TRINITY CHURCH

KIRKWOOD

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

November 1, 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.

WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO ENDURES WITH US THROUGH GRIEF

(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): Michelle Goldstein, Beth & Nora Williamson, Russel Davis

Liturgist: Mason Powell

Scripture Reader: Tom Schmidt

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Bill Elzinga

Welcome and Announcements

Quotes and Reflection

But this I call to mind, and therefore I have hope: The steadfast love of the Lord never ceases; his mercies never come to an end; they are new every morning; great is your faithfulness. — Lam. 3:21-23

But we have this treasure in jars of clay, to show that the surpassing power belongs to God and not to us. We are afflicted in every way, but not crushed; perplexed, but not driven to despair; persecuted, but not forsaken; struck down, but not destroyed; always carrying in the body the death of Jesus, so that the life of Jesus also may be manifested in our bodies. — 2 Corinthians 4:7-10

"Jesus wept and we may weep. Jesus told His sorrow to His friends and you may do the same." — Charles Spurgeon

"The real difficulty is—isn't it—to adapt one's steady belief about tribulation to this particular tribulation." — C.S. Lewis

WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

Corporate Worship: A Lifting of the Gaze by Matt Boswell (DesiringGod.org)

I had preached the funeral of their baby just a few days before. Some of our best friends laid to rest their little girl, marking one of the most difficult days of my life. While preaching graveside, my eyes rested on my wife, dressed in black, who we knew was in the process of miscarrying a child.

Now, the Sunday after had come. I had chosen songs to remind them, to remind me, of God's faithfulness and goodness in the midst of suffering. It is difficult to sing with sorrow in your throat.

What our friends did not need were three tips to overcome pain, or a weightless song that may pacify for a moment. What they needed, what I needed, was to behold the glory of God in the face of Christ. We needed a lifting of our gaze.

In Psalm 121, the psalmist feels this tension as he ascends to the temple to worship. Along the journey, we find him in need of remembering where his help is found. He sings to his heart to remind it to hope in God.

In the opening line of his hymn, he asks his soul a question that demands a sure response. "I lift up my eyes to the hills, from where does my help come? My help comes from the Lord, the maker of heaven and earth" (Psalm 121:1–2). When the gaze of the psalmist is low, he is filled with doubts and questions. When his gaze is lifted up, his heart is lifted up also.

Corporate worship is a lifting of the gaze from created things to the uncreated one. On any given Sunday morning, as people walk into the room, questions come with them.

Is there grace enough for someone like me? Will my marriage make it through this? Has God forgotten me?

Amidst the singing, there are other songs being sung: songs of pain and suffering, songs of doubt and fear, songs of desperate need. These songs may not ring through the microphone, but they are there. The resounding theme of each of these songs is simple: we need to behold God.

Corporate worship reminds us that our hope is not fixed on anything less than our sovereign God. There is a tendency in all of us to forget our neediness. Like the psalmist, we question where our help comes from and must be continually reminded of the source of our hope. We are easily distracted. We are lulled to sleep by the idols of comfort and self-sufficiency. We are prone to forget that Christ is the sure and steady anchor in the fury of every storm.

We gather together in worship to have our eyes set upon Christ. The hand of the gospel lifts our drooping head to remember that in Christ the acceptance of God has been fixed upon us. The weekly practice of hearing the gospel in song and in sermon clears the hazy effects of sin from our eyes and focuses our hearts on the glory of God. Lifting our gaze brings clarity to us of who God is and who we are as his people.

Allow corporate worship to help renew your hope in God. In the call to worship, call your heart to worship. In the confession of sin, lift your gaze to Christ whose blood has satisfied the wrath of God. In the preaching of God's word, hear the gospel and allow it to echo through the chambers of your soul. In the benediction, be sent into the world to remember the glorious and steadfast hope that is ours in Christ.

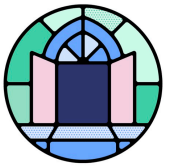
Song of Preparation

How Deep The Father's Love for Us

Stuart Townend



Call to Worship— Psalm 103 (Selected)



Leader: The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

People: He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.

Leader: He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

People: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

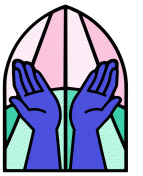
All: As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

Leader: O Lord, deepen our gratitude as offer our hearts to you in worship.

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

***Songs of Adoration** *Praise to the Lord, the Almighty*

Trinity Hymnal #53



We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Sandra McCracken and Joshua Moore

F F/D B♭ F Dm B♭

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

Gm C F F/D B♭ F

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

Dm C B♭ C F

We will feast and weep no more.

Verse

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

B♭ Dm B♭ C Dm

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

B♭ Dm B♭ C Dm C/E

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



Scripture Reading—Psalm 89:1-5

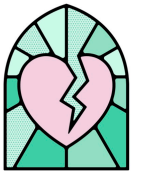
I Will Sing of the Steadfast Love of the Lord

I will sing of the steadfast love of the Lord forever;
with my mouth I will make known your faithfulness to all generations.
For I said, "Steadfast love will be built up forever;
in the heavens you will establish your faithfulness."
You have said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one;
I have sworn to David my servant:
'I will establish your offspring forever,
and build your throne for all generations.'" Selah
Let the heavens praise your wonders, O Lord,
your faithfulness in the assembly of the holy ones!

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— Jeremiah 17:9

The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately sick; who can understand it?

Silent Confession and Lament

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace— Romans 5:6-8

For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— but God shows his love for us in that while we were sinners, Christ died for us.

Leader: Christians, give thanks to God for His mercies to rebels like us!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

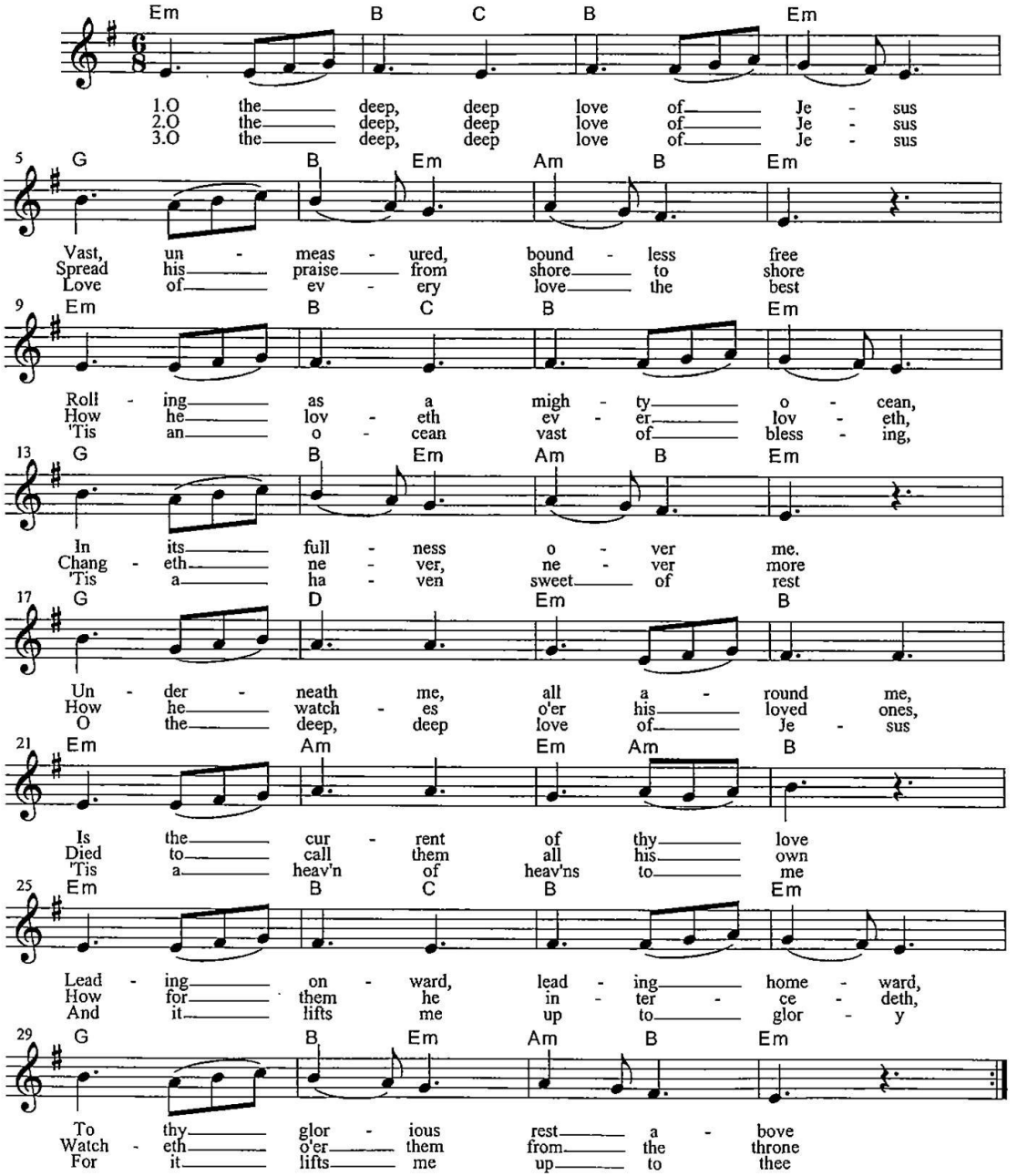
People: And also with you!



*Song of Rejoicing

O the Deep, Deep, Love of Jesus

Words by Trevor Francis. Music by Thomas J. Williams. Arr. by Ryan Fogleston, Patrick Anderson, and John Martin



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

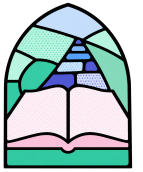
If you would like to give your tithe online, scan your camera phone here:

Offertory Song (Adult Choir) *My King Is Comin' Soon*

Kyle Pederson

Sermon

"A Tragic Victory"
2 Samuel 18:19-19:8
Sermon Series, 2 Samuel
Rev. Dr. Chris Polski



*Song of Response

He Will Hold Me Fast

Intro from 'Finlandia' by Jean Sibelius. Vv. 1-2 by Ada Habershon. Alt words vv 1-2, 3 Matt Merker




26
Am7 G/B C D Gmaj7 G/B
For my Sav - ior loves me so, He will hold me fast.
30
C2 Gmaj7 G/B C2
VERSE 3
Em9 C
3. For my life He bled and died,
35
C/E D/F♯ G Em9 C
Christ will hold me fast; Just - ice has been sat - is - fied;
39
D G Em D/F♯ G/B C
He will hold me fast. Raised with Him to end - less life,
43
B Em D/F♯ G/B C
He will hold me fast till our faith is turned to sight,
47
D G
CHORUS
C D Em
when He comes at last! He will hold me fast,
52
D/F♯ G Am7 G/B C
He will hold me fast; For my Sav - ior loves me so,
56
1. 2.
D G D G
ENDING
He will hold me fast. He will hold me fast.
61
Am9 G/B C G/B Am7 D7sus G

THE SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Sursum Corda

Pastor: The LORD be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the LORD.

Pastor: Let us give thanks unto the LORD our God.

People: It is good and right so to do.

*Confession of Faith



Leader: Christian, in whom do you believe?

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.
And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.
The third day He arose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, whence He shall come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy universal church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen

Words of Institution–1 Corinthians 11:23-29

For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body, which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way also he took the cup, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes. Whoever, therefore, eats the bread or drinks the cup of the Lord in an unworthy manner will be guilty concerning the body and blood of the Lord. Let a person examine himself, then, and so eat of the bread and drink of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without discerning the body eats and drinks judgment on himself.



Prayer of Consecration

The Giving of the Bread and Cup

Upon direction from the ushers, please come forward down the center aisle. After you receive the elements, please return to your seats via the side aisles. Please hold the elements until we are all able to partake together. After the service, please dispose of your used communion cup.

(Grape juice is in the purple cups and wine in the clear. The bread is gluten and nut free)

Communion Song (Ensemble) *Thank You Jesus For The Blood*

Charity Gayle, Ryan Kennedy, Steven Musso, David Gentiles, and Bryan McCleery

Prayer of Thanksgiving

***Sending Song** *Mighty God We Thank and Praise You*

Wendell Kimbrough and Ludwig van Beethoven

Mighty God we thank and praise you for this meal, this Bread of Life;
Precious blood and body, broken, from your Son our Savior, Christ.
In these myst'ries you assure us we are members of your Son;
Heirs of your eternal Kingdom, with all faithful people, One.
Amen, amen, amen, amen, amen.



***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.*

FALL SUNDAY SCHOOL

God in Action - Ruling Elders, Jim Talent & Fielding Poe (Room 110)
We will be studying our favorite episodes or chapters of the Bible, including the Lord's encounters with Nicodemus and the Samaritan woman (from John 3 and 4), Paul's wonderful letter to Philemon, God's rebuke of Sennacherib (from 2 Kings, 2 Chronicles, and Isaiah), and much more. Come and see God in action; and learn about His character from His great saving works. We love these parts of the Bible, and you will too!

How does God save sinners? The person and work of Jesus Christ- Clark Emerson (Room 111)
Jesus Christ is the center of the Christian faith, yet many of the doctrines surrounding His person and work are often misunderstood or overlooked. Who is He, and what did He accomplish? Throughout history the church has wrestled with these questions because they are essential to understanding the gospel itself. In this class we will explore what Scripture teaches about the person and work of Christ—from His incarnation and atoning work to the salvation He accomplished for His people. Along the way, we will examine the biblical foundations and historical development of these doctrines, seeking to understand not only what the church has confessed throughout the centuries, but why. Whether you are new to theology or have studied it for years, our aim is to deepen your understanding of Christ so that you trust, worship, and love Him more.

Trinity Choir - Abby Roberts & Katie Polski (Fireplace room)
The Trinity Choir begins meeting during the Sunday school hour on Sept. 6th. Together we'll learn music that helps lead our church in worship throughout the semester. Whether you're a seasoned singer or have never sung in a choir before, you're welcome. All you need 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 class 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: Heintz, Standerfer, Smith, McCall. Nursery: Goldstein, Williamsons, Davis. SS: Emerson. CC: Emersons. **Next Sunday**: Ushers: Moen, Oehlerking, Barker, Hays. Nursery: Bailey, Kwong, Schmidts. SS: Mitchell. CC: Doiron, Wilhoit, Kwong.

Women's Bible Study meets weekly on Wed. at 9am or 6:15pm. We are studying the Book of Ecclesiastes.

Men's Bible Study meets on the 1st, 2nd, & 3rd Wed. of the month at 6:15pm. Pastor Polski is leading a study of the Psalms.

Men's Night this Wed. at 7:30pm at Josh Hendrick's.

Ladies Connect meets on Thur., Nov. 12 at 6:30pm at Mickie Schmidt's.

20th Anniversary Celebration: THIS Thur. at 6pm, join us for a catered dinner, testimonies, a special video of Trinity memories, and more! **Registration is required**.

Please see today's insert about **volunteer sign ups for our annual Christmas Craft Party**. This event takes MANY hands! You can sign up at the table in the narthex or on Church Center.

The **Christmas Craft Party for kids ages 4yrs thru 5th grade** is on Sat., Dec. 5th from 9am to 12:15pm. Registration is now open-see today's insert.

Join us for a **special concert by W Mark Akin** at Trinity on Nov. 8th at 2pm. Mark is an award-winning classical guitarist. No sign up needed.

Are you **interested in becoming a member of Trinity** or want to learn more about the PCA? Sign up for our next Trinity Connect class on Fri., evening, Nov. 20th and Sat., morning, Nov. 21st. Child care is available when you **register using the QR code to the right.**

Men's Breakfast: Sat., Nov. 14 from 8-9:30am.

Volunteers are needed for the Nov. Robinson Food Pantry on 11/23. Sign up using the QR code to right.

Ladies, join us on Wed., Dec. 9th at 6:30pm for **Sweet Treats & Christmas Wreaths!** Details on Church Center.

If you do not receive our **weekly email updates** on Tuesday mornings, please send your email address to amy.mitchell@trinitychurchkirkwood.org

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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:

UPCOMING DATES

Nov. 5 20th Anniversary Dinner
Nov. 8 Mark Akin Concert 2pm
Nov. 12 Ladies Connect
Nov. 14 Men's Breakfast
Nov. 15 Baby Shower for Mychal Powell
Nov. 20 & 21 New Member's Class
Nov. 23 Robinson Food Pantry
Nov. 25 Thanksgiving Service 5:30pm
Nov. 28 Church Christmas Decorating
Dec. 5 Christmas Craft Party
Dec. 6 Annual Congregational Mtg.
Dec. 9 Women's Wreath Party
Dec. 19 & 20 Christmas Concert

Global Mission News
Featuring Liz Polk,
Mission to the World

It has been two full years since our family left Ethiopia. Often people stop to ask, "How is the transition back going?" Depending on the moment (or person asked), the answer varies.

Here are some of the responses we often hear coming from our mouths: *It's complicated. It's a process. It's hard. It's good. We see God's kindness to us in so many ways. We miss Ethiopia. We are also okay. Our kids are doing well. It's hard for our kids. We worry about people we love and the church planting work back in Ethiopia. We are amazed at how God continues working and providing for the church plants in our absence.*

If you've been reading our updates, you know that we are now living in St. Louis. Our kids are all thriving, and Jason has been hired as an Associate Pastor at Crossroads Presbyterian Fellowship after a brief stint teaching high-school chemistry. And while our lives look quite different from our years in Ethiopia, I've found myself stepping into work that feels quite connected to so much of what has come before.

I am now working in member care for Mission to the World (MTW), providing counseling and debriefing for missionaries—both in person at conferences and over Zoom on an ongoing basis. In this work, I receive raw, often painful stories in spaces that are protected and confidential. That is the work of a counselor: by nature, these stories are not mine to share. But because my role is still a support-based position, I am responsible for letting you know what I'm doing and how it is going.

With a few exceptions, most of you probably don't know what a deep sense of calling this work represents for me. I still remember the raised eyebrows and shocked expression on the face of another woman working in missionary care when I told her that, if you count me, even though I grew up in California, my kids are fifth-generation MKs. What do you say next?

For the first time in my life, I feel like I am doing work that brings together so many different parts of me: my extended family's history, my years working in refugee resettlement and relocation, my training as a counselor, my experience living in Ethiopia and raising four wonderful MKs in a low-resource context, my work with trauma healing there, and our own experience of re-entry to the United States.

When we returned to the U.S. and gradually transitioned into new roles, we understandably lost a significant amount of that support. We completely understand. Supporting our work in Ethiopia does not necessarily translate into supporting my new role in the U.S. But our support account has now gone into deficit, and MTW has asked me to focus on support raising for a season. I am continuing to see clients, but I have temporarily stepped back from other non-essential parts of my job, such as regular meetings and curriculum development, until the deficit is cleared. MTW has graciously offered **1-to-1 matching funds for up to $15,000 of new or increased regular giving over the next six months.** This will help us clear the current deficit and establish a sustainable level of support going forward.

Thank you for the many ways you have already partnered with our family. Whether you are able to give, pray, or simply continue to follow our story, we are deeply grateful.

CATECHISM QUESTION OF THE WEEK

Q. 77. What is required in the ninth commandment?

A. The ninth commandment requires maintaining and promoting truth between one person and another, as well as maintaining and promoting our neighbor's good name as well as our own, especially when being a legal witness.

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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