

TRINITY CHURCH

— KIRKWOOD —

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

April 27, 2025

WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO MAKES HIMSELF KNOWN TO US

(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): Jackie Petty, Emily Ridenhour, Mickie & Emmy Schmidt

Liturgist: Mitchell Dixon

Scripture Reader: Amy Mitchell

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Tom Schmidt

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Missions Moment

Quotes and Reflection

"Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you are like whitewashed tombs, which outwardly appear beautiful, but within are full of dead people's bones and all uncleanness. So you also outwardly appear righteous to others, but within you are full of hypocrisy and lawlessness. — Matthew 23:27-28

"God sees your heart, not your words. He is not deceived by the lips, for He knows the soul." — Augustine of Hippo

"True religion must begin in the heart, and then it will show itself in outward obedience." — John Calvin

"A man may wear the robe of religion, and yet be naked before God."
— Charles Spurgeon

Devotional Preparation

How to Avoid Spiritual Decline by Augustus Lopes (Ligonier.org)

One of the most dramatic passages in the Bible is Isaiah 1:10–20, where the prophet reprimands Judah and Jerusalem, calling their leaders princes of Sodom and Gomorrah, cities that were famous for debauchery and iniquity. The people of God had corrupted themselves to the point that God no longer had any pleasure in receiving their worship. Unfortunately, this picture of decadence and corruption among the people of God has repeated itself many times throughout history. In these periods, the people of God often become cold in their faith, harden their hearts, persevere in sin, and provide a terrible testimony to the world.

Our duty as the church and as individual Christians is to prevent the entrance of this spiritual decadence into our lives. Here are four things we can do, by God's grace, to avoid spiritual decline in the church.

1. Treat sin seriously. Nothing ruins the spiritual life of a community more quickly than letting sin continue without being dealt with. When Achan disobeyed God, the entire community suffered the consequences (Josh. 7). Hidden, unconfessed, and unrepented-of sins grieve the Spirit of God and spread through the church, poisoning others' good behavior and faith (Eph. 4:30).
2. Maintain sound doctrine. The truth saves and edifies the church, but lies are its ruin. Religious error poisons souls and diverts the people from the righteous ways of God. The Lord Jesus severely criticized the church at Pergamum for tolerating false leaders who infected the community with false teaching (Rev. 2:14–15). We must never compromise the clear teachings of the gospel.
3. Walk close to the Lord of the church. God keeps us firm and pure. If we come closer to God, He will come closer to us. God has established means by which we can be in continuous communion with Him, including public worship, prayer, privately reading and meditating on Scripture, the preaching of the Word, and regularly taking the Lord's Supper. Christians who fail to use these means end up decaying spiritually. Making regular use of them nourishes us spiritually.
4. Be open to being reformed. One of the mottoes of the Reformed tradition is *ecclesia reformata semper reformanda* (the church reformed and always reforming). The church should always be open to being corrected by God, repenting of its sins, and being reformed in accordance with the teachings of Scripture. In His letters to the seven churches in Revelation, the Lord Jesus called wrongdoers to repent and to return to the righteous ways of the Lord (Rev. 2:5, 16, 21; 3:3, 19). There is great danger when a church stops hearing the Word of its Lord, but a willingness to be corrected brings life.

We as individuals also ought to apply these measures. We must strive to avoid the spiritual decline of our religious practices by attending to God's appointed means of growth in grace. If we fail to do so, we risk running aground spiritually, but if we attend to the means of grace, we can provide a tremendous witness to the world.

Song of Preparation

Speak O Lord
Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

1. Speak, O Lord, as we come to You to re -
2. Teach us Lord full o - be - di - ence, ho - ly
3. Speak, O Lord, and re - new our minds; Help us

3 **F C Am G/B**
 celve the food of Your ho - ly word.
 rev - er - ence, true hu - mil - i - ty.
 grasp the heights of Your plans for us.


5 **F/A G/B C2 F C**
 Take Your truth, plant it deep in us; Shape and
 Test our thoughts and our at - ti - tudes in the
 Truths un - changed from the dawn of time, that will

7 **F C/E F G C C/E**
 fash - ion us in Your like - ness, that the
 ra - di - ance of Your pu - ri - ty. Cause our
 echo down through e - ter - ni - ty. And by

9 **G G/F C/E Gsus/F G9/F C2/E**
 light of Christ might be seen to - day in our
 faith to rise, cause our eyes to see Your ma -
 grace we'll stand on Your prom - is - es; And by


11 **G G/F C/E Am Gsus G**
 acts of love and our deeds of faith.
 jes - tic love and au - thor - i - ty.
 faith we'll walk as You walk with us.

13 F/A G/B C2 F C




Speak, O Lord, and ful - fill in us all Your
Words of pow'r that can nev - er fail; Let their
Speak, O Lord, till Your church is built and the

15 F C/E F Gsus G C



pur - pos - es, for Your glo - ry.
truth pre - vail o - ver un - be - lief.
earth is filled with Your glo - ry.

17 F2 C2/E F2 Gsus G C



(Continuation of previous line)

Call to Worship—Psalm 118 (selected)

Leader: Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!

People: We bless you from the house of the Lord.

Leader: The Lord is God, and he has made his light to shine upon us.

People: Bind the festal sacrifice with cords, up to the horns of the altar!

Leader: You are my God, and I will give thanks to you;

People: You are my God; I will extol you.

All: Oh, give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever!

Leader: O Lord of Resurrection power, come now and fill our hearts with praise as we offer them to you in worship!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

*Songs of Adoration

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing

Trinity Hymnal #457

Oh Give Thanks!

Wendell Kimbrough

1. We were wan - d'ring in the de - sert with our souls
2. We were locked out of the gar - den and our backs
3. We were fools in our re - bell - ion with our hun -
4. We were far out on the o - cean ma - king wealth

so starved and weak; we were hun - gry for a home - land we did not
bend down with pain in the sha - dow of death's dark - ness we were slaves
- ger strike of pride; we were sick and grow - ing clos - er to the death
and cha - sing dreams but the waves of great de - struc - tion brought us trem -

know how to seek, but we lif - ted up our voi -
to sin and blame Then we cried out in our la -
- we should have died Then he heard of our con - di -
- bling to our knees, and we cried like drun - ken sai -

- ces to the on - ly One who hears and the God
- bor to the on - ly One who hears and the God
- tion and He called - us by our names and the God
- lars to the on - ly One who hears and the God

of mer - cy came and brought us near. Oh give thanks to the Lord
of mer - cy wiped a - way our tears.
of glo - ry took a - way our shame.
of com - fort took a - way our fears.

for His love en - dures fo - re - ver! We were wan - der - ing and lost and our Fa -

- ther brought us home to a safe dwe - lling place, to a feast

of joy and laugh - ter. Oh give thanks to the Lord for He is good.

***Prayer of Adoration**

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

Call to Resurrection Faithfulness—John 20:19-29

Jesus Appears to the Disciples

On the evening of that day, the first day of the week, the doors being locked where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said to them, "Peace be with you." When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, even so I am sending you." And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you withhold forgiveness from any, it is withheld."

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

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 5:27-32

And when they had brought them, they set them before the council. And the high priest questioned them, saying, "We strictly charged you not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching, and you intend to bring this man's blood upon us." But Peter and the apostles answered, "We must obey God rather than men. The God of our fathers raised Jesus, whom you killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Savior, to give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit, whom God has given to those who obey him."

Silent Confession and Lament

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Rev. 1:5-6

To him who loves us and has freed us from our sins by his blood and made us a kingdom, priests to his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion forever and ever. Amen.

Leader: People of God, give thanks to to the Lord who has freed us from 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

Jesus, My Great High Priest

Words by Isaac Watts. Music by Kirk Ward

Rock ♩ = 144

verse E B/D# C#m7 B

1. Je - sus, my great High Priest Of - fered his blood and
 (2.To) this dear Sure - ty's hand Will I com - mit my
 (3.My) Ad - vo - cate ap - pears For my de - fense on
 (4.Should) all the hosts of death And pow'r of hell un -

4 A E B/D#

died cause; My guil - ty con - science seeks No
 high; He an - swers and ful - fils His
 known Put their most dread - ful ears forms And
 Of

7 C#m7 B A E/G# F#m7

sa - cri - fice be - side. His pow'r - ful blood did
 Fa - ther's bro - ken laws. Be - hold all my soul at
 lays his thun - der by. Not all that hell or
 rage and mis - chief on, I shall be safe, for

10 E/G# A B

once a - tone, And now it pleads be - fore the throne; And
 free - dom set; My Sure - ty paid debt; My
 sin can say, Shall turn his heart, the his love, a - way Shall
 Christ dis - plays His con - qu'ring pow'r and guard - ian grace; His

13 F#m E/G# F#m/A B E A/E

now Sure - ty pleads be - fore the throne.
 turn - his paid heart, the dread - ful debt.
 con - qu'ring pow'r and his love, a way.
 grace.

16 E E Chorus B A

2. To Now I ap - proach the

19 E B A E B A C#m7

throne, and I have con - fi - dence for Je - sus my great High Priest of - fered His

24 F#m7 B E B A E

blood and died Now I ap - proach the throne, and I have

28 B A E B A C#m7

con - fi - dence for Je - sus my great High Priest of - fered His

32 F#m7 B E A/E E Fine D.C. al Fine

blood and died for me.

3. My
4. Should

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)

Show Us Christ

Music by Doug Plank. Words by Doug Plank and Bob Kauflin

Sermon

"Spiritual Authenticity"

Isaiah 1:12-20

Sermon Series: Isaiah

Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

*Song of Response

Only A Holy God

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

Bm D G D Bm D G

6

1. Who else commands all the hosts of heav-en? Who else could make-ev-ry king bow
 2. What oth-er beau-ty de-ands such prais-es? What oth-er splendor out-shines the
 3. What oth-er glo-ry con-sumes like fi-re? What oth-er pow-er can raise the
 4. Who else could res-cue me from my fail-ing? Who else would of-fer His on-ly

D Bm D G D/F# G A D

9

down? Who else can whis-per and dark-ness trem-bles On-ly a Ho-ly God.
 sun? What oth-er maj-es-ty rules with just-ice? On-ly a Ho-ly God.
 dead? What oth-er name re-ains un-de-feat-ed/ On-ly a Ho-ly God.
 Son? Who else in-vites me to call Him Fa-ther? On-ly a Ho-ly God.
 5. (On-ly my Ho-ly God)

1. Bm G D A Bm G
 2, 3, 4.

14

Come and be-hold Him, the One and the On-ly. Cry out, sing Ho-ly, for

D A Bm G A Bm D G D

21

ev-er a Ho-ly God. Come and wor-ship the Ho-ly God

Bm D G D

26

To Verse

*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): Karen Broughton (please report to the toddler nursery directly following the service)

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Spiritual Formation- Pastor Polski (Room 111)

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.

Adult Choir- Katie Polski and Abby Roberts (Fireplace Room)

Calling all singers! We'll learn pieces that we'll sing in worship throughout the spring. 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: Oehlerking, Moen, Broughton, Barker. Nursery: Petty, Ridenhour, Schmidts. SS: Broughton. CC: Waldrons, Rosales, Goldstein. **Next Sunday:** Ushers: Schaffer, Schlitt, Thomason, Kocher. Nursery: Linenbroker, Goldstein, O'Neal, Standerfer. SS: Oehlerking. CC: Doiron, Manwarings.

Our ladies **Wednesday morning (9 am) and evening (6:15 pm) Bible study** is reading Jen Wilkin's book, *Women of the Word* and will discuss chapters 2 & 3 this week.

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 meets today at 4:30pm for a time of guided prayer, asking God to bring renewal to St. Louis.

Sunday Snacks: More snack volunteers needed! Please try and keep the snacks nut free. Sign up using the QR code on the snack table or see Mary Rosales.

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

The **Grounds Crew could use your help.** Schedule is flexible. See Glynn Schlitt if you are able to help.

If you were able to take home **Easter flowers** last Sunday and would like to make a **donation**, you can do so through Church Center (scroll to Easter flowers) or there is a basket in the church office.

Mark your calendars for an evening of **Prayer & Praise** on May 31st at the O'Neals.

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:](#)



BLOOD DRIVE

Trinity is hosting a **blood drive with Red Cross** on May14th from 2-6pm. **Registration is now open** via the QR code above or on Church Center. We are also in **need of a few volunteers** to help with registration and to pass out snacks. Please use the QR code or go to Church Center to volunteer.

MISSION UPDATE

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



Prayers: Scan the QR link for the **April** 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 the 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.
- **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. **Our next Restore workday will be on May 10th. Registration for this is now open-use the QR code above.**

Senders:

- **Robinson Food Pantry** — All of your donations went to the Robinson Food Pantry this month. There is one more left for the school year. Donation list will be posted here in the coming weeks.
- **Offerings** — The work of missions is not possible without *Senders*. Those who God has called and equipped to resource the works he has prepared beforehand. If our Lord has laid it on your heart to be a sender, you may present offerings for the work of Missions through the QR code above.

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. ***Link to snack list via QR code above.***
- **Welcoming** – We have had so many visitors in the last few weeks. If you happen to greet a visitor please pass along our contact information. We would love to connect with them.

Mobilizers:

Considering an opportunity to serve? Come and see if serving on one of our missions committees is it. **Today**, following Sunday School, join us in the narthex for a light lunch and information. Several committee members will be available. Here all that goes in to planning our missions conference and the impact that mission work can have for generations. Bring your questions!

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.



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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