



TRINITY CHURCH

— KIRKWOOD —

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

March 16, 2025
Second Sunday in Lent

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

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WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO REIGNS EVEN IN OUR DARKNESS

(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. We also have an area for nursing moms in room 106 by the back entrance.)

Nursery Volunteers (worship service): Beth Williamson, Laurel Elzinga, Linda Manwaring, Josie Standerfer

Liturgist: Rev. Tim Jackson

Scripture Reader: Megan Hawley

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, J Harrison

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Missions Moment

Quotes and Reflection

Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise him, my salvation and my God. — Ps. 42:5-6

“Have you realized that most of your unhappiness in life is due to the fact that you are listening to yourself instead of talking to yourself?”

— D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones, *Spiritual Depression*

“We often say, 'I am not very happy. I am not content with the way my life is going. I am not really joyful or peaceful. But I don't know how things can be different, and I guess I have to be realistic and accept my life as it is.' It is this mood of resignation that prevents us from actively naming our reality, articulating our experience, and moving more deeply into the life of the Spirit.”

— Henri J.M. Nouwen, *Spiritual Formation: Following the Movements of the Spirit*

Devotional Preparation

Dr. Martyn Lloyd Jones was a highly respected Welsh Evangelical minister who spent 30 years as the Senior Pastor of the Westminster Chapel in London. In that time he wrote many books, but one of his most influential was titled, "Spiritual Depression." In it, Jones examines the reasons for why so many Christians feel so little joy.

It would be impossible in this space to do justice to his argument, I would like to quote one small portion of what he counseled Christians to do if they found themselves feeling spiritually depressed. Jones wrote:

"Talk to yourself, and though the devil will suggest that because you do not feel, you are not a Christian, say: 'No, I do not feel anything, but whether I feel or not, I believe the Scriptures. I believe God's Word is true and I will stay my soul on it, I will believe in it come what may'."

In giving this counsel he wasn't telling believers to stick their head in the sand. Instead, he was underlining the fact that we all feel spiritually empty at some point. This spiritual emptiness is due to the attack of our adversary who knows just how to undermine our faith. The strategy Jones suggests is to stop listening to yourself--and all your doubts--and to start talking to yourself. Talk to yourself about what you know about God. Talk to yourself about what God has done in your life and the life of others that you know well. Talk to yourself about what the Bible teaches us about God's love, patience and mercy. In other words, take a stand on the Lord!

It was Jones' conviction that over time the spiritual depression would begin to recede and we might find ourselves again in green pasture of His blessings.

That's good counsel for all of us who go through the normal ups and downs of the spiritual life.

Pastor Chris

Song of Preparation

God Moves in a Mysterious Way

Trinity Hymnal #128 (To the tune of "How Sweet and Awesome Is the Place")

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: For he will hide me in his shelter in the day of trouble;

People: He will conceal me under the cover of his tent; he will lift me high upon a rock.

Leader: Wait for the Lord; be strong, and let your heart take courage;

All: We will wait for the Lord!

Leader: Come now O Lord, and be our stronghold as we enter your sanctuary so that our worship will be pleasing in your sight!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

*Songs of Adoration

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

Trinity Hymnal #500

Is He Worthy

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, 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**

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

New Testament Reading—Luke 9:37-43

Jesus Heals a Boy with an Unclean Spirit

On the next day, when they had come down from the mountain, a great crowd met him. And behold, a man from the crowd cried out, "Teacher, I beg you to look at my son, for he is my only child. And behold, a spirit seizes him, and he suddenly cries out. It convulses him so that he foams at the mouth, and shatters him, and will hardly leave him. And I begged your disciples to cast it out, but they could not." Jesus answered, "O faithless and twisted generation, how long am I to be with you and bear with you? Bring your son here." While he was coming, the demon threw him to the ground and convulsed him. But Jesus rebuked the unclean spirit and healed the boy, and gave him back to his father. And all were astonished at the majesty of God.

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—Philippians 3:17-19

Brothers, join in imitating me, and keep your eyes on those who walk according to the example you have in us. For many, of whom I have often told you and now tell you even with tears, walk as enemies of the cross of Christ. Their end is destruction, their god is their belly, and they glory in their shame, with minds set on earthly things.

Corporate Prayer of Confession (to be spoken in unison)

O Lord, you have given us a multitude of good and beautiful gifts. You have surrounded us with more than we could have ever asked for. And yet, we confess that we often want more, and we set a course not after pleasing you, but pleasing ourselves as we become more and more consumed with earthly things. Forgive us, O gracious Father and renew our desires so that they are aimed at your glory and not our self-satisfaction.

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Phil. 3:20-21

But our citizenship is in heaven, and from it we await a Savior, the Lord Jesus Christ, who will transform our lowly body to be like his glorious body, by the power that enables him even to subject all things to himself.

Leader: People of God, give thanks to the Lord for making us citizens of heaven!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

*Song of Rejoicing

Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor

Matthew Papa and Matthew Boswell

B \flat B \flat /A Gm F/A

1. Christ the — sure and stead - y an - chor in the fu - ry of the
 (2. Christ the) — sure and stead - y an - chor while the temp - est rag - es
 (3. Christ the) — sure and stead - y an - chor through the floods of un - be -
 (4. Christ the) — sure and stead - y an - chor as we face the wave of

4 B \flat F/A Gm F

storm, when the — winds of doubt blow through me and my sails have all been
 on, when temp - ta - tion claims the bat - tle and it seems the night has
 -lief. Hope - less, — some - how, O my soul, now lift your eyes to Cal - va -
 death, when these — trials give way to glo - ry, as we draw our fi - nal

§ CHORUS

8 F⁷ B \flat /D E \flat ² B \flat /D E \flat ² F

torn. In the suf - fring, in the sor - row, when my sink - ing hopes are
 won. Deep - er still, then goes the an - chor, though I just - ly stand ac -
 -ry. This my bal - last of as - sur - ance— see His love for - ev - er
 breath. We will cross that great hor - i - zon, clouds be - hind, and life se -
 (D.S.) shore of our sal - va - tion, ev - er faith - ful, ev - er

12 Gm E \flat ² F/A Gm E \flat maj⁷ F^{sus} B \flat

few, I will — hold fast to the an - chor; it shall nev - er be re - moved.
 -cused. I will — hold fast to the an - chor; it shall nev - er be re - moved.
 proved. All my — hope is in the an - chor; it shall nev - er be re - moved.
 -cured. And the — calm will be the bet - ter, for the storms that we en - dured.
 true. We will — hold fast to the an - chor; it shall nev - er be re - moved.

17 B \flat /A Gm⁷ E \flat ² E \flat ² B \flat /D D.S. E \flat ² B \flat

2.3.4. Christ the — Christ the

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:



Offertory Song (Ensemble)

Draw Near
Wendell Kimbrough

Sermon

"Darkness"

Psalm 88

Sermon Series, Soul Life

Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

***Song of Response**

It Is Well with My Soul

Trinity Hymnal #691

Nursery Volunteer (SS): Alyce Bava (please report to the toddler nursery directly following the service)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Soul Life Sermon Discussion- Pastor Polski and Jamie McCall (Sanctuary)
Each week, we will also host a follow up Sunday School in the sanctuary co-taught by Pastor Polski and Jamie McCall (a certified Christian Counselor) that will be a debrief of the sermon paired with some helpful framing of how each of these spiritual emotions can be better understood (Spiritual Depression, Grief, Doubt, Suffering, Disappointment with God, and Lament).

Proverbs- Ruling Elders Poe and Talent (Room 110)
Ruling Elders Talent and Poe will guide us through the Book of Proverbs.

Evangelism in a Skeptical World- Pastor Rosales (Room 111)
“Swim! It doesn’t matter if you don’t know how. Just jump in and swim!”
Hopefully that’s not how you learned to swim, but it is often what we feel when we’re told to evangelize. Wait a minute...what is evangelism? And how do I do that in an increasingly post-Christian context? Join Pastor Pablo as we look at *Evangelism in a Skeptical World*. Together we will dip our feet in the theology of evangelism, a few strategies, and then how to craft a gospel presentation. While you will not get a one-size-fits-all approach to evangelism, there are helpful tools to first help of float and then stroke through the waters.

Adult Choir- Katie Polski and Abby Roberts (Fireplace Room)
Calling all singers! Join our Trinity choir March 2nd through April 27th. We'll learn pieces that we'll sing in worship throughout the spring (including Easter Sunday). No musical experience necessary; the only thing needed is a heart for worship and a desire to SING.

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: Roberts, Wong, Maglione, Alexander. Nursery: Keating, Schmidts, Marcus. SS: Pysar. CC: Steele, Manwarings. **Next Sunday:** Ushers: Schaffer, Schlitt, Thomason, Kocher. Nursery: Williamson, Elzinga, Manwaring, Standerfer. SS: Broughton. CC: Standerfers, Hawley.

The **Wednesday women's Bible studies** meet at 9am (childcare provided) OR 6:15pm.

Men's Bible study: Meets on the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Wed. (6:15pm) or Fri. (6:30am) of the month.

Kingdom Kids meets the 2nd & 4th Sunday from 4:30-6:30 pm for ages 3yrs-5th grade. The children enjoy a shared meal, games, Bible lesson, and choir.

Kingdom Prayer: Join us on today for a guided prayer meeting to pray for God to bring renewal to St. Louis. We will meet from 4:30-5pm in Room 111.

Men's Breakfast: Sat., Mar. 22 from 8-9:30am.

Ladies Connect: Mar. 27 at 7:30pm at Mickie Schimdt's.

Holy Week details: Maundy Thursday, Apr. 17th at 5:30pm. Join us for a light meal, singing, reflection, and the Lord's Supper. Space is limited so use the QR code to register. **Good Friday** self-guided Stations of the Cross and special music: Apr. 18, 6:30-8:30am and 3-8pm (with special music from 6:45-8pm). **Easter Sunday** services: 7am (outdoor) and 9:30am. To donate eggs for the **Easter Egg Hunt** use the QR code.

The **Grounds Crew could use your help** with mowing and trimming the church grounds. Schedule is flexible. Please contact Glynn Schlitt if you are able to help.

Sunday Snacks: Do you or your family enjoy the little "pick me up" after worship? If so, please consider signing up to bring snacks some Sunday. Please try and keep the snacks nut free. Sign up using the QR code on the snack table or see Mary Rosales.

Church Work Day: Sat., Apr. 5 at 9am.

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: Erin Wagberg (Erin. Wagberg@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](#):



ART ENCOUNTERS

Come enjoy an evening of rest and connecting with Jesus in a fresh way on **Sat., Apr. 5 at 6:30pm**. We'll spend time in contemplation, reflection, and prayer as we consider how a historical painting forms us spiritually. Our guides, Melissa McKinney and Amanda Lennon, will gently lead us through a process that helps us comfortably engage with our painting and reflect on how God might be shaping us through it. Whether you are a long-time lover of art or feel brand new, this event is for you. Register using the QR code above.

MISSION UPDATE

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



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

Goers:

Forai is a ministry to Refugee and Immigrant women in the St. Louis area. Their mission is to share to gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, while walking with them and teaching them the skills to create their own business. Learn about other opportunities by following the link in the QR code above.

Restore St. Louis Workday – 18 volunteers joined together to help elderly and widows with yard work. Please see the quick slide show on our Missions Wall.

Senders:

Thank you Trinity Church! Thank you to all who are making the “Going” and “Welcoming” possible. Thank you for the donations to the Robinson Food Pantry. There are only two left this school year (April and May). Please scan the QR code for more info on those. Also, thank you for your support of the Youth Missions trip this summer. Your prayerful giving can cultivate a young heart for life-long missions.

Welcomers:

Snacks! Believe it or not, snacks are a part of our weekly ministry. A few calories, fat, carbs, protein, and natural sugar, are necessary fuel for the body. Sadly, around 10:45am every Sunday, those energy stores are depleted and need a quick replenishment (especially for those little ones). Help prevent “hanger” through hospitality by participating in this ministry. A link to the snack schedule can be found by using the QR code.

Oasis International – a ministry to refugees and immigrants, has several opportunities to welcome the stranger. Current needs:

- o **Nursery Workers:** Help care for children on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:30 AM to 12:15 PM. You don’t have to commit every week or even both days—any help is appreciated!
- o **Diaper Delivery Teams:** Each month, we deliver 5,000 diapers to refugee moms in our area. This is a great opportunity to meet the same families regularly. Diapers can be picked up at Oasis and delivered to the homes within a 10-day window.
- o **Furniture Delivery Teams:** We need men, women, and even children for these teams! Each team should have at least 4 able-bodied people who can lift 50 lbs, with a maximum of 15 people (8-12 people is ideal). Deliveries typically happen on Saturdays from 9:30 AM to 1:00 PM.
- o **Service Groups:** Help with various tasks around the Oasis building, from cleaning to small repairs.
- o **Individual Volunteers:** There are many positions available for individual volunteers, including organizing donations and answering phones.

Please contact Pastor Pablo for more information.

Mobilizers:

If you would like to join our Missions teams, 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.

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