christmas Concert on December 20th. For details about rehearsals and other information, please contact Katie Polski.
- Mark your Calendars for Trinity's annual **Party on the Lawn, Sat., September 28th** at 5pm. Bring your friends and family for a free food, live entertainment, games, and more!

Trinity's ministries are organized around the core values in our purpose statement which reads: Trinity Church exists to **exalt** God's name, **establish** God's people, **equip** God's church and **engage** God's world, in the power of the Holy Spirit and for the sake of the Risen King, Jesus Christ.

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