

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

February 26, 2023 First Sunday in Lent

WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO ABIDES WITH US

Liturgist: Rev. Pablo Rosales

Scripture Reader: Josie Standerfer

Pastoral Prayer: Michael Jorgensen, Ruling Elder

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Quotes and Reflections

When I was a child, I spoke like a child, I thought like a child, I reasoned like a child. When I became a man, I gave up childish ways. — I Cor. 13:11

Hear, my son, and accept my words, that the years of your life may be many.

— Prov. 4:10

"You are parenting a worshiper, so it's important to remember that what rules your child's heart will control their behavior." — Paul Tripp

"A father that disciplined his son for swearing, and swore himself whilst he disciplined him, did more harm by his example than good by his correction."

— Thomas Fuller

WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

Parents, Just Go to Church by Cameron Cole (excerpted from TGC.COM)

At a Fortune 500 corporation, many interests and demands consume the company's time and resources. How does an executive choose what opportunities to prioritize? The same is true for Christian parents. Tremendous resources exist for discipling kids: devotionals, catechisms, and guides for family worship. Parents are paralyzed when confronted with all the good options. Where do we start?

Hear me when I say this: start by going to church. Yes, I encourage you to pray with your kids. Read the Bible as a family. Attempt to have family worship. Use a catechism. These are all excellent disciplines. But if you can only choose one discipline, go to church. Make attending corporate worship the top priority for your family. There's nothing more positive you can do for your children than to attend corporate worship at your church every week.

Corporate Worship Sets the Tone for Life

A parent in our church once made a statement that caught me off guard: "Corporate worship is crucial to my family. It's the center of our family's life." I know this family. They do family worship as well, and they read devotions, but this father said corporate worship is the single biggest priority in his family's life. Why?

If you can only choose one discipline, go to church. Make attending corporate worship the top priority for your family.

This dad's mentality is consistent with how Scripture prioritizes corporate worship. God is the center of our lives. In corporate worship, we make this clear. We receive God's grace through Word, sacrament, and prayer. We respond to God's grace with praise, thanksgiving, and love.

We fellowship with him under his Word and by his grace. We serve, worship, and flourish out of that communion. In these ways, corporate worship is the whole Christian life in distilled and concentrated form.

God commands his people to meet for worship weekly (Deut. 5:12; Heb. 10:25). It's not optional or a matter of preference, and this is God's mercy toward us. God knows how badly we need the benefits of meeting together. God doesn't need our worship. We, on the other hand, desperately need corporate worship to center and order our lives around the Lord.

It's Hard to Get to Church. That's the Point.

Nothing can prepare you for the labor that is getting small children out the door to church on a Sunday morning. I don't know if it's spiritual warfare or whiplash from the weekend, but dressing small kids and loading them into the car is a grind. Even when your kids are teenagers, there are days they seem to resist just about anything you suggest. Getting to church is hard. But that's part of the value of attending church every Sunday. It sets the tone for the Christian's daily struggle to live in personal relationship with Christ.



Daily fellowship with and service to the Lord involve a purposeful, deliberate approach. Getting up in the morning to pray and read Scripture isn't easy. Praising God in times of pain and sorrow can be a struggle. Entering conflict, repenting, and engaging in reconciliation requires effort, purpose, and patience. But however difficult these endeavors are, we find life and peace as a result. The intentional effort we make to attend corporate worship each week reinforces for our kids the patterns of intentionality and endurance necessary for a fulfilling and fruitful Christian life.

Model Unflinching Commitment to Sunday Worship

When I was a kid, we went to church every single week, even on vacation. I often complained about it (though I liked the donuts they served at Sunday school). I asked my father, "Why can't we take a week off?" My old-school Dad would always reply in the same gruff Southern drawl, "Son, God gives us seven days a week. We can sacrifice one morning for him." The only other "religious thing" we did in our household was pray at meals. Still, my Dad's maxim and our consistent church attendance made a major impression.

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When I left for college, this pattern was deeply embedded in my life. I was usually the only person on my hall who attended church on Sunday, but I'd get up and go. When I traveled and missed Sunday morning church, I'd go to a campus service that night.

My family's commitment to Sunday worship communicated major truths to me: God is the center of life. God is worthy of praise and worship. The Christian life requires sacrifice and discipline. My father rarely talked to me about spiritual matters; I don't think he had a vast vocabulary for such conversations. Still, he modeled the Christian life well, largely through his unflinching commitment to go to church every Sunday.

If you feel inadequate to lead your kids spiritually, just go to church. If strategizing about your Christian parenting feels overly complicated, just go to church. If you've been taking a few too many Sundays off, just go to church. If all of this seems overwhelmingly difficult, ask God to give you the grace to have this consistent discipline in your family's life. Faithful church attendance can have an eternal influence on your kids.

Song of Preparation

We Fall Down

Words and Music by Chris Tomlin



Call to Worship—Psalm 32 (selected)

Leader: You are a hiding place for me;

People: You preserve me from trouble;

Leader: You surround me with shouts of deliverance.

People: Many are the sorrows of the wicked, but steadfast

love surrounds the one who trusts in the Lord.

All: Be glad in the Lord, and rejoice, O righteous, and

shout for joy, all you upright in heart!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

*Songs of Adoration

How Great Is Our God

Words and Music by Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, and Ed Cash



How Great Thou Art

Words and Music by Stuart Wesley Keene Hine



*Prayer of Adoration

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

New Testament Reading—Matthew 4:1-11

The Temptation of Jesus

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. And after fasting forty days and forty nights, he was hungry. And the tempter came and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread." But he answered, "It is written,

"'Man shall not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God.'"

Then the devil took him to the holy city and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down, for it is written,

"'He will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus said to him, "Again it is written, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" Again, the devil took him to a very high mountain and showed him all the kingdoms of the world and their glory. And he said to him, "All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me." Then Jesus said to him, "Be gone, Satan! For it is written,

"'You shall worship the Lord your God and him only shall you serve.'"

Then the devil left him, and behold, angels came and were ministering to him.

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—Psalm 32:3-5

For when I kept silent, my bones wasted away through my groaning all day long. For day and night your hand was heavy upon me; my strength was dried up as by the heat of summer. Selah. I acknowledged my sin to you, and I did not cover my iniquity; I said, "I will confess my transgressions to the Lord," and you forgave the iniquity of my sin. Selah

If you would like to participate in a tangible acknowledgement of our sin and our need for renewal, please come forward upon direction.

Song of Confession (Ensemble)

Lord, Have Mercy

Music by Marc Willerton. Words by Marc Willerton and Jordan Kauflin

O God, we come before Your throne, and in your weakness we confess:
We go astray and sin each day; We cast ourselves upon Your grace
O Lord, have mercy on us, sinners in need of grace
Forgive us our transgressions and lead us in Your righteous ways.
God, lead us in Your righteous ways.

The blood You shed has paid our debts; Jesus, You've washed our sins away. We trust Your grace, believe by faith, in You we have all righteousness. O Lord, You've shown us mercy; Sinners are washed as saints. You've shown Your loving kindness, sons of disgrace are righteous made.

Sons of disgrace are righteous made.

We fix our eyes on You, our prize, Jesus, the Author of our faith.
Till You return or bring us home You strengthen us to run the race.
O Lord, forever faithful, all glory to Your Name! We have no other Savior,
Our great Redeemer, God and King, Jesus, Redeemer, God and King.

O Lord, forever faithful, all glory to Your Name! We have no other Savior, Our great Redeemer, God and King, Jesus, Redeemer, God and King.

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Psalm 32:1-2

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for covering our

sins!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

Words and Music by Andrew Peterson and Ben Shive

(Ensemble): Do you feel the world is broken? (Congregation): We do (Ensemble): Do you feel the shadows deepen? (Congregation): We do (Ensemble): But do you know that all the dark won't stop the light from getting through? (Congregation): We do (Ensemble): Do you wish that you could see it all made new? (Congregation): We do

(Ensemble): Is all creation groaning? (Congregation): It is (Ensemble): Is a new creation coming? (Congregation): It is (Ensemble): Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? (Congregation): It is

(Ensemble): Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? (Congregation): It is

(Chorus: All)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
Is He worthy, is He worthy? Of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy of this? He is.

(Ensemble): Does the Father truly love us? (Congregation): He does (Ensemble): Does the Spirit move among us? (Congregation): He does (Ensemble): And does Jesus, our Messiah hold forever those He loves? (Congregation): He does (Ensemble): Does our God intend to dwell again with us? (Congregation): He does

(Chorus: All)

Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole?
Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll?
The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave
He is David's root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave
From every people and tribe, every nation and tongue
He has made us a kingdom and priests to God to reign with His Son
Is He worthy? Of all blessing and honor and glory?
Is He worthy of this? He is.
Is He worthy? Is He worthy?

He is. He is

WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

(Children's Church meets for 4yr to 2nd grade with the exception of the 5th Sunday of the month)

Offertory Song (Adult Choir)

Arise, My Soul, Arise
Words and Music by Andrew Peterson and Ben Shive

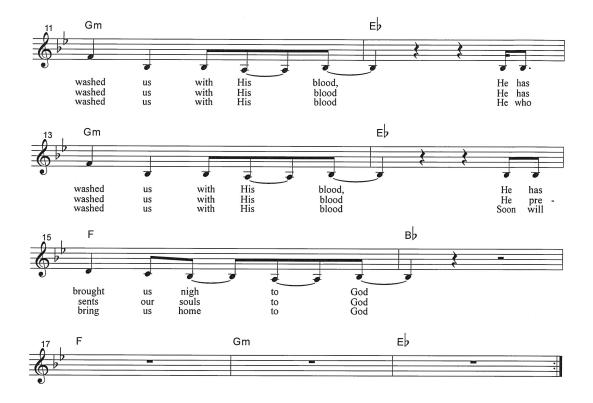
"On Christian Parenting and the Future Faith of our Children" Ephesians 6:1-4 and Deuteronomy 6:4-12 Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

*Song of Response

Let Us Love And Sing And Wonder

Words by John Newton. Music by Laura Taylor





- 4. Let us wonder grace and justice
 Join and point to mercy's store
 When through grace in Christ our trust is
 Justice smiles and asks no more
 He who washed us with His blood
 He who washed us with His blood
 He who washed us with His blood
 Has secured our way to God
- 5. Let us praise and join the chorus Of the saints enthroned on high Here they trusted Him before us Now their praises fill the sky Thou hast washed us with Thy blood Thou hast washed us with Thy blood Thou hast washed us with Thy blood Thou art worthy Lamb of God

*Benediction

SUNDAY SCHOOL

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

Adult Sunday School

Evangelism: A Better Story - Rev. Pablo Rosales (Fireplace Room 101)

The Great Commission is known by every believer. Christians are called to share the wonderful story that they believe to be true. However, in the modern world there exist several competing stories. Together, we will first take a look at the Great Commission and then listen to the competing stories, in order to find ways to share the "Better Story."

Turning Points: A Survey of the Most Significant Moments in Church History and Why They Still Matter – Rev. Dr. Chris Polski (Sanctuary)

It's been over 2000 years since the earthly ministry of Christ concluded and during that time His followers have expanded from being a small sect in Jerusalem to a world-wide movement of billions who have altered the course of human history. What were the most significant events in that process? Who were the key players and what did they believe? How did the church become what it is today and what lessons can we learn as we seek to live out our calling where the Lord has planted us? Please join Pastor Polski during the SS hour as he explores these and other fascinating questions by looking at key moments in the history of the Church.

Exodus - Ruling Elders, Fielding Poe and Jim Talent (Room 102)

Moses, the Law, the Egyptian Plagues, the flight from Egypt: the references from Exodus are throughout Scripture. Can we really understand Mount Zion, unless we study to appreciate this experience of Mount Sinai? As our pastors take us through Exodus in their Sunday sermons, we will be doing a verse-by-verse study of the book, Exodus, a Flight from Slavery.

Adult Choir - Katie Polski, Music Director (Room 106B-near rear entrance)

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.

Jr. & Sr. High Students - Sr. High- toddler nursery room 103 | Jr. High room 104

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)

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 on the 1st-4th Sundays of each month during the sermon. We are temporarily meeting in the lower level youth area.

All are invited to attend the parent **meeting tonight at 6pm.** Our youth team will give updates on the jr. & sr. high ministries. The pastors will also lead a dialogue about the morning's sermon and a Q and A session.

Ladies, plan to come to **Ladies Connect TOMORROW** at Mickie Schmidt's at 7:30pm.

Young Adult Lunch: Join us on the first Sunday of the month (Mar 5th), 12:15pm after church at High Point Drive-In (951 S Kirkwood Rd).

New(ish) to Trinity? We would love for you to join us for a **Welcome Lunch on March 5th**, following the Sunday School hour. This will be a great opportunity to meet other visitors, as well as long time members of Trinity. You can ask questions about our church and hear from a few ministry leaders about ways to get plugged in.

While we have a big Church Work Day coming on Apr. 1st, we could use a **little help this Sat. at 9am** as we move the nursery rooms back and set up our children's classrooms. Please consider lending a hand!

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: 2/28). 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: S. Thomason, Heintz, Standerfer, Younger. Nursery: McCall, Hendricks, M. Linenbroker, Boeddeker, K. Linenbroker. SS: Keating. CC: Oehlerking, Sweet. Next Sunday: Ushers: Oehlerking, Moen, Broughton, Smith. Nursery: Garner, Doak, Polski, Doak, O'Neal. SS: Hammond, Harlow. CC: Doiron, Roberts.

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

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.

If you do not receive our **weekly email updates** on Tuesday mornings, please send your email address to amy.mitchell@trinitychurchkirkwood.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**: Alyssa Hall (alyssaruth120@gmail.com).

Children's SS: Michelle Goldstein or Melissa Kocker

(children@trinitychurchkirkwood.org)

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:



SAVE THE DATE

Here are a few events coming in the next several months:

- Youth Group Mystery Event-Mar. 3rd at West County Mall
- Trivia Night- Mar. 31, 6:30-9pm
- Church Work Day- Apr. 1, 9am
- Good Friday Service- Apr. 7 at 7pm
- Easter Sunrise Service- Apr. 9 at 7am
- Easter Morning Worship- Apr. 9 at 9:30am

MISSION UPDATE

<u>Crates for Ukraine – Winter Crates – Packing Party</u>

Today is the deadline to receive supplies for Crate for Ukraine. There will be a packing party following the Sunday School hour. Please see Becky Givens for more information. Chesterfield Presbyterian Church recently became a local drop point and will be transporting crates on March 1st.

Restore St. Louis Workday - March 11th

Trinity Youth will be partnering with Restore St. Louis on the 2nd Saturday in March to serve our city. Together with volunteers will we work on yards and in homes of several underserved elderly. Come and be the hands and feet of the body of Christ.

Registration is necessary! The organizers need an accurate headcount:



We will meet at 1483 82nd Blvd at 8:30am for a short devotional to focus our hearts to serve the Lord. Then we will grab tools and head to our jobs around 9:00am. We wrap up between noon and 1pm.

Robinson Elementary Food Pantry – March 13th

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. Two volunteers are needed this upcoming month.

Registration is now open for all 3 remaining dates on our events page in Church Center:



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. Sign up to volunteer here:



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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