

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

November 19, 2023

WORSHIPING THE GOD OF LIFE AND LIGHT

(Our overflow room is located off of the hallway near the kitchen.)

Liturgist: Rev. Pablo Rosales

Scripture Reader: Dave Hammond

Pastoral Prayer: Jim Talent, Ruling Elder

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Quotes and Reflection

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. — John 1:1-5

"How frail is human life! A thin texture of living flesh is the only screen between never dying souls and their eternal condition." — Anon.

"If life is an accident, it cannot conceivably have any purpose, for accidents and purpose are mutually exclusive." — John Blanchard

"Live so as to be missed." — Robert Murray McCheyne

Devotional Preparation

Death Will be No More - Dr. Scotty Smith

"He placed his right hand on me and said: 'Do not be afraid. I am the First and the Last. I am the Living One; I was dead, and now look, I am alive forever and ever! And I hold the keys of death and Hades.'" (Rev. 1:17-18). "He will wipe every tear out of their eyes, and death will be no more" (Rev. 21:4).

Lord Jesus, thank you for guaranteeing the Day of no more death—whether by "natural causes" and aging, way too early "Homecomings," or by senseless acts and dark circumstances. Though you have already removed death's "sting" (1 Cor. 15:55-56), it still slaps us in the face, buckles our knees, and rocks our sensibilities,.

Thank you for validating our shock, encouraging our grief, and giving us tears. Standing before your friend's grave, you wept before you raised Lazarus to life. You revealed your anguish before you exercised your power. Death is a violation. It's not the way things are supposed to be.

It's only because of your death and resurrection, we now gratefully affirm death isn't sovereign, you are. Sin didn't triumph, you did. Our funeral doesn't get the last word, you do. Jesus, you are the grace giver and grave robber. Death's keys are in your hand, and so are we.

With the same hand you will wipe every tear out of eyes, reach into our painful stories of loss now. We still have questions, but we don't question your goodness and faithfulness. Because the Gospel is true, to be absent from the body is to be present with you. Life is Christ and death is gain. Our mourning is for this brief, painful moment; but eternal joy will come in the morning. Thank you, and So Very Amen.

Song of Preparation

Just As I Am, without One Plea
Trinity Hymnal #501

Call to Worship—Psalm 123

Leader: To you we lift up our eyes, O you who are enthroned

in the heavens!

People: Behold, as the eyes of servants look to the hand of

their master...so our eyes look to the Lord our God.

Leader: Have mercy upon us, O Lord,

All: Have mercy upon us!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

*Songs of Adoration

Behold Our God



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

*Prayer of Adoration

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

New Testament Reading—Matthew 25:14-30

The Parable of the Talents

"For it will be like a man going on a journey, who called his servants and entrusted to them his property. To one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. He who had received the five talents went at once and traded with them, and he made five talents more. So also he who had the two talents made two talents more. But he who had received the one talent went and dug in the ground and hid his master's money. Now after a long time the master of those servants came and settled accounts with them. And he who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five talents more, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me five talents; here, I have made five talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' And he also who had the two talents came forward, saying, 'Master, you delivered to me two talents; here, I have made two talents more.' His master said to him, 'Well done, good and faithful servant. You have been faithful over a little; I will set you over much. Enter into the joy of your master.' He also who had received the one talent came forward, saying, 'Master, I knew you to be a hard man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you scattered no seed, so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here, you have what is yours.' But his master answered him, 'You wicked and slothful servant! You knew that I reap where I have not sown and gather where I scattered no seed? Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and at my coming I should have received what was my own with interest. So take the talent from him and give it to him who has the ten talents. For to everyone who has will more be given, and he will have an abundance. But from the one who has not, even what he has will be taken away. And cast the worthless servant into the outer darkness. In that place there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth."

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 Thessalonians 5:5-8

For you are all children of light, children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness. So then let us not sleep, as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober. For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, are drunk at night. But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, having put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation.

Silent Confession and Lament

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—1 Thes. 5:9-11

For God has not destined us for wrath, but to obtain salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, who died for us so that whether we are awake or asleep we might live with him. Therefore encourage one another and build one another up, just as you are doing.

Leader: Christian, give thanks to God for granting us salvation

by grace!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

*Song of Rejoicing

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Christ Is Mine Forever More





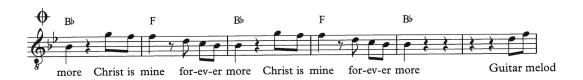
Turnaround













Sacrament of Covenant Baptism

Hudson Dex and Emerson Blake Ridenhour

Baptism Song

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know Trinity Hymnal #189

WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

(Children's Church meets for 4yr to 2nd grade in room 106)

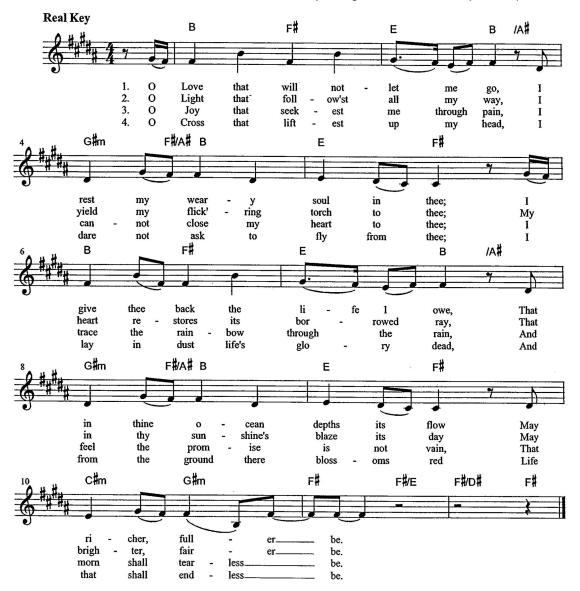
Sermon

"Life Matters" Deuteronomy 5:16 Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

*Song of Response

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

Words by George Matheson. Music by Christopher Miner



*Benediction

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Adult Sunday School

Common Grace- Rev. Dr. Chris Polski (Room 111)

The thing that most bonds us together as believers is the fact that we are saved by an act of God's astonishing mercy in and through the work of Jesus Christ. This act of God's great love stands at the pinnacle of the doctrine of special grace. But the Bible also speaks regularly of the fact that God "loves the world" (Jn. 3:16). This basic love of God is known in theology as common grace, a doctrine that seeks to explain all the ways that God showers His blessings even upon those that don't know Him. Join us for the next few weeks as we explore the doctrine of common grace seeking to understand not only how believers benefit from it, but how it helps to lay the foundation for evangelism.

The Book of Romans - Ruling Elders, Fielding Poe and Jim Talent (Room 110)

If the book of Romans had a title, it might well be "A Righteousness from God". It is the most systematic of all of Paul's epistles, explaining the related concepts of sin, salvation, sanctification, justification, and redemption. Along the way, Paul also explains the relationship between Jew and Gentile in the church and gives practical advice for handling relationships within the body of believers. Anyone who studies Romans will – with the aid of the Holy Spirit -- engage with the most foundational truths of our faith, and of the universe. You won't get that anywhere else!

Jr. & Sr. High Students - Lower level

4th-5th Grade - Room 102

1st-3rd Grade - 106B

Preschool (3yrs by July 31) /Kindergarten - Room 105

Nursery - Room 104

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday school classes for all ages meet today. A list of classes and locations can be found on the previous page.

Volunteers today: Ushers: Roberts, Wong, Maglione, Alexander. Nursery: Hendricks, Garner, Waldron. SS: Kocher, Oehlerking. CC: Standerfers. Next Sunday: Ushers: Schaffer, Schlitt, Thomason, Kocher. Nursery: Schaffer, McCall, Goldsteins. SS: Martir, Linenbroker. CC: Oehlerking, Linenbroker.

ACTION will resume in the new year.

Youth Ministry: Jr. High meets weekly on Wed. from 6-7:15 pm. Sr. High meets Sundays from 6-7:30pm. JH Chrsitmas Party: 12/9. SH Christmas Party: 12/10.

Men's Bible Study will wrap up this semester on Fri., Dec. 1 (note date change). There is a Women's Bible **Study** on Proverbs that meets two Tues. a month at 7pm at Melissa Jorgensen's (11/28). The Women's Wed. studies are on hiatus until February.

Christmas Craft Pary: Kids ages 4yrs -5th gr., come make gifts, sing songs, enjoy games and lunch, and hear a Christmas story. Sat, Dec. 2nd, 9am to 12:15pm. We will have a informative volunteer lunch meeting TODAY following SS. Sign up in the narthex or go to Church Ceter to volunteer/donate.

Make plans to join us for our family friendly Thanksgiving service on Nov. 22 at 5:30pm.

Help us decorate for Christmas on Nov. 29 at 9am.

Ladies Connect: Mon., Nov. 27th at 7:30pm at Mickie Schmidt's.

This year's Christmas Concert, "The Greatest Story Every Told," is Sat., Dec. 17 at 6pm. Doors open at 5:30 with a special prelude from professional violinist, Bailey Salinero. The whole family will enjoy the beautiful music and the telling of Christ's birth.

Annual Congregational Meeting, Dec. 10th during the Sunday school hour. We will go over the budget, elect officers, and review 2023.

Help needed: Nursery Co-Coordinators (high need, two positions available), Sunday morning nursery volunteers, ACTION Kids lessons teacher, ACTION Kids Coordinator (2024-25 school year), Playdate Coordinator. See Melissa Kocher.

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:

Paul.Schaffer@trinitychurchkirkwood.org,

Greeters: James Broughton

(jlbroughton12@gmail.com), Children's

Ministry: Melissa Kocher

(Melissa.Kocher@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:



TONIGHT

Join Pastor Polski and Jim Talent tonight from 6-7:15 for a discussion on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and how Christians should approach thinking about the issue.

We will plan to address some key theological and biblical issues along with important historical developments and some of the more recent cultural and geo-political factors before we have a time of O and A.

MISSION UPDATE

New Monthly Mission Newsletter and Prayer Calendar! Scan here to access:



Robinson Elementary Food Pantry - November 20th

Another Going opportunity. Robinson Elementary School hosts a food pantry every month during the school year. We have partnered with them and assist in greeting, meeting, and providing necessary items to families.

This service opportunity is limited to 2 volunteers per month. Please visit our Events page to register.

<u>Christmas Craft Party — December 2</u>

Our Annual Christmas Craft Party for ages 4yrs to 5th gr. is Sat., Dec. 2nd. It **takes a LOT of volunteers** to make this a success. The good news is there are very simple ways to volunteer or to make donations. For a list of volunteer opportunities and donation needs, please scan this QR code:

Please see Jane Bailey or Amy Mitchell if you have any questions. Registration for the kids is now open. **Be sure to invite your friends and neighbors!**

Restore St. Louis Workday - December 9th

Calling all Go'ers!!! Trinity Youth will be partnering with Restore St. Louis on the 2nd Saturday in December to serve several underserved elderly and widows in our city. Together our goers will work on yards and in homes (depending on skill). Come and be the hands and feet of the body of Christ.

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 9:00. We wrap up between noon and 1pm.

The organizers need an accurate headcount by Wednesday, December 6th. Please contact Drew Lattner (drew.lattner@trinitychurchkirkwood.org) to go.



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.

www.trinitychurchkirkwood.org

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