

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

November 13, 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 UNITES US TO ONE ANOTHER

Liturgist: Rev. Pablo Rosales

Scripture Reader: Kathy O'Neal

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Chris Freeman

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Quotes and Reflections

"Cursed be that unity for which the Word of God is put at stake."

— Martin Luther

And yet...

"We cannot expect the world to believe that the Father sent the Son, that Jesus' claims are true, and that Christianity is true, unless the world sees some reality of the oneness of true Christians." — Francis Schaeffer

WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

Abridged from an Article Entitled "Five Ways to Maintain Unity amid Disagreement" by Dan Doriani on TGC.com.

It seems that people today disagree more often and more sharply than ever. For millennia, most societies agreed on basic questions: What is virtue and goodness? What do people owe their family and society? What is the script for a leader, a man, a woman, a child? There were always disagreements, but now they've become more frequent and fundamental...Is there a better way to maintain a unified community amid disagreement? Here are five encouragements.

1. Listen actively, attentively, and empathetically.

James 1:19 (NIV) says, "Be quick to listen, slow to speak and slow to become angry." We should listen with the goal of stating the other person's position in terms she'd consider accurate and fair...The goal of listening is to open a dialogue, not launch a critique. Don't interrupt to say, "No, no, no!" Listen for the other person's strongest points, not to refute her weakest ones.

2. Give grace and show love.

We're to speak the truth in love and give grace to those who hear (Eph. 4:15, 29). If someone with whom you disagree misspeaks slightly or makes a minor mistake, we may ignore it. If he struggles to make his point, you can repeat back what you think he's saying and ask, "Is that right?" This is one way to live by Proverbs 20:3: "It is an honor for a man to keep aloof from strife, but every fool will be quarreling." It's gracious to acknowledge that debated issues are complex and that your conversation partner makes valid points—or at least heartfelt and interesting points. If we think an idea is hopelessly misguided, we can at least say, "I agree this is an important issue."

3. Keep the big picture in mind.

Gospel-driven churches gladly welcome unbelievers and Christians from every ecclesiastical tradition into their worship and Bible studies. If that's true, how much more should we graciously engage people from every political and social tradition? Paul says, "There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male or female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus" (Gal. 3:28). He saw how God's justifying verdict transcended the sharpest divisions of his day. We must let our faith in Jesus count more than ethnicity, social views, and economic or educational status.

4. Find common ground.

We usually listen better to those with whom we agree on certain essentials. So, at the beginning of a dialogue, it's helpful to find that common ground. Can we agree God is neither Republican nor Democrat? Can we agree the church ought to welcome people from across the political spectrum? Can we agree that the leading political parties both emphasize points that resonate with Scripture?

5. Use points of contact to build bridges wherever you can.

In Acts 17:22–28, Paul connected with pagans by agreeing with them that there was (for them) "an unknown god." He cited, with some approval, pagan poets who proclaimed, "In him we live and move and have our being" and "We are indeed his offspring." Paul models how we can, for the sake of discussion, make statements that are plausible to both parties even when those parties may define the terms differently.

We must let our faith in Jesus count more than ethnicity, social views, and economic or educational status.

These five suggestions will help you to promote respectful dialogue amid disagreement. After all, no one wins a shouting match. If we hope to win secular people with the gospel, we must learn to listen and communicate with great skill. If we hope to have unity with fellow believers, we must learn to kindly dialogue with them as well. We may persuade them, and we may even be persuaded by them, but the goal is to be humble peacemakers who bring healing within the church and shine the gospel of peace brightly in the world.

*Call to Worship—Psalm 98 (selected)

Leader: Oh sing to the Lord a new song, for he has done

marvelous things!

People: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises!

Leader: Sing praises to the Lord with the lyre, with the lyre and

the sound of melody!

People: With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a

joyful noise before the King, the Lord!

All: Let everything that has breath praise the Lord!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

*Songs of Adoration

All People That on Earth Do Dwell

Words by William Kethe. Additional Words & Music by Alen Glover





*Songs of Adoration

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)
Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

Chorus Bless the Lord O my soul, O my soul Worship His holy name Sing like never before, O my soul I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up, it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

(Chorus)

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger Your name is great and Your heart is kind For all Your goodness I will keep on singing Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

(Chorus)

And on that day when my strength is failing The end draws near and my time has come Still my soul will sing Your praise unending Ten thousand years and then forevermore

(Chorus)
Lord, I'll worship Your holy name

*Prayer of Adoration

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 65:17-25

New Heavens and a New Earth

"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. No more shall there be in it an infant who lives but a few days, or an old man who does not fill out his days, for the young man shall die a hundred years old, and the sinner a hundred years old shall be accursed. They shall build houses and inhabit them; they shall plant vineyards and eat their fruit. They shall not build and another inhabit; they shall not plant and another eat; for like the days of a tree shall the days of my people be, and my chosen shall long enjoy the work of their hands. They shall not labor in vain or bear children for calamity, for they shall be the offspring of the blessed of the Lord, and their descendants with them. Before they call I will answer; while they are yet speaking I will hear. The wolf and the lamb shall graze together; the lion shall eat straw like the ox, and dust shall be the serpent's food. They shall not hurt or destroy in all my holy mountain,' says the Lord.

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—2 Thessalonians 3:13

As for you, brothers, do not grow weary in doing good.

Silent Confession and Lament

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Isaiah 12:2

"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation."

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for saving us!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

*Song of Pardon

We Will Say In That Day

Wendell Kimbrough



Children's Sermon

WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

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

Offertory Song (please join when directed) Oh How Good It Is





Sermon

"Unified"
Ephesians 4:1-6
A Series on the Epistle of Ephesians
Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

*Song of Response

The Church's One Foundation

Words: Samuel Stone. Music: Brian Moss



rest.

*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!

Perspectives on Parenting (Classroom two)

Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

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 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.

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.

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.

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 (11/29) or we meet weekly on Wednesdays at 9am or 6pm to study 1, 2, 3 John.

Volunteers today: Ushers: Oehlerking, Moen, Smith, Broughton. Nursry: Schmidt, Talent, M. Cheatham, Mitchell, Ridenhour. SS: Bava, Nichols. Next Sunday: Ushers: Roberts, Maglione, Wong, O'Neal. Nursery: Poe, Doak, S. Goldstein, Younger, Hammond. SS: Broughton, Keating.

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. This is our last **ACTION** for the semester.

Men's Breakfast: THIS Sat., Nov. 19th at 8-9am. RSVP to Kyle Roberts or on Church Center.

Mom's Group next gathering is Mon., Nov. 21st. See Alyce Bava for details.

Christmas Craft Party: Sat., Dec. 3rd at 9am. Kids ages 4yrs to 5th grade will make gifts to take home, enjoy singing, a special Christmas story, and lunch. Space is limited. Registration is open on Church Cetner or our website. Bring your friends! We still need volunteers and donations. Please sign up on the bulletin board in the hall or on Church Center.

Trinity's annual **Christmas Concert** is Sun., Dec. 18th at 6:30pm (doors open at 6pm). This year's concert, *The Weary World Rejoices*, will begin with a prelude by W. Mark Akin, classical guitarist.

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:



THANKSGIVING WEEK

Make plans to join us on Wed., Nov. 23rd at 5:30pm for a family friendly service of thanksgiving. We will worship in song, prayer, and with testimonies of God's goodness. It is a tradition to open the floor to anyone who would like to briefly share what they are thankful for and to bring a symbol or item related to their testimony. All ages are welcome to share!

Then come back on Sat., Nov. 26th at 9am to help us decorate the church for Advent and Christmas.

MISSION UPDATE

Coffee on Glenwood - This Friday, November 18th

Coffee of Glenwood began to show our neighbors, as they pass by our church on Friday mornings, that we are here. We understand that the weeks have been long and there are pressures at school and work. Maybe a smile, a cup of coffee, a croissant, and prayer, will encourage them before the weekend. We want them to know that Trinity Church exists to serve them and not ourselves.

This is not possible without you! There are 2 volunteers needed every month. Please sign-up on the Events page of our Church Center app. If you can't make it, please pray for our volunteers.

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. This month is full, but there is no cap on prayer. Pray for our volunteers and consider signing-up on the Events page of our Church Center app.

Ministering to the Sexually Broken

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.

Please visit with the FirstLight representative in the narthex following the service if you know someone who has been affected by sexual brokenness and would like more information.

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:

