

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

October 30, 2022



We are glad you could join us! We would love to connect with you and answer any questions you may have about Trinity. Scan below with your phone camera to leave us your contact information.



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# WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO STRENTHENS HIS CHURCH

Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

Scripture Reader: Tom Schmidt

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Bill Elzinga

#### **Prelude**

#### Welcome and Announcements

# **Quotes and Reflections**

"The necessity and utility of this exercise of prayer no words can sufficiently express." — John Calvin, *Institutes of the Christian Religion*, 3.20.2

"Prayer has a vital place in the life of a Christian. One might pray and not be a Christian, but one cannot be a Christian and not pray." — R.C. Sproul

Westminster Shorter Catechism #98 — Q. What is prayer? A. Prayer is an offering up of our desires unto God, for things agreeable to his will, in the name of Christ, with confession of our sins, and thankful acknowledgment of his mercies.

# WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

**Devotional** – from R.C. Sproul, tabletalkmagazine.org, August 6, 2021.

"One of the great themes of the Reformation was the idea that all of life is to be lived under the authority of God, to the glory of God, in the presence of God. Prayer is not simply a soliloquy, a mere exercise in therapeutic self-analysis, or a religious recitation. Prayer is discourse with the personal God Himself. There, in the act and dynamic of praying, I bring my whole life under His gaze. Yes, He knows what is in my mind, but I still have the privilege of articulating to Him what is there. He says: "Come. Speak to me. Make your requests known to me." So we come in order to know Him and to be known by Him.

There is something erroneous in the question, "If God knows everything, why pray?" The question assumes that prayer is one-dimensional and is defined simply as supplication or intercession. On the contrary, prayer is multidimensional. God's sovereignty casts no shadow over the prayer of adoration. God's foreknowledge or determinate counsel does not negate the prayer of praise. The only thing it should do is give us greater reason for expressing our adoration for who God is. If God knows what I'm going to say before I say it, His knowledge, rather than limiting my prayer, enhances the beauty of my praise.

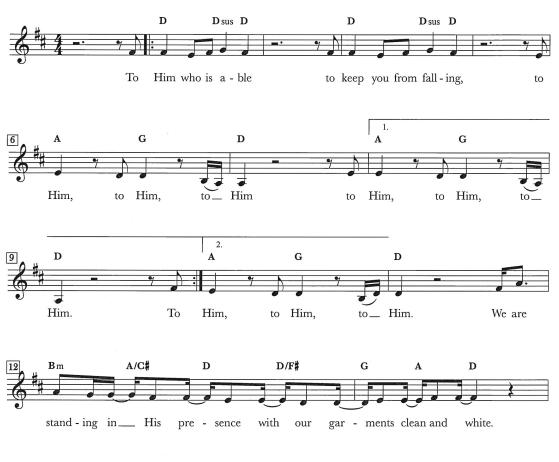
My wife and I are as close as two people can be. Often I know what she's going to say almost before she says it. The reverse is also true. But I still like to hear her say what is on her mind. If that is true of man, how much more true is it of God? We have the matchless privilege of sharing our innermost thoughts with God. Of course, we could simply enter our prayer closets, let God read our minds, and call that prayer. But that's not communion and it's certainly not communication.

We are creatures who communicate primarily through speech. Spoken prayer is obviously a form of speech, a way for us to commune and communicate with God. There is a certain sense in which God's sovereignty should influence our attitude toward prayer, at least with respect to adoration. If anything, our understanding of God's sovereignty should provoke us to an intense prayer life of thanksgiving. Because of such knowledge, we should see that every benefit, every good and perfect gift, is an expression of the abundance of His grace. The more we understand God's sovereignty, the more our prayers will be filled with thanksgiving.

In what way could God's sovereignty *negatively* affect the prayer of contrition, of confession? Perhaps we could draw the conclusion that our sin is ultimately God's responsibility and that our confession is an accusation of guilt against God Himself. Every true Christian knows that he cannot blame God for his sin. I may not understand the relationship between divine sovereignty and human responsibility, but I do realize that what stems from the wickedness of my own heart may not be assigned to the will of God. So we must pray because we are guilty, pleading the pardon of the Holy One whom we have offended."

# **Song of Preparation** (Call and response)

## To Him Who Is Able Jude 23-24. Sandra McCracken





# \*Call to Worship—Psalm 119:137-144 (selected)

Leader: Righteous are you, O Lord, and right are your rules.

You have appointed your testimonies in righteousness

and in all faithfulness.

People: Your promise is well tried, and your servant loves it.

Leader: Your righteousness is righteous forever, and your law is

true.

All: Trouble and anguish have found me out, but your

commandments are my delight. Your testimonies are righteous forever; give me understanding that I

may live.

# WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

\*Songs of Adoration

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Trinity Hymnal #92

> Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart Trinity Hymnal #604

<sup>\*</sup>Prayer of Adoration

# WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

# New Testament Reading—Luke 19:1-10

Jesus and Zacchaeus

He entered Jericho and was passing through. And behold, there was a man named Zacchaeus. He was a chief tax collector and was rich. And he was seeking to see who Jesus was, but on account of the crowd he could not, because he was small in stature. So he ran on ahead and climbed up into a sycamore tree to see him, for he was about to pass that way. And when Jesus came to the place, he looked up and said to him, "Zacchaeus, hurry and come down, for I must stay at your house today." So he hurried and came down and received him joyfully. And when they saw it, they all grumbled, "He has gone in to be the guest of a man who is a sinner." And Zacchaeus stood and said to the Lord, "Behold, Lord, the half of my goods I give to the poor. And if I have defrauded anyone of anything, I restore it fourfold." And Jesus said to him, "Today salvation has come to this house, since he also is a son of Abraham. For the Son of Man came to seek and to save the lost."

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—Isaiah 1:11-17

"What to me is the multitude of your sacrifices? says the Lord; I have had enough of burnt offerings of rams and the fat of well-fed beasts; I do not delight in the blood of bulls, or of lambs, or of goats.

"When you come to appear before me, who has required of you this trampling of my courts? Bring no more vain offerings; incense is an abomination to me. New moon and Sabbath and the calling of convocations— I cannot endure iniquity and solemn assembly. Your new moons and your appointed feasts my soul hates; they have become a burden to me; I am weary of bearing them. When you spread out your hands, I will hide my eyes from you; even though you make many prayers, I will not listen; your hands are full of blood. Wash yourselves; make yourselves clean; remove the evil of your deeds from before my eyes; cease to do evil, correct oppression; bring justice to the fatherless, plead the widow's cause."

# Silent Confession and Lament

# Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Isaiah 1:18

"Come now, let us reason together, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool."

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for washing away

our sins.

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

# \*Song of Pardon

# O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Words by Samuel Trevor Francis. Music by Thomas J. Williams. Arr. by Ryan Foglesong, Patrick Anderson, and John Martin



# Children's Sermon

# WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

**Pastoral Prayer** 

**Tithes and Offerings** 

Offertory Song (Adult Choir)

Jesus, My Savior
Rob Gardner

(Children's Church meets for 4yr to 2nd grade on the 1st & 3rd Sunday)

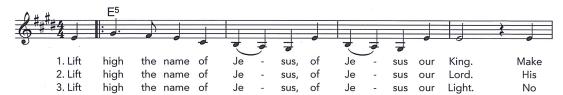
#### Sermon

"Praying for Oneness"
Ephesians 3:14-21
A Series on the Epistle of Ephesians
Rev. Pablo Rosales

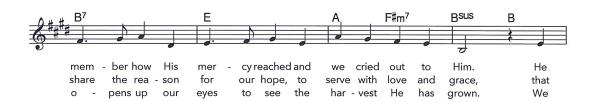
# \*Song of Response

# Lift High the Name of Jesus

Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Fionan de Barra, and Ed Cash

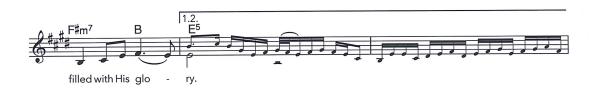














# \*Benediction

# **Adult Sunday School**

#### The Gospel of Matthew (Classroom one)

Ruling Elders Jim Talent and Fielding Poe

This class seeks to provide an in-depth study of the book of Matthew by addressing the text and various key doctrines that emerge from its study toward the goal of helping church members develop a deeper and firmer understanding of the fundamentals of the faith while also providing encouragement and instruction for those who may be interested in leading their own bible studies in the future. The ultimate goal is that all who take part will come away with a renewed appreciation for the King of Kings!

## Reading the Psalms with Jesus (Classroom two)

Dr. Aaron Goldstein

The book of Psalms is the one of the most beloved books of the Bible, featuring oft-memorized and cherished passages. In the Gospels, Jesus quotes or alludes to the Psalms on a number of occasions. In this class, we will explore the Psalms, and as a part of our process, we will learn from the way that Jesus himself takes up the Psalms in his ministry.

#### Adult Choir (Sanctuary)

Katie Polski, Director of Music Ministries

Do you enjoy singing? Join us for 8-9 weeks as we prepare songs for upcoming worship services. No experience necessary.

#### **New Sunday School Class Beginning Nov. 6:**

Parenting is one of the most difficult and yet, rewarding experiences in our lives. But how do we navigate the complexities we face at each different stage of the journey? Join Pastor Polski for this Sunday School class beginning Nov. 6 in the Fireplace Room as he leads conversations on, and explores biblical teachings related to issues in parenting. Please note that this class isn't just for parents of young children, it's for anyone and everyone who ever has been, is now, or who hopes to be a parent someday since an intergenerational and multi-perspectival dialogue on parenting is essential to developing a context for wisdom and discernment in our calling as parents.

## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

Sunday school classes for all ages meet today.

**Wed. night dinner:** Register today for dinner at 5:30 on Wed. This week we will have a taco bar. Adult-\$8, Children-\$4. **Deadline to register is Tue. at 3pm.** Go to events in Church Center or email Amy Mitchell.

**Jr. Students:** meet on Wednesdays from 6-7:15pm. **Sr. High** meets on Sundays from 6-7:30pm in the lower level youth area. Make plans to attend **George Night TONIGHT** from 6-7:30pm!

Ladies make plans to join us for Luameier After Dark on Sat., Nov. 5th from 4-9pm.

Men's Bible study meets Wed. at 6pm, continuing with a look at the Book of Acts. Women, on Tuesdays at 7pm twice a month we will meet to discuss Ecclesiastes at Melissa Jorgensen's home (11/8) or we meet weekly on Wednesdays at 9am or 6pm to study 1, 2, 3 John.

Men's Night Wed. at 7:30pm at Chris Freeman's.

Volunteers today: Ushers: Roberts, Maglione, Wong, O'Neal. Nursery: Waldron, Hendricks, Cheatham, Ridenhour, Marcus. SS: Jorgensen, Harlow. Next Sunday: Ushers: Schaefer, Schlitt, T. Thomason. Nursery: Halls, Garner, M. Linenbroker, Petty. SS: Hammond, Shelton.

**ACTION meets Wednesdays** starting with dinner at 5:30pm followed by ministries for ALL ages. We have nursery, children's activities, singing, men's and women's bible study, and Jr. High.

Christmas Craft Party: Sat., Dec. 3rd at 9am-12:15pm. Kids ages 4yrs to 5th grade will make gifts to take home, enjoy singing, a special Christmas story, and lunch. Space is limited. Registration opens on Nov. 1st. Go to Church Center or our website to register.

Save the Date: Thanksgiving Service: Wed., Nov. 23 at 5:30pm. Trinity's Christmas Concert on Sun., Dec. 18th. Christmas Eve Service at 5pm, Christmas Morning Service at 10:30am. If you do not receive our **weekly email updates** on Tuesday mornings, please send your email address to amymitchell@trinitystlouis.org.

There are several easy ways to serve at Trinity. Feel free to reach out to these ministry coordinators to get involved: Ushers: Paul Schaffer (PaulSchaffer1012@gmail.com), Greeters: James Broughton (jlbroughton12@gmail.com), Nursery: Alyce Bava (jimnalyce@yahoo.com). Children's SS: Michelle Goldstein or Melissa Kocker (medcalf.melissa@gmail.com)

Did you know you can use the **Church Center app** for online giving, church
directory, to sign up for events, connect
with your small groups, bible studies, etc?
Contact the church office for assistance.

You can sign up for all upcoming events by scanning your phone camera over the QR code and then following the link:



#### HELP NEEDED

The Christmas Craft Party is almost a month away. To make this annual event a success it take a LOT of help. There are simple ways to volunteer (you don't need to be crafty) or items needed to be donated. See the sign up sheets on the bulletin board across from the world map or use the QR code.



Registration for the kids begins Nov. 1st on Church Center or our website.

#### MISSION UPDATE

#### Restore St. Louis - Fall Workday, November 12th

Restore St. Louis is a ministry that helps the underserved in our city. Every month they offer volunteer opportunities for churches to be the hands of the Lord in serving widows and the elderly, who need work done in and around their homes. This upcoming month, Trinity Youth is volunteering and is inviting anyone at Trinity to join them. We will meet at New City Fellowship in University City (1483 82<sup>nd</sup> Blvd.) at 8:30am. We are typically done around 12pm.

If you plan on attending, please email Pablo (pablotrosales@gmail.com). It will be helpful to have an accurate headcount.

Please be advised that this work typically involves manual labor. This fall, we will be most likely cleaning up leaves, but an occasional ramp construction, or door installation, has happened.

## Robinson Elementary Food Pantry - November 21st

Robinson Elementary hosts a food pantry every month during the school year. They collect and distribute food and supplies to families in need. Trinity Church has partnered with them and assists in greeting, meeting, and providing necessary items to families. During COVID, when public schools were forced to close, Trinity Church hosted the pantry at our location. Since returning to the school, we have the privilege and opportunity to come alongside Robinson Elementary and serve our community.

There are 2 volunteers needed every month. 1 spot left! Please sign-up on the Events page of our Church Center app.

## Ministering to the Sexually Broken

Last Sunday we welcomed FirstLight ministries during our ministry moment at the beginning of our service. FirstLight has been a beacon of hope and healing in St. Louis for the last 15 years. They have helped hundreds of men and women find comfort and healing in Jesus as they seek to live out their convictions regarding healthy, biblical sexuality.

Through providing support groups, teaching, and developing resources aimed at helping the church disciple people in the area of sexuality, FirstLight continues to be a voice in the conversation about what it looks like to live faithfully for Jesus in the midst of a sexually broken world.

If you want to confidentially talk more about this, consider contacting the pastors via email, text, or through the confidential prayer request section that only they receive, by scanning the QR code:

