

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

March 9, 2025 First Sunday in Lent



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# WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO STIRS US OUT OF SPIRITUAL MALAISE

(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): Susanne Keating, Mickie Schmidt, Kenna

Marcus, Emmy Schmidt

Liturgist: Rev. Pablo Rosales

Scripture Reader: Glynn Schlitt

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Shaun Thomason

#### Prelude

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### **Quotes and Reflection**

For it would have been better for them never to have known the way of righteousness than after knowing it to turn back from the holy commandment delivered to them. — 2 Peter 2:21

You are the salt of the earth, but if salt has lost its taste, how shall its saltiness be restored? It is no longer good for anything except to be thrown out and trampled under people's feet. — Matt. 5:13

"Lukewarm Christians don't really want to be saved from their sin; they only want to be saved from the penalty of their sin." — Francis Chan

"Nothing is more dangerous to our nature than a mild amiability that smiles at sin."

— Vance Havner

## **Devotional Preparation**

An Excerpt from the article, "Why Discipleship Must Target Apathy" by Glen Wishnew on thegospelcoalition.org

"In Overcoming Apathy, Uche Anizor argues modern people are "captivated by things we don't really care about and are lukewarm to things that, in our hearts of hearts, mean the most to us." Apathy doesn't necessarily manifest as all-day moping around. Anizor quotes the monastic John Cassian, saying apathy can be a "restlessness that entices us to pursue everything but our most important duties."

To illustrate our culture's affinity for apathy, Anizor directs our attention to the television show Seinfeld. Although he was a fan of the '90s sitcom, he suggests it normalized "indifference toward big, meaningful things (such as marriage, family, religion, social concern, even the Holocaust) and a fixation on life's daily minutia (such as getting a good parking spot, the annoyance of 'close talkers,' and maintaining one's high score in Frogger)." He goes on, "We are citizens of a Seinfeldian society, where only inconsequential things matter."

In a Seinfeldian society, attention is consumed by entertainment instead of substance. Increasingly unable to prioritize the meaningful over the mundane, we soon cannot discern the difference. Borrowing Kelley's language, apathetic cultures form citizens who aren't animated by any large-scale meanings. Travel soccer, golf, and Frogger become our preoccupations, while the Lord Almighty becomes our sideshow.

So as spiritual apathy invades the church, church leaders must ask whether our discipleship practices are inoculating people from the surrounding toxins of meaninglessness. That millions have stopped attending altogether suggests we have room to grow."

# **Song of Preparation**

#### I'll Not Be Shaken (Psalm 62)

Wendell Kimbrough



## Call to Worship—Psalm 16 (selected)

Leader: Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

People: I say to the Lord, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you."

Leader: I bless the Lord who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me.

People: I have set the Lord always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken.

Leader: You make known to me the path of life;

All: In your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Leader: Now O Lord, come inhabit our worship and enable us to

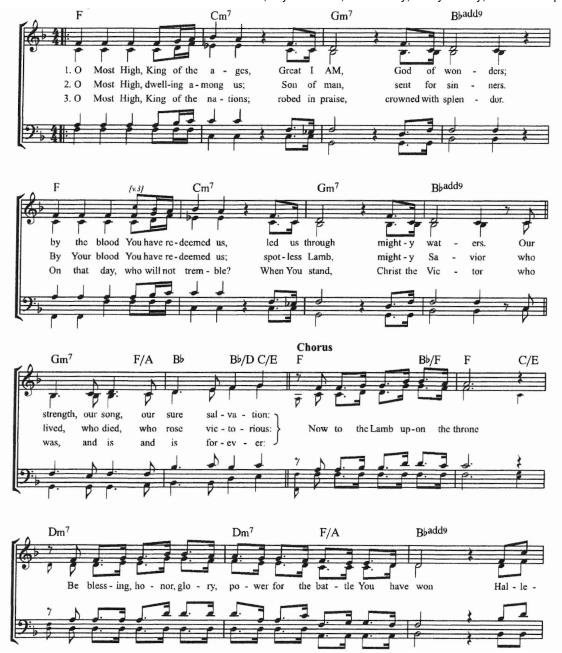
sing your praises and see your truth!

## WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

## \*Songs of Adoration

#### Christus Victor







# Salvation Belongs to Our God

Adrian Howard and Pat Turner



# \*Prayer of Adoration

# WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

# New Testament Reading—Luke 4:1-13

The Temptation of Christ

And Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness for forty days, being tempted by the devil. And he ate nothing during those days. And when they were ended, he was hungry. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become bread." And Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Man shall not live by bread alone.'" And the devil took him up and showed him all the kingdoms of the world in a moment of time, and said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been delivered to me, and I give it to whom I will. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." And Jesus answered him, "It is written,

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

And he took him to Jerusalem and set him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written,

"'He will command his angels concerning you, to guard you,'

and

"'On their hands they will bear you up, lest you strike your foot against a stone.'"

And Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'You shall not put the Lord your God to the test.'" And when the devil had ended every temptation, he departed from him until an opportune time.

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—Joel 2:1-2, 12-13

Blow a trumpet in Zion; sound an alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the Lord is coming; it is near, a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains a great and powerful people; their like has never been before, nor will be again after them through the years of all generations. "Yet even now," declares the Lord, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the Lord your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

# An Opportunity to Express our Confession and Lament

Song of Confession (Ensemble)

Come, O Sinner

Jordan Kauflin

Come, O sinner, come and see, Christ the Lord upon a tree See the crown of thorns adorn the King; who labors to breathe in agony Come, O sinner, come and see; what our God became to set us free

Oh, the wonder of this awesome scene where our Savior bleeds Oh, the power of the love of God. Come and stand in awe

Come, O sinner, come and mourn, for He calls your sin His own Do you fee the weight of justice served? He suffers the wrath that you deserve Come, O sinner, come and mourn, for He bears the curse for all you've done

Come, O sinner, come rejoice. Mercy fills this place of scorn For He dies to save His enemies, that all who draw near may know His peace Come, O sinner, come rejoice, through the death of Christ, death is destroyed

# Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Rom. 10:8-11

But what does it say? "The word is near you, in your mouth and in your heart" (that is, the word of faith that we proclaim); because, if you confess with your mouth that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved. For with the heart one believes and is justified, and with the mouth one confesses and is saved. For the Scripture says, "Everyone who believes in him will not be put to shame."

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for rescuing us from our

sin and shame!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

# \*Song of Rejoicing

# Nothing But the Blood of Jesus



### 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

"Lukewarm"

Revelation 3:14-22

Sermon Series, The Seven Churches of Revelation

Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

# \*Song of Response

# King of Kings





#### \*Benediction

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

**Nursery Volunteer (SS):** Chenoa Pysar (please report to the toddler nursery directly following the service)

#### SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Proverbs-** Ruling Elders Poe and Talent (Room 110) Ruling Elders Talent and Poe will guide us through the first nine chapters of Proverbs.

## 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 as we explore the eight core doctrines of the Christian faith with an eye toward applying these great doctrinal truths to our everyday lives.

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. We are studying the Book of Colossians.

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

Youth Ministry Sundays, 4:30-6:30pm.

**Kingdom Kids** meets today from 4:30-6:30 pm for ages 3yrs-5th grade. The children enjoy a shared meal, games, Bible lesson, and choir. Come join the fun!

**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.

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.

**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 passing out necessary items to families. Use the QR code to sign up. Next opportunity is Mar. 13.

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. Here are their urgent needs:

<u>Volunteer Sales Rep</u> (Average 1-2 Saturdays per month for 2-3 hour shifts) Represent refugee artisan-made jewelry and textiles at markets and sales events in St. Louis. <u>ESL Tutor</u> (Meet once a week in-person) Meet one-on-one with a refugee artisan as she moves through our ESL curriculum.

Mentor and Friend (Commit to at least once a month in-person) Build a relationship with one refugee artisan as they move through their resettlement journey in St. Louis.

Learn about other opportunities by following the link in the QR code

#### Senders:

Thank you to all who attended the Youth Trivia Night. Your support will help our youth that are traveling to Puerto Rico at the end of July of a mission trip.

#### Welcomers:

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

- 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 <u>Diaper Delivery Teams</u>: 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 <u>Furniture Delivery Teams:</u> 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 <u>Individual Volunteers:</u> 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.

