



TRINITY CHURCH

— KIRKWOOD —

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

January 5, 2025

WELCOME

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.



314-821-7311 | info@trinitychurchkirkwood.org

www.trinitychurchkirkwood.org • Facebook: Trinity Church Kirkwood



WORSHIPING THE GOD OF THE CHURCH

(Children of all ages are welcome in our worship service, but if your family needs a break from the sanctuary or wants to move around, our family overflow room with toys is available in room 111.)

Nursery Volunteers (worship service): Jessica Hendricks, Beth Williamson, Tara Thomason, Josie Standerfer

Liturgist: Dr. Aaron Goldstein

Scripture Reader: Mickie Schmidt

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Quotes and Reflection

"I do not think the devil cares how many churches you build, if only you have lukewarm preachers and people in them." — Charles Spurgeon

"You can be committed to Church but not committed to Christ, but you cannot be committed to Christ and not committed to the church."

— Unknown

"The blood of the martyrs is the seed of the church." — Tertullian

"The Church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord!" — Samuel Wesley

Devotional Preparation

The Book of Revelation was written by the apostle John while he was exiled on the island of Patmos, about 50 miles southwest of Ephesus, the city in which he lived and ministered for most of his life after leaving Jerusalem. At the time of the book's composition, John would have been about 90 years old.

Though the date of its composition is not certain, most scholars favor a date sometime between 80-90 AD, during the reign of the Roman Emperor Domitian who was a vicious persecutor of Christians, thus explaining why an elderly man like John was exiled for his religious faith.

As for genre, Revelation is predominantly apocalyptic. Apocalyptic literature details an authors' visions of the end times as they might have been revealed by an angel or other heavenly messenger. However, the first 3 chapters of Revelation are written predominantly in an epistolary genre and addressed to seven real churches that had been planted during the missionary journeys of Paul as recorded in the book of Acts.

These seven churches could all be reached via the same ancient "super-highway" that carved its way through the interior of the land now known as Turkey.



Why did Jesus desire for John to address these churches before revealing to him the vision he had promised?

There are many possible answers to this question but the most compelling one for me is that it is always God's plan to work out His will through the Church and each local church has its part to play in God's kingdom purposes in the world.

So, as you listen to these sermons, imagine receiving a letter directly from the apostle, addressed to us and exhorting and encouraging us to remain faithful to God's truth.

Song of Preparation

Be Thou My Vision
Trinity Hymnal #642

Call to Worship—Psalm 147 (selected)

Leader: Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem! Praise your God, O Zion!

People: He strengthens the bars of your gates;

Leader: He blesses your children within you.

People: He makes peace in your borders;

Leader: He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and rules to Israel!

All: Praise the Lord!

Leader: Come now, incarnate Lord, and enable us to lift our voices and hearts to you in worship and thanksgiving!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

*Songs of Adoration

Christus Victor

Matt Boswell, Bryan Fowler, Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, and Matt Papa

Steadily ♩ = 76

F Cm⁷ Gm⁷ B♭add⁹

1. O Most High, King of the a - ges, Great I AM, God of won - ders;
 2. O Most High, dwell - ing a - mong us; Son of man, sent for sin - ners.
 3. O Most High, King of the na - tions; robed in praise, crowned with splen - dor.

F [v.3] Cm⁷ Gm⁷ B♭add⁹

by the blood You have re - deemed us, led us through might - y wat - ers. Our
 By Your blood You have re - deemed us; spot - less Lamb, might - y Sa - vior who
 On that day, who will not trem - ble? When You stand, Christ the Vic - tor who

Gm⁷ F/A B♭ B♭/D C/E **Chorus** F B♭/F F C/E

strength, our song, our sure sal - va - tion: } Now to the Lamb up - on the throne
 lived, who died, who rose vic - to - rious: }
 was, and is and is for - ev - er: }

Dm⁷ Dm⁷ F/A B♭add⁹

Be bless - ing, ho - nor, glo - ry, po - wer for the bat - tle You have won Hal - le -

1.
 Bb/D C/E F Cm7 Gm7 Bbadd9

lu - jah! A - men.

2.3.
 Bb/D C/E F Bb/F F C/E Dm7

lu jah! With ev - ery tribe and ev - ry tongue, we join the an - them of the

Dm7 F/A Bbadd9 Bb/D C/E 1. F Cm7

an-gels in the tri-umph of the Son. Hal-le - lu - jah! A - men.

Gm7 Bbadd9 [to v.3] D.C. 2. F C Dm7 Am7 Bb Gm7 C^{SUS}C Bb/D C/E

A - men, men. a - men, a - men.

To Repeat Last Time
 F C Dm7 Am7 Bb Gm7 C^{SUS}C Bb/D C7/E Bb Gm7 C^{SUS}C7 F

a - men, a - men, a - men. a - men.

"Worship is the highest function of the human soul." — Geoffrey King

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Sandra McCracken and Joshua Moore



We will feast in the house of Zi - on. We will sing with our



hearts re - stored. He has done great things. we will say to - ge - ther



We will feast and weep no more.

1. We will not be
2. In the dark of
3. Ev - cry vow we've



burned by the fire, He is the Lord our God we are not con -
night be - fore the dawn my soul be not a - fraid for the pro - mised
bro - ken and be - trayed You are the faith ful one and from the



sumed by the flood Up - held, pro - tect - ed, ga - thered up
mor - ning o how long O God of Ja - cob be ___ my strength.
gar - den to the grave Bind us to - ge - ther bring ___ sha - lom

*Prayer of Adoration

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

New Testament Reading—Ephesians 1:3-14

The Spiritual Blessings that Are Ours in Christ

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Reader: The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever!

People: Thanks be to God!

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

Call to Confession—Acts 2:42-44

And they devoted themselves to the apostles' teaching and the fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers. And awe came upon every soul, and many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. And all who believed were together and had all things in common.

Silent Confession and Lament

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Isaiah 43:1

But now thus says the Lord, he who created you, O Jacob, he who formed you, O Israel: "Fear not, for I have redeemed you; I have called you by name, you are mine.

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for His redeeming love!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

"Peace is not real peace until it has been tested in the storm." — Eric Hayman

*Song of Rejoicing

The Church's One Foundation

(Vs. 1, 2, 4, 5) Words by Samuel Stone. Music by Brian Moss

Real Key

1. The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ her Lord, She
lect from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth; Her

6 is His new crea - tion, by wa - ter and the Word, From
char - ter of sal - va - tion, one Lord, one faith, one birth; One

10 heaven He came and she sought her to be His ho - ly bride; With
ho - ly Name and she bless - es, to par - takes one ho - ly food, And

14 His own blood He bought her, and for her life He died, 2. E -
to one hope she press - es, with eve - ry grace en - dued

3. Though with a scornful wonder,
Men see her sore oppressed
By schisms rent asunder,
By heresies distressed
Yet saints their watch are keeping,
Their cry goes up "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping,
Shall be the morn of song

5. Mid toil and tribulation,
And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation,
Of peace for evermore
Till with the vision glorious,
Her longing eyes are blest
And the great church victorious
Shall be the church at rest

4. The church shall never perish,
Her dear Lord to defend
To guide, sustain and cherish,
Is with her to the end
Though there be those that hate her,
And false sons in her pale
Against a foe or traitor,
She ever shall prevail

6. Yet she on earth hath union
With God the Three in One
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won
O happy ones and holy,
Lord gives us grace that we
Like them the meek and lowly,
On high may dwell with Thee.

WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

Pastoral Prayer



Tithes and Offerings

Children ages 3 (by July 31) through 1st grade are dismissed for Children's Church to Room 106B

If you would like to give your tithe online, scan your camera phone here:



Sermon

"A Vision for the Churches"

Sermon Series, A Message to the Church

Revelation 1:9-20

Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

*Song of Response

Agnus Dei

Words and Music by Michael W. Smith

A musical score for the song 'Agnus Dei' in G major (one sharp) and 2/4 time. The score is written on a single treble clef staff. It includes guitar chords above the notes and lyrics below. The piece is divided into several lines of music, with measure numbers 4, 8, 11, 15, 18, 22, and 24 marked. A 'CHORUS' box is placed above the staff at measure 11. The lyrics are: 'Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, -ia, for the Lord God Al - might - y reigns. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, for the Lord God Al - might - y reigns. Al - le - lu - ia. Ho - ly, ho - ly are You, Lord God Al - might - y. Wor - thy is the Lamb; Wor - thy is the Lamb. You are ho - ly, Ho - ly are You, Lord God Al - might - y. Wor - thy is the Lamb; Wor - thy is the Lamb. Lamb. You are ho - ly. Lamb. A - men.'

Chords: A, A^{2sus}, D/A, E/A, F#m, Bm, A/C#, D, E, A.

Lyrics: Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, -ia, for the Lord God Al - might - y reigns. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, for the Lord God Al - might - y reigns. Al - le - lu - ia. Ho - ly, ho - ly are You, Lord God Al - might - y. Wor - thy is the Lamb; Wor - thy is the Lamb. You are ho - ly, Ho - ly are You, Lord God Al - might - y. Wor - thy is the Lamb; Wor - thy is the Lamb. Lamb. You are ho - ly. Lamb. A - men.

SERVICE OF ORDINATION & INSTALLATION TO THE OFFICE OF DEACON AND ELDER

"God does not ask about our ability or our inability, but our availability." — Anon.

For Deacon: Caleb Moen*, Will Mattingly*, Doug Standerfer*, Kyle Kocher*, Glynn Schlitt*

For Ruling Elder: Shaun Thomason, Chris Freeman*, Fielding Poe*, Michael Jorgensen*, Bill Elzinga

(*Men previously ordained, but are being re-installed)

The Warrant and Nature of the Office of Deacon and Elder

- The Questions for Ordination and Installation
- The Prayer of Ordination
- The Right Hand of Fellowship
- The Pronouncement of Ordination and Installation
- The Charge

***Sending Song**

Doxology
Trinity Hymnal # 731

***Benediction**

Nursery Volunteer (SS): Erin Wagberg (please report to the toddler nursery directly following the service)

*If you would like a time of prayer with one of our elders,
please come to the front of the sanctuary after the service.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Book of Ephesians- Ruling Elders Poe and Talent (Room 110)

Ruling Elders Talent and Poe will continue their verse by verse exposition of Paul's letter to the Church at Ephesus.

"The Meaning of Marriage" Matt Luedders and Jane Caldwell

(Pastor Polski's Office)

Please join us for a small group study of Tim Keller's book, "The Meaning of Marriage." Our group will explore God's purpose for creating marriage, the significance of covenant relationships, mutual submission, and other engaging topics. Class size is limited to just six adults, but both singles and marrieds from all life stages are welcome to participate. We will meet throughout the Spring semester during the Sunday School hour. Participants are expected to read chapters of the book in advance of each class as preparation. Please contact Matt Luedders if you have questions: MAL0424@gmail.com

Reformed Theology- Pastor Polski (Room 111)

What are the core doctrines of the Christian faith and how do Reformed Christians articulate these doctrines? Join Pastor Polski starting January 5 as we explore the eight core doctrines of the Christian faith with an eye toward applying these great doctrinal truths to our everyday lives.

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.

Visitors: If you are visiting with us today we would love to give you a small gift. Please stop by the Welcome Table so we can say "hello."

Volunteers today: Ushers: Oehlerking, Moen, Broughton, Barker. Nursery: Hendricks, Williamson, Thomason, Standerfer. SS: Wagberg. CC: Doiron, Polski, Hawley. **Next Sunday:** Ushers: Roberts, Wong, Maglione, Alexander. Nursery: Moen, McCall, Linenbroker, Polski. SS: Oehlerking. CC: Steele, Rosales, Kwong.

The **Wednesday women's Bible studies** will resume on Jan. 22nd. This semester we will be studying Colossians.

The **Men's Bible study** will resume this Wed. at 6:15pm or Fri., at 6:30am. They will meet on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Wed. or Fri. of the month.

Trinity Young Adults meets at 7 pm on the 1st and 3rd Mon. of the month. See Mitchell Dixon for more info.

Youth Ministry Parent's Meeting: TODAY following SS. **Winter Retreat: Everlasting Hope:** January 17-19 for both Jr. & Sr. High.

Hope for Tomorrow Campaign- Our campaign to eliminate our debt and move to position the church to advance our outreach ministries has begun. We are 80% towards our goal. Please complete the pledge card in the chair in front of you and leave in the offering plate. Thank you for your participation.

Sunday snacks are always appreciated and needed. See your weekly email to sign up or the QR code on the snack table.

Save the Date: Wendell Kimbrough in concert on Saturday, February 22nd.

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 (James.Broughton@trinitychurchkirkwood.org),

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](#):



CHURCH PLANTING VISION WEEKEND

Join us for a weekend seminar on church planting. We will learn about why we are committed to planting new churches, what it means to plant a church, as well as exploring different methods and ways to be involved. Finally, we will learn how the whole congregation can be engaged in the process. Leading this seminar will be veteran church planter and Director of the Midwest Alliance, Rev. Ted Powers.

This weekend is intended for the whole congregation - whether you're interested in being a part of the church plant or will remain at the mother church. Register using the QR code above. If childcare is needed see Tim Jackson.

MISSION UPDATE

ALL the links mentioned below can be found using this QR code:



Prayers: Scan the QR link for the January 2025 Newsletter and Prayer Calendar.

Goers:

- **THIS SATURDAY - Mission Gate Fort Good Shepherd** — Fort Good Shepherd Ranch of Mission Gate sits on the banks of the Meramec River. It is a 54-bed facility for men re-entering society from prison. It occupies 130 acres, with five large homes and individual cabins. In November, the river overflowed and flooded 14 cabins. The force of the water carried a 500-gallon propane tank, a picnic table, and railroad ties, down river. Mission Gate asked for volunteers to help with building projects at Fort Good Shepherd in Cuba, MO. **More information and sign up via QR Code above.**

Senders:

- The work of Mission at Trinity Church cannot happen without your prayerful giving. This year you have helped support several missionaries and ministries through St. Louis and the World. **Please come by Pastor Pablo's office to see a white tapestry that was sent by one of our missionaries in the middle east. It's hanging on the wall.**
- **Giving Tree:** This is the last week for our Giving Tree. We have focused on the diaconal mercy ministry fund. Tags are available in the Narthex if you wish to participate in that.

Welcomers:

Mission Gate Christmas Angels — Thank you to all who participated in this year's gift giving to provide Christmas gifts to children with an incarcerated parent and children of local needy families. Gifts will be distributed to children ages infant to 16 years during a party at Christ Memorial Lutheran Church on Monday, December 18th. Please continue to pray for the children and families supported by Mission Gate. **A thank you video has been posted on the Mission's Wall.**

Mobilizers:

Please thank your **Mission Committee** members (Ellie Perry, Kenna Marcus, Tom Schmidt, Tim Jackson), **Local National Missions Subcommittee** members (Tim Jackson (Chair), Karla Kuntze, Allen Mathieu, Chuck Barker, and Jackson Roberts), and **Global Missions Subcommittee** members (Tom Schmidt (Chair), Mimi Steele, Becky Givens, Susie Shah, Andrew Kwong, Andy Williamson and Mary Berardi).

With a heart for the mission of God, they have volunteered several hours this year to help Trinity share the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our Jerusalem, Judea, Samaria, and Ends of the Earth. If you would like to join this team, please contact Pastor Pablo.

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