

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

March 26, 2023 Fifth Sunday in Lent

# WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO GIVES HIS PEOPLE PEACE

Liturgist: Rev. Pablo Rosales

Scripture Reader: Beth Kling

Pastoral Prayer: Chris Freeman, Ruling Elder

#### **Prelude**

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### **Quotes and Reflections**

And though a man might prevail against one who is alone, two will withstand him—a threefold cord is not quickly broken. — Eph. 4:12

"The firmest friendships have been formed in mutual adversity, as iron is most strongly united by the fiercest flame." — C.C. Colton

"Nothing is more stimulating than friends who speak the truth in love."

— Os Guinness

## WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

Last fall, the United States men's national soccer team participated in the World Cup. The team did well overall, making it to the knockout rounds where they lost to perennial world power, the Netherlands. But all was not well in the team camp as one young player was very upset about his lack of playing time. This discontentedness resulted in his parents, both of whom were former soccer players for the US that had played in previous world cups, becoming helicopter parents and complaining vehemently to the team's coach, general manager, and the director of US Soccer. Eventually these complaints turned into threats against the coach and what amounted to blackmail, as the parents of this player threatened to "out" the coach for an incident of domestic violence that had occurred between him and his fiancé (and now wife) over 25 years prior.

Those threats came to fruition at the end of the world cup when the parents went public with their threats and the coach was suspended from his duties with his contract not being renewed.

What's most alarming about this story, is that the parents of this young player and the coach and his wife...were best friends. They had gone to college together, played on multiple national teams together, worked together on soccer initiatives and been in each other's weddings.

Oh, how quickly relationships can devolve, even over matters as seemingly inconsequential as sports.

As we come to worship today and look at the very last passage in Ephesians, we will see a picture of a lasting friendship that is woven together not by the temporal, but by the eternal, something our own friendships and relationships can deeply benefit from if we take it to heart.

## Call to Worship—Psalm 29 (selected)

Leader: Ascribe to the Lord, O heavenly beings, ascribe to the

Lord glory and strength.

People: Ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name;

Leader: Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness.

People: The Lord sits enthroned over the flood; the Lord

sits enthroned as king forever.

Leader: May the Lord give strength to his people!

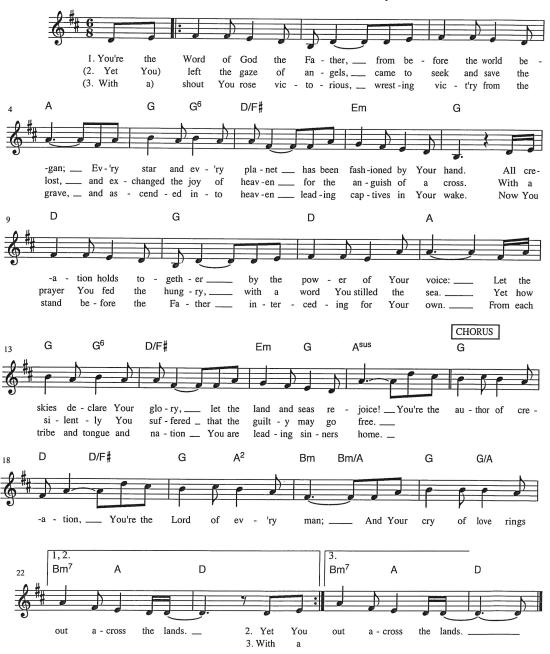
All: May the Lord bless his people with peace!

## WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

## \*Songs of Adoration

#### Across The Lands

Words and Music by Stuart Townend and Keith Getty



## Only A Holy God

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



\*Prayer of Adoration

### WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

## Old Testament Reading—Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Valley of Dry Bones

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares 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—Romans 8:5-6

For those who live according to the flesh set their minds on the things of the flesh, but those who live according to the Spirit set their minds on the things of the Spirit. For to set the mind on the flesh is death, but to set the mind on the Spirit is life and peace.

#### **Silent Confession and Lament**

## Song of Confession

## Lord From Sorrows Deep I Call

Words and Music by Matt Papa and Matt Boswell





## WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Psalm 130:3-4

If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand? But with you there is forgiveness, that you may be feared.

Leader: Christian, give thanks to God for forgiving 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 Rejoicing

## Arise, My Soul, Arise

Kevin Twit



#### Children's Sermon

## WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

## **Pastoral Prayer**

## **Tithes and Offerings**

(Children's Church meets for 4yr to 2nd grade in room 106, with the exception of the 5th Sunday of the month)

#### Sermon

"Marching on Together!" Ephesians 6:21-24 Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

## \*Song of Response

## My Worth Is Not In What I Own

Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, and Graham Kendrick



#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

**Sunday School for all ages** meets today. A list of classes and their locations can be found on the welcome table.

If you would like to receive the monthly **Children's Ministry Newsletter**, please send your email address to: melissa.kocher@trinitychurchkirkwood.org.

Trinity ladies, join us for bible study and prayer. Two Tuesday evenings a month a group meets in Melissa Jorgensen's home for a look at Psalm 23 (next gathering: 3/28). The Wednesday study meets at 9am or 6pm for a study of Judges.

Ladies Connect meets Monday, Mar. 27th at 7:30pm at Mickie Schmidt's. Come for a casual evening with friends.

Men's Bible Study this Wed. at 6pm.

Volunteers today: Ushers: Thomason, Heintz, Standerfer, Younger. Nursery: Garner, Halls, Schlitt. SS: Talent, Oehlerking. CC: Oehlerking, Marcus. Next Sunday: Ushers: Oehlerking, Moen, Broughton, Smith. Nursery: Marcus, Inions, K. Linenbroker, P. Waldron. SS: Bava, Younger. CC: Doiron, Inion.

**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.

The next Men's Breakfast is Sat., Apr. 22nd at 8am. Register on Church Center or see Kyle Roberts.

Sign up today for **Trivia Night on Fri., Mar. 31st.** at 6:30pm (doors open at 6). Go to Church Center for all the details and to register or see today's insert. All proceeds will go to support our Jr. and Sr. High ministries.

We have a long list of "to do items" for our spring work day on Apr. 1st at 9am. Please plan on lending a hand. We will be tackling landscaping, cleaning, and building projects. You can let us know you are coming and where you would like to help by scanning the QR code to the right or see today's insert.

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:

org)

Paul.Schaffer@trinitychurchkirkwood.org, Greeters: James Broughton (jlbroughton12@gmail.com), Nursery: Alyssa Hall (alyssaruth120@gmail.com). Children's Ministry: Melissa Kocker (Melissa,Kocherz@trinitychurchkirkwood.

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:

- 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

#### 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:

Please bring the whole family for this event. Non-volunteers can arrive around 11am. Location: Oasis International, 5035 Gravois Ave, St. Louis, MO 63116

#### Coffee on Glenwood - Friday, April 21st

Our monthly Coffee ministry happens on the third Friday morning of each month. Thank you to the volunteers so far and all who prayed. It would not be possible without you.

If you want to get up early, drink coffee, smile and wave, and pray for random people, who may or may not know the Lamb of God, scan this QR code:

Even if you cannot make it, please pray for this ministry. Through it we are meeting, speaking, blessing, and praying, for people who need to know the love of God.

#### Robinson Elementary Food Pantry - April 20th

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.

Due to space, this service opportunity is limited to 2 volunteers per month. Registration is now open for last 2 remaining dates on our Events page in Church Center.



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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