

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

January 22, 2023

WORSHIPING THE GOD THAT CALLS US FROM DARKNESS INTO LIGHT

Liturgist: Tim Jackson

Scripture Reader: Ellie Perry

Pastoral Prayer: Fielding Poe, Ruling Elder

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

For you formed my inward parts; you knitted me together in my mother's womb. I praise you, for I am fearfully and wonderfully made. Wonderful are your works; my soul knows it very well. — Psalm 139:13-14

"As a Christian is never out of the reach of God's hand, so he is never out of the view of God's eye." — Thomas Brooks

Devotional Preparation

A Prayer for Sanctity of Life Sunday- Rev. Scotty Smith

Most loving Lord Jesus, your loud voice and tear wiping hand, together, give us the courage and compassion we need to live as faithful advocates for human life—in all its expressions. How we long for the Day when "death shall be no more"—when life will flourish in the new heaven and new earth.

Today we especially think about the lives of unborn children and the constant threat to those lives—even as we cry out to you on behalf of all kinds of women in all kinds of situations who are carrying those children in their wombs.

All of your promises are "trustworthy and true," so we will neither despair nor retreat in the face of unconscionable evil and overwhelming need. Jesus, give us gospel courage to contend against the dark oxymoron called "legal abortion." Those two words simply do not belong together. Because you are making "all things new," we will continue to fight the good fight of faith for children who are still being knit together in their mother's womb.

There is a Day coming when abortion will be no more. In light of that Day, give us wisdom. Give us strength. Give us fire. Give us perseverance. Give us the sufficient grace we need to advocate for unborn children in this day—in our communities and among the nations of the world.

We also cry out for gospel compassion. Jesus, show us how to love and care for women and men whose stories are marked by abortion—either as victims or agents. Only the gospel is sufficient for the guilt. Only the gospel can bring healing. Only the gospel can transform an agent of wrong into a warrior for justice and mercy.

Jesus, we don't just long for the Day of no more abortions. We also long for the Day of no more miscarriages. Sin and death have violated every domain of shalom, including the realm of birthing. Our hearts break for those families who would love a child to your glory, but must endure the pain of giving up their children before birth. Show us how to love and serve them well. Extend your tear-wiping hand through us.

How long, Jesus, before the last abortion and the last miscarriage? How long, O Lord? Until that Day, we also ask for courage and compassion to adopt the millions of orphaned children who have safely made it into this world. May our zeal against abortion be matched by a zeal for walking with women in crisis pregnancies and zeal for adopting the millions of orphans in the world. Surely there is room in our hearts and homes for these precious image bearers of yours. Surely the gospel is big enough for this calling too. So very Amen we pray, in your holy and loving name.

Song of Preparation

Christ The Sure and Steady Anchor

Words and Music by Matthew Papa and Matthew Boswell



Call to Worship—Psalm 27 (selected)

Leader: The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I

fear?

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

Leader: One thing have I asked of the Lord, that will I seek

after: that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the

days of my life

People: And now my head shall be lifted up above my enemies all around me, and I will offer in his tent sacrifices with shouts of joy

All: I will sing and make melody to the Lord!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

*Songs of Adoration

The Lord Is My Salvation

Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Nathan Nockles, and Jonas Myrin





Rock Of Ages, Cleft for Me Trinity Hymnal #500

*Prayer of Adoration

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

New Testament Reading—Matthew 4:12-23

Jesus Begins His Ministry

Now when he heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew into Galilee. And leaving Nazareth he went and lived in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what was spoken by the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

"The land of Zebulun and the land of Naphtali, the way of the sea, beyond the Jordan, Galilee of the Gentiles—the people dwelling in darkness have seen a great light, and for those dwelling in the region and shadow of death, on them a light has dawned."

From that time Jesus began to preach, saying, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is at hand."

While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

And he went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction among the people.

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—1 Corinthians 1:10-13a

I appeal to you, brothers, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you agree, and that there be no divisions among you, but that you be united in the same mind and the same judgment. For it has been reported to me by Chloe's people that there is quarreling among you, my brothers. What I mean is that each one of you says, "I follow Paul," or "I follow Apollos," or "I follow Cephas," or "I follow Christ." Is Christ divided?

Silent Confession and Lament

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—1 Cor. 1:30

And because of him you are in Christ Jesus, who became to us wisdom from God, righteousness and sanctification and redemption.

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for redeeming us by

the blood of Christ!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

*Song of Rejoicing

Oh Give Thanks!

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 (Ensemble)

In The Light
Words and Music by Charlie Peacock

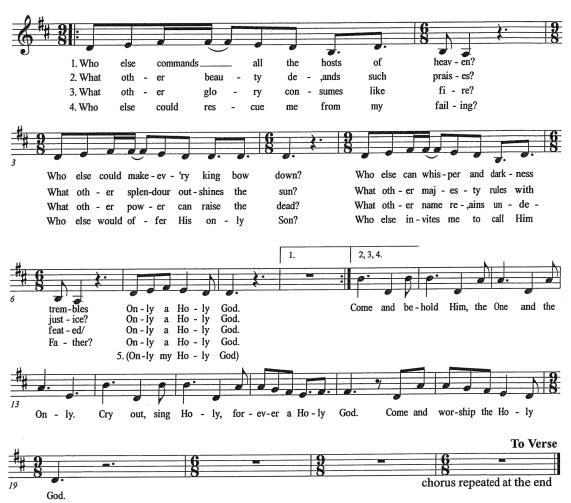
Sermon

"Light in the Darkness" Ephesians 5:3-14 Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

*Song of Response

Only A Holy God

Michael Farren, Johnny Robinson, Dustin Smith, and Rich Thompson



*Benediction

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday School for all ages meets today. See the next page for temporary room changes due to repairs to the building.

Children's Church is available for ages 4yrs to 2nd grade during the sermon on the 1st & 3rd Sundays of the month. We are temporarily meeting in the lower level youth area.

Ladies Connect is TOMORROW at Mickie Schmidt's home. Join us at 7:30pm for a relaxed evening of fellowship. Feel free to bring a snack or beverage to share (not required).

Trinity ladies, join us for bible study and prayer. Two Tuesday evenings a month a group meets in Melissa Jorgensen's home to discuss the Book of Ecclesiastes (next gathering: 1/24). We also meet weekly on Wed. either at 9am or 6pm to study the Book of Judges.

Men's Bible Study meets Wednesday at 6pm.

Volunteers today: Ushers: Schaffer, T. Thomason, Schlitt. Nursery: P. Waldron, Inion, Goldstein, Oehlerking, Marcus. SS: Hammond, Harlow. Next Sunday: Ushers: S. Thomason, Younger, Standerfer, Kocher. Nursery: Garner, Hall, M. Cheathan, Ridenhour. SS: Nichols, Doiron.

We could use a few more volunteers for the usher team, nursery, ACTION children's activities, Sunday snacks, and Sunday coffee. See Amy Mitchell for help signing up.

You can find an **updated Sunday snack schedule** in your weekly email. Please consider signing up for an upcoming Sunday.

ACTION (All Church Things In One Night) meets WED. from 6-7:15pm. There is something for everyone: nursery, children's activities, games, lessons, and choir, women's and men's bible studies, Jr. High youth. We will not be providing dinner, however we will have tables set up if you would like to bring your own.

Men's Breakfast: Saturday, Jan. 28th at 8am. Sign up on Church Center or see Kyle Roberts.

We are currently in the process of assessing Summer programming for Children's Ministry, particularly in the areas of outreach events and activities. Your feedback is appreciated and valued regardless of whether you have a child currently in Children's Ministry. A link will be sent by email, or you may scan the QR code below. Thank you for your help!

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 <u>following the link</u>:



SINGERS:

Calling all singers! All are welcome to join our adult choir this semester which will meet during the Sunday School hour from February 5th through April 2nd. Our choir will sing three times during the Sunday morning services this semester, including Easter Sunday. If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to Katie Polski.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

While the building is undergoing repairs we need to temporarily move our Sunday school classes. Please note the new locations below:

Adult Sunday School - Sanctuary

Christian Forgiveness

Do you struggle to forgive? Do you struggle to ask for forgiveness even when you know that you have wronged another person? Do you have difficulty knowing when and how and even whether you can trust a person that has hurt you? If any of these things are true for you, join Pastor Polski for a four-week exploration of the topic of Christian Forgiveness beginning on Sunday, January 15 and running through January 29. If any are interested, you can pick up the new book called "Forgive" by Tim Keller as some of the ideas in this book will recur in our class.

Jr. & Sr. High Students - Fireplace Room

4th-5th Grade - Sr. High (lower level)

1st-3rd Grade - Jr. High (lower level)

Pre K/Kindergarten - Current toddler nursery (next to the kitchen)

Nursery - Current infant nursery (across from the kitchen)

MISSION UPDATE

Crates for Ukraine – Winter Crates

Last year, Trinity Church led an initiative to get necessary supplies into the hands of the church in Ukraine. In partnership with other churches, we were responsible for getting 24 crates to Ukraine. Our very own, Pastor Chris, flew 6 crates into Poland, which were then transported over the border into Ukraine. These supplies were essential for the ministry of the church in Ukraine. Church members carried these supplies to the front lines and provided aid to many who have suffered as a result of the war.

With the winter is setting in quickly a new list of needs have arisen. Our mission's committee is spearheading round 2 of Crates for Ukraine. In partnership with our presbytery and other churches we will collect, pack, and transport, supplies to a warehouse in Chattanooga, TN. They will then be shipped via a carrier transport setup by MTW-Ukraine.

Please take a look at the list found here:



You can physically go to the store and purchase these specific items, or you can purchase them from the Amazon lists we create and have them shipped to our church here:

PLEASE NOTE – The items requested are specific. Only purchase what is on the list; i.e.- CAT tourniquets must be CAT tourniquets as off-brands will fail during use.

Volunteers will be helpful when its time for packing. Please see Becky Givens for details. Deadline for supplies: Last week of February.

Mark your calendars - May 20th - BBQ with Oasis International

Oasis is a ministry that comes alongside new arrivals to this country to help them acclimate to a new land, people, and cultures. They provide resources and material goods to families in order to reflect the love that God has for all his image bearers. They are constantly looking to deepen relationships with refugees and immigrants in order to find open doors for sharing what we all need, the reconciliation of our broken relationship with God.

This BBQ serves to strengthen the relationship that Oasis has with this community. At the same time, it is a unique opportunity for us to create and develop relationships with people who are very different from us, all while enjoying a Arts and Crafts, a performance from Kinetic Tapestry (A Circus and Performing Arts Studio in St. Louis), Grilled Burgers and Hot Dogs.

Please bring the whole family for this event. Non-volunteers can arrive around 11am.

Location: Oasis International • 5035 Gravois Ave • St. Louis, MO 63116



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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