



TRINITY CHURCH

— KIRKWOOD —

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

May 24, 2026

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.



WORSHIPPING THE GOD WHO GUIDES 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): Tara Thomason, Emily Ridenhour, Cheryl Poe, Nora Williamson

Liturgist: Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

Scripture Reader: Tom Schmidt

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Shaun Thomason

Welcome and Announcements

Quotes and Reflection

Obey your leaders and submit to them, for they are keeping watch over your souls, as those who will have to give an account. Let them do this with joy and not with groaning, for that would be of no advantage to you. — Heb. 13:17

“Be killing sin, or sin will be killing you.” — John Owen

“Leadership is not first about authority; it is first about responsibility.” — Paul Tripp

“Success can go to your head, and failure can go to your heart.” — Tim Keller

WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

Leadership Lessons from Billy Graham by Kevin Deyoung (TGC) *Abridged*

I love biographies that do more than chronicle a man's life. I want to know the facts, but I also appreciate some interpretation. Which is why I found Grant Wacker's book on Billy Graham so satisfying. The entire book is sprinkled with interesting anecdotes and points of application, but the last chapter is particularly useful, for here Wacker provides an evaluation of Graham's strengths and weaknesses.

Cracks in the Marble

"In the glow of nostalgia," Wacker writes, "it is easy to forget that Graham, like all great leaders, made serious mistakes" (291). Among the more minor offenses, Wacker notes that Graham was a "notorious apple-polisher," an "egregious namedropper," and had a penchant for hyperbole (291-292). More seriously, Wacker details four major problems that damaged the effectiveness of his ministry.

- 1. Graham struggled to stay out of partisan politics.**
- 2. Graham was perceived as being too close to the power Establishment.**
- 3. Graham was prone to go along to get along.**
- 4. Graham did not bother with ambiguity, irony, paradox, or complexity.**

Contours in the Marble

Despite these cracks, Wacker sees much in Graham's life that is praiseworthy and genuinely inspirational.

1. Character. The list of virtues is long: Graham possessed a default preference for looking outward instead of inward. He was marked by an "extrospective cheerfulness," what Wacker later describes as "an irenic disposition blended with an irrepressible sense of humor." Millions of people all over the world simply liked Billy Graham. He was not timid—he would talk to anyone and go anywhere. Most of all, Graham's character shone "in the integrity of his personal life: financial probity, marital fidelity, devotional regularity, and recreational prudence."

2. Mind. Not normally reputed for his intellect, Graham had a gifted mind in ways that are easy to miss. He was savvy. He spotted good talent and kept them around. He possessed common sense and a keen understanding of what resonated with ordinary people. He was comfortable in his own (mental) skin, never trying to be intellectually what he wasn't. Above all he had what historians call "intellectual virtue."

3. Charisma. Graham was winsome, easy-going, quick-witted, good looking, affable, and an instinctive communicator. He spoke the language of everyday folks, without ever seeming to talk down to them in the process. He was expansionist, bold, and visionary in a way that Americans especially appreciated. Throughout his ministry, he remained confident and future-oriented. He was critical of himself and sincerely interested in others.

Conclusion

The lesson I come back to after all good biographies is the same: our greatest strengths are bound to be our greatest weaknesses. We can see how inattention to nuance and ambiguity go along with self-confidence and visionary plans, just like "going along to get along" is the underbelly of being a profoundly likeable person.

So I end up wanting to pray two things: Lord, make me aware of my weaknesses, especially as they relate to my strengths. And let me not dismiss the heroes of the faith just because their marble was full of cracks.

32

Am⁷

Then I will praise — Him — with all my heart — Oh, my

34

F

G

C

F

G

C

Fine

joy, my joy. Oh, my joy, my joy.

INSTRUMENTAL

VERSE 2

38

C

Am⁷

F

C/E

G

C

Em

2. Why are you cast down low,

44

F

C

Em

F

G

O my soul? Why are you cast down low, — and — in tur - moi?

50

C

Am⁷

F

G

C

Hope in God, — for I shall a - gain — praise — Him.

54

Am⁷

F

C

D.S. al Fine

Hope in God, — for He is my — sal - va - tion.

Call to Worship— Psalm 43 (Selected)

Leader: Send out your light and your truth; let them lead me;

People: Let them bring me to your holy hill and to your dwelling!

Leader: Then we will go to the altar of God, to God our exceeding joy,

People: And we will praise you with the lyre, O God, our God.

All: (We will) hope in God; for we shall again praise him, our salvation and our God.

Leader: O Lord, grant to us a great and deep sense of hope as we come to worship you today!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

***Songs of Adoration**

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

Trinity Hymnal #521

On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand

Samuel Stennett and Christopher Miner

Real Key

1. On Jor - dan's stor - my banks I stand, And
 2. All o'er those wide ex - ten - ded plains, Shines
 3. No chill - ing winds nor that pois - onous breath, Can
 4. When shall I reach shore, blessed Where

cast a wish - ful eye To
 one e - ter - nal day There
 reach that health - ful shore,
 be for - ev - er blessed Where

Can - aan's fair and hap - py land, Where
 God, the Son for - ey - py er and reigns, And
 Sick shall - ness, I see - row, my pain and ther's death, face, Are
 And

my scat - ters - sions lie - Chorus: I am
 felt in and his bos - om a no way more rest.
 2. All way more rest.

bound, I am bound, I am bound for Prom-ised Land I am

bound, I am bound, I am bound for Prom-ised Land

3. No
 4. When

***Prayer of Adoration**

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading—Exodus 13:17-22

God Guides His People with Pillars of Cloud and Fire

When Pharaoh let the people go, God did not lead them by way of the land of the Philistines, although that was near. For God said, "Lest the people change their minds when they see war and return to Egypt." But God led the people around by the way of the wilderness toward the Red Sea. And the people of Israel went up out of the land of Egypt equipped for battle. Moses took the bones of Joseph with him, for Joseph had made the sons of Israel solemnly swear, saying, "God will surely visit you, and you shall carry up my bones with you from here." And they moved on from Succoth and encamped at Etham, on the edge of the wilderness. And the Lord went before them by day in a pillar of cloud to lead them along the way, and by night in a pillar of fire to give them light, that they might travel by day and by night. The pillar of cloud by day and the pillar of fire by night did not depart from before the people.

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—Romans 8:22-23

For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

Silent Confession and Lament

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Rom. 8:28-29

And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose. For those whom he foreknew he also predestined to be conformed to the image of his Son, in order that he might be the firstborn among many brothers.

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for consistently working His good in us!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

*Song of Rejoicing

His Glory and My Good

Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, and Ben Fielding

VERSE 1/2

5
Asus2 E B C#m7
seen my Fa - ther's glo - ry re - vealed in Je - sus Christ... And the
hope in ev - 'ry tri - al for I can trust the Lord... He will

7
Asus2 E B C#m7
more that I be - hold Him, the more He sat - is - fies... When I
turn my heart to - wards Him and help me bare the thorn... So in

9
Asus2 E B C#m7
gaze u - pon His beau - ty, when I see Him as I should then my
faith I fol - low Je - sus on the road not un - der - stood... For I

11
Asus2 E/G# B
eyes are lift - ed up - ward for His glo - ry and my
know that He is work - ing for His glo - ry and my

13 1. Asus2 E B C#m7
 good. There is

15 2. E5 Esus
 good. To our

17 **CHORUS** E A E C#m7
 God be the glo - ry, to our God be praise. He a - lone, the name a - bove all

20 B E/G# A C#m7 **To Coda**
 names. I will boast ev - er on - ly in the Lord my God, for I

23 A B Asus2 E
 know His glo - ry is my good.

25 VERSE 3 B C#m7 Asus2 E
 See the o - pen arms of Je - sus u -

27 B C#m7 Asus2 E
 pon the cross that day. What they un - der - stood as weak - ness de -

29 B C#m7 Asus2 E
 serves my ev - 'ry praise. For the charge that was a - gainst me, it was

31 B C#m7 Asus2 E/G#
 nailed in - to the wood. Yes, I know that He has saved me for His

33 B E **D.S. al Coda**
 glo - ry and my good. To our

⊕ CODA

35 A B A E/G#

know His glo - ry is my good.

sing 1st time only

INSTRUMENTAL

37 C#m7 B A E/G#

39 1. C#m7 B 2. B

Would I

41 VERSE 4 Aadd2 E/G# Badd4/F# E/G#

glad - ly be - made noth - ing that Christ would be - made more... Would I

43 Aadd2 E/G# Badd4/F# E/G#

seek the on - ly king - dom that far out - weighs them all... I will

45 Aadd2 E Badd4 C#m7

stand be - fore my Fa - ther where the faith - ful saints have stood and with

47 Aadd2 E/G# Badd4 C#m7 Bsus

joy my heart shall praise Him for His glo - ry and my good. And with

49 Aadd2 E/G# Badd4

joy my heart shall praise Him for His glo - ry and my

51 E

good. To our

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)

All My Hope

David Crowder and Ed Cash Arr. by Dan Galbraith

Sermon

"The Travails of Leadership"

2 Samuel 5:11-25

Sermon Series, 2 Samuel

Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

***Song of Response**

Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

Trinity Hymnal #598

***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.*

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Psalms-Ruling Elders, Jim Talent & Fielding Poe (Room 110)

The Psalms are one of the most unique books in the Old Testament. They are poetic outpourings of the heart to God, and they show that He is, and always has been, a personal God who hears and responds to the deepest yearnings of His people. Come join us for a brief overview of the book itself, and then stay with us as we work through some of the most cherished psalms in this most cherished part of the Word of God. You will come away with a better understanding of our great Father and how we can relate to Him.

Living Faithfully in a Divided Age – Rick Wojick (Room 111)

We live in a time of division. It shows up not just between churches, ethnic groups and political parties ... but also inside of them. We are surprised by how our fellow believers reacted to COVID, the recent elections, cancel culture, and racial tensions. We are conflicted about how to respond both publicly and privately. This is not the first time in history God's people faced living in a divided age. Some 3000 years ago in Israel, sins by national leaders, a corrupt and corrosive government, a contested national election, and growing tribalism split the kingdom apart into two nations under God. How did this change happen so rapidly? What were the root causes of this national tragedy? What lessons can we learn from this Game of Thrones and apply to our current situation and our own lives? We will examine the fall of King Solomon and the reign of King Jeroboam based on their accounts found in 1 Kings 11-14. We will attempt to answer the question: *How can we live faithfully in a divided age?*

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

Summer Sunday School on Christian Spiritual Formation

Pastor Polski will be leading a six week summer Sunday School series on the topic of *Christian Spiritual Formation*. He will be covering topics such as 1) Being Image Bearers of God, 2) Christian Spirituality 3) Union with Christ, 4) The Ordinary Means of Grace, 5) Uniquely Reformational Spiritual Disciplines, and 6) The Careful Balance of Rest and Work. Unfortunately, there will be no other children's or youth Sunday School classes simultaneously available this summer. The class will meet from June 14, 21 & 28 and July 12, 19 & 26.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday school classes will resume next Sunday.

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, Hays, Barker. Nursery: Thomason, Ridenhour, Poe, Williamson. SS: Steele. CC: Steele, Kwong, Hawley.

Next Sunday: Ushers: Roberts, Wong, Maglione, Alexander. Nursery: Linenbrokers, Schlitt, Bava. SS: Broughton.

Summer Co-Ed Bible Study on Titus: Join Pastor Polski for a Co-Ed Summer Bible Study on the book of Titus. For the first three Wednesday nights of June (6/3, 6/10, 6/17) and July (7/1, 7/8, 7/15) at 6:15pm, Pastor Polski will walk us through the book of Titus, providing exegetical and practical insights into topics like sound doctrine, Godly leadership, Christian character, good works, grace, healthy church order and the Christian's witness to the world. Come on your own, with your spouse, or bring a friend. Anyone in Junior High or up is welcome!

Ladies, you are invited to tea on Wed., June 3 at 10:30am at the home of Debbie Highmark. We are excited to spend time with special guest and missionary, Erin Taylor. Please RSVP to Debbie. Also be sure to mark your calendars for a **brunch on July 11th!**

Community Sunday potluck lunches will take place on 6/7, 7/5, and 8/2.

Mark your calendar: Worship in the Round on July 8th at 6pm.

Promotion Sunday is May 31st. We will celebrate our elementary Sunday school with special recognition to the graduating kindergaren, 5th grade, and high school students. **That afternoon Kingdom Kids and youth** will have fun with water games from 4:45-6:15pm.

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:](#)



TRINITY CONNECT

Are you new to Trinity? Perhaps you have been around awhile and are considering membership. Join us for our Trinity Connect class on Fri., Jun. 5 from 5:30-7:30pm (dinner included) and Jun. 6 from 9-11am. Come learn about the ministries at Trinity, our history, and more about our denomination. While this class does not commit you to membership, it is a pre-requisite. Let us know you are coming via the QR code or on Church Center.

Please let us know if you will need childcare.



Local Mission News
Featuring Reach Reproductive Health
Care With Connection
Levi Hart, CEO

Who We Are:

At Reach Reproductive Healthcare, we're here to provide free, safe, and confidential pre-abortion care when you need it most. We're dedicated to supporting women and their partners with the information, resources, and support they need to make confident decisions about their futures.

Our holistic, non-judgmental approach ensures that every woman feels seen, heard, and cared for—not just in this moment, but as the whole person you are.

Why We Exist:

At Reach Reproductive Health, we understand that an unexpected pregnancy can bring a mix of emotions, questions, and uncertainties. That's why we exist—to walk alongside you and provide the support you need to make the best decision for yourself, without pressure or judgment.

We believe that every woman deserves clarity, confidence, and compassionate care when making choices that impact her body and her life ahead. Our services are designed to provide real support, not just generic answers, in a warm and welcoming environment.

Reach is more than a clinic; we are partners in care who recognize that pregnancy decisions impact every part of your life—your relationships, goals, and well-being. Our goal is to help you navigate this decision with knowledge, resources, and support so that you can make the most empowered decision possible.

CATECHISM QUESTION
OF THE WEEK

Q. 36. What are the benefits that accompany or flow from justification, adoption and sanctification in this life?

A. The benefits that accompany or flow from justification, adoption and sanctification in this life are assurance of God's love, peace of conscience, joy in the Holy Ghost, increase of grace, and perseverance in it to the end.

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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