TRINITY CHURCH

KIRKWOOD

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

November 15, 2026

WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO GIVES US A RIGHTEOUS KING

(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, Joan Kwong, Cheryl Poe, Josie Standerfer

Liturgist: Clark Emerson

Scripture Reader: Megan Hawley

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Shaun Thomason

Welcome and Announcements

Missions Moment

Quotes and Reflection

I, Jesus, have sent my angel to testify to you about these things for the churches. I am the root and the descendant of David, the bright morning star. — Rev. 22:16

But for you who fear my name, the sun of righteousness shall rise with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall. — Mal. 4:2

“The books of Samuel mark out the contours of a tension between the ideal King David and the flawed King David." — Phillip Sattherwaite

"My memory is nearly gone, but I remember two things: that I am a great sinner and Christ is a great Savior." — John Newton

David's Last Words (Ligonier.org; Jul. 17, 2019)

Toward the end of their lives, many old covenant saints gave a final speech that included warnings, blessings, or prophecies. These speeches, in turn, are often regarded as the last words of these saints even if their speakers said additional things afterward. The idea is that such speeches were the saints' final public declarations or words of consummate importance. Notable saints who spoke last words of this kind include Jacob (Gen. 49), Joshua (Josh. 24), and Samuel (1 Sam. 12).

David may be included in this list of examples, as we see in today's passage. Second Samuel 23:1–7 features "the last words of David," even though David would speak again before his death (1 Kings 2:1–9). But 2 Samuel 23 records David's last spoken words of public significance. Notably, these words should be regarded chiefly as a prophecy. David himself describes the words as an "oracle" (2 Sam. 23:1), which is the name typically given to speeches uttered by prophets. Furthermore, we read that these words—like the words of the prophets—were spoken by the Spirit of the Lord who put His word on the tongue of David (vv. 2–3). So, David's last words were actually words from God, given for the benefit of all people.

These final words look forward to the coming messianic kingdom. Certainly, future descendants of David could look to verses 3–7 for a description of what the ideal ruler of God's people should look like. The ideal leader rules in justice, and his reign brings new life, just as the sun and the rain call forth life from the earth (vv. 3–4). However, we know that no merely human king has yet reigned in perfect justice or has ruled in such a way as to give lasting life to his kingdom. Thus, these words point us ultimately to Christ, whose everlasting kingdom brings life itself to the world (John 14:6; Rom. 8:18–25).
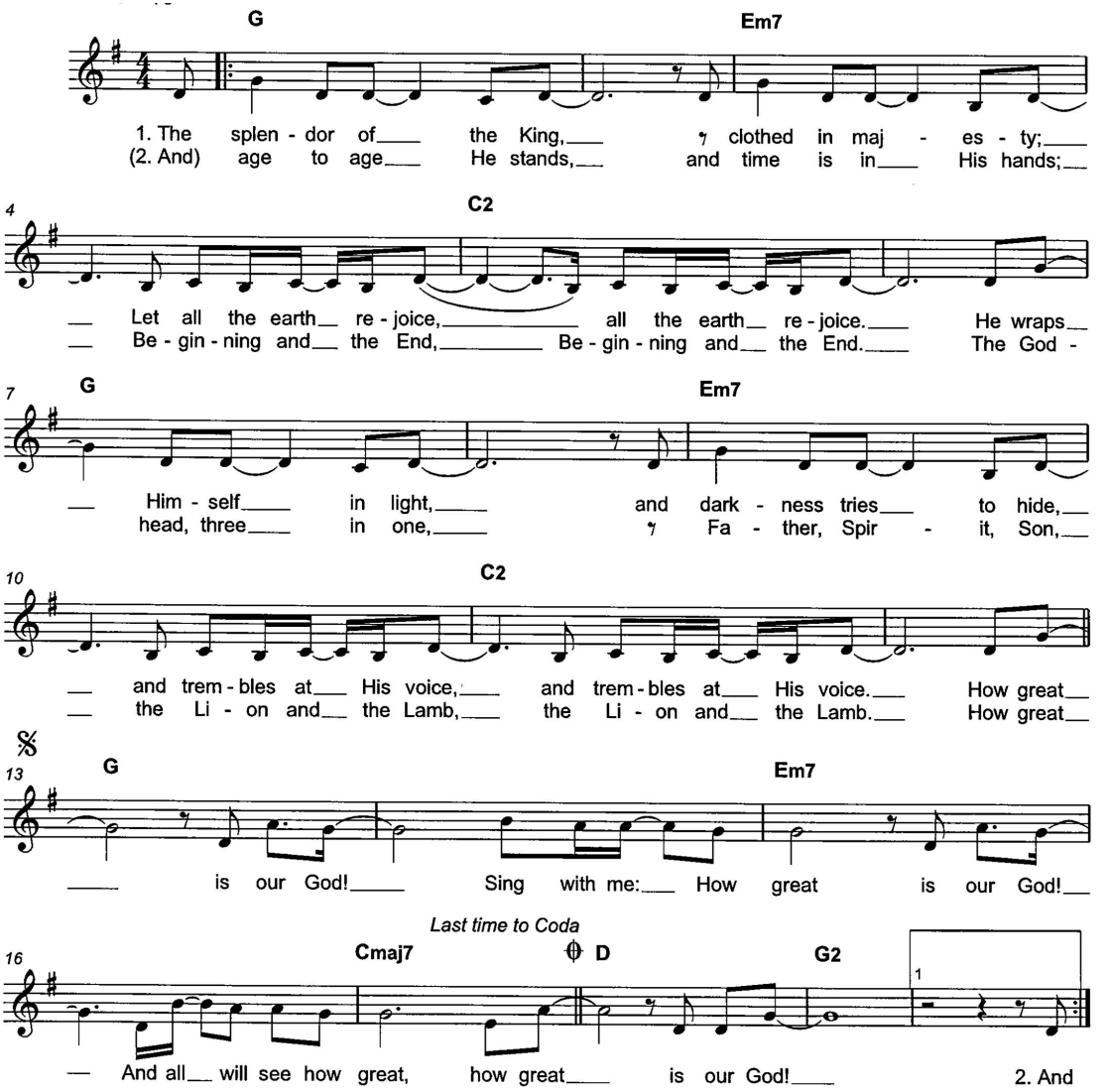
In the remainder of 2 Samuel 23, we find a record of David's mighty men, particularly valiant and noteworthy soldiers in David's army, as well as their exploits. The individuals and episodes described add some color to our understanding of David's reign, and they remind us that God is concerned not only with the central players in the story of redemption—such as David—but also with the saints who play lesser parts—the rest of us. Why else would the Lord tell us about these mighty men and what they did if He had no regard for their smaller roles in His kingdom?

David's last words point us in the same direction as the rest of David's reign—to the eternal kingdom of Christ. Meditating on this kingdom helps us develop right expectations for what can be accomplished in this life, and it keeps us oriented toward serving Christ in everything. Let us meditate on the kingdom this day, remembering that all will not be set right until Christ's return but that He strengthens us to press on in the meantime.

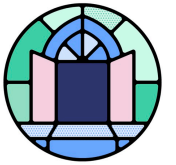
Song of Preparation

How Great Is Our God

Chris Tomlin, Jesse Reeves, and Ed Cash



Call to Worship— Psalm 145 (Selected)



Leader: All your works shall give thanks to you, O Lord, and all your saints shall bless you!

People: They shall speak of the glory of your kingdom and tell of your power

Leader: (You) make known to the children of man your mighty deeds, and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.

People: Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom, and your dominion endures throughout all generations.

All: The Lord is near to all who call on him, to all who call on him in truth.

Leader: Help us, O Lord, to call on your name in truth as we enter your gates this morning!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

***Songs of Adoration**

Holy, Holy, Holy!
Trinity Hymnal #100



My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less
Trinity Hymnal #521

***Prayer of Adoration**



WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD



Scripture Reading—Isaiah 11:1-10

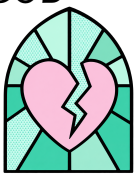
The Righteous Branch Shall Come Forth

There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse,
and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit.
And the Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon him,
the Spirit of wisdom and understanding,
the Spirit of counsel and might,
the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.
And his delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.
He shall not judge by what his eyes see,
or decide disputes by what his ears hear,
but with righteousness he shall judge the poor,
and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;
and he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth,
and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.
Righteousness shall be the belt of his waist,
and faithfulness the belt of his loins.
The wolf shall dwell with the lamb,
and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat,
and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together;
and a little child shall lead them.
The cow and the bear shall graze;
their young shall lie down together;
and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.
The nursing child shall play over the hole of the cobra,
and the weaned child shall put his hand on the adder's den.
They shall not hurt or destroy
in all my holy mountain;
for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the Lord
as the waters cover the sea.
In that day the root of Jesse, who shall stand as a signal for the peoples—of him shall the nations inquire, and his resting place shall be glorious.

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 17:5-6

Thus says the Lord: "Cursed is the man who trusts in man and makes flesh his strength, whose heart turns away from the Lord. He is like a shrub in the desert, and shall not see any good come. He shall dwell in the parched places of the wilderness, in an uninhabited salt land."

Silent Confession and Lament

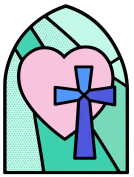
WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace— Col. 1:13-14

He has delivered us from the domain of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Leader: Christian, give thanks to God for redeeming us from darkness!

People: Thanks be to God!
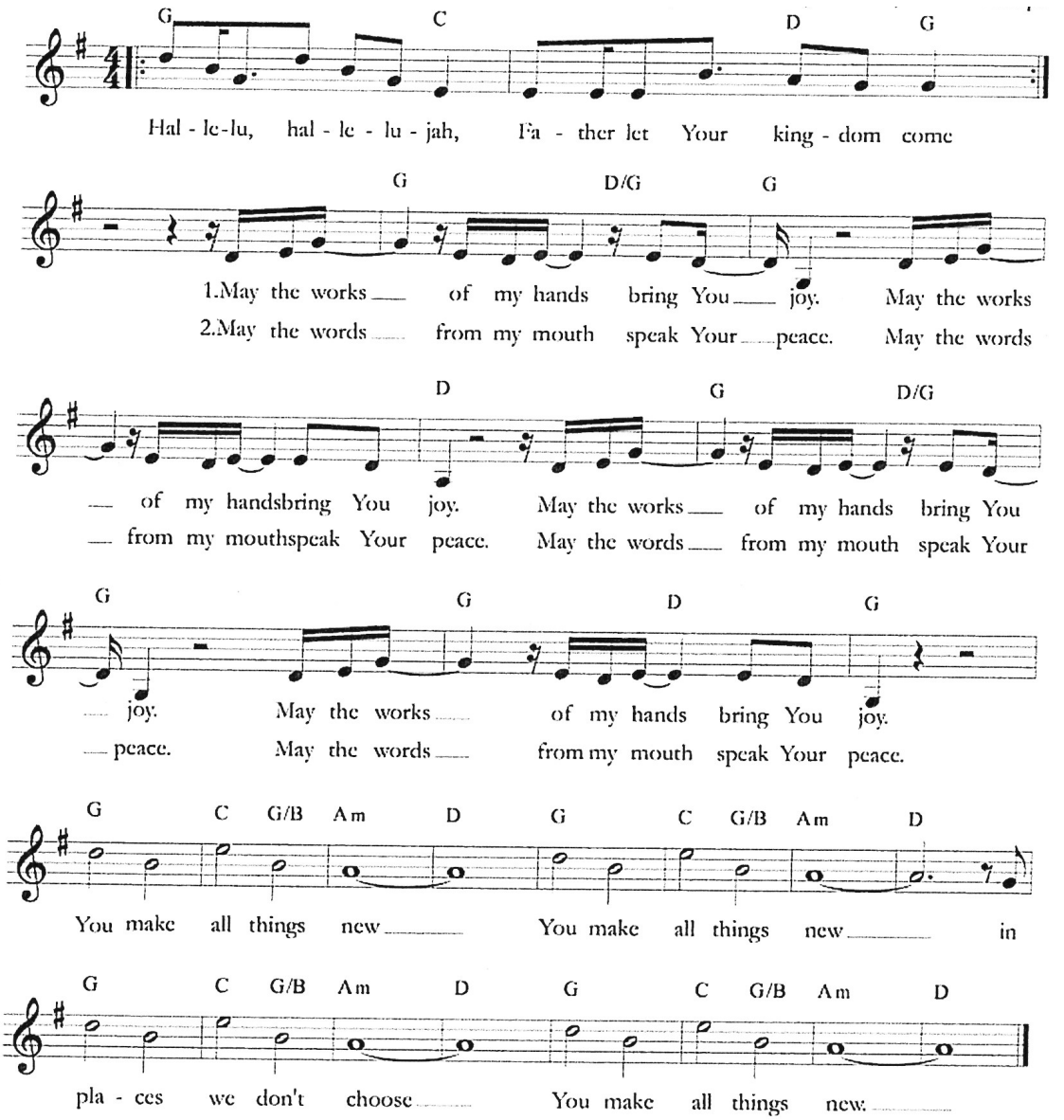


Leader: Now may the peace of Christ be with you all!

People: And also with you!

*Song of Rejoicing

Father, Let Your Kingdom Come

Ben Cooper, Latifah Alattas, Elizabeth Vice, Paul Zach, Madison Cunningham, Orlando Palmer, Isaac Wardell



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) *Good and Gracious King*

James Ferguson, Jonny Robinson, and Michael Farren

I approach the throne of glory; nothing in my hands I bring
But the promise of acceptance, from a good and gracious King

I will give to You my burden, as You give to me Your strength
Come and fill me with Your Spirit, as I sing to You this praise

You deserve the greater glory; overcome, I lift my voice
To the King in need of nothing, empty-handed I rejoice

O what grace that You would see me, as Your child and as Your friend
Safe, secure in You forever; I pour out my praise again

Holy, holy, Lord Almighty; Good and gracious, good and gracious
Holy, holy, Lord Almighty; Good and gracious, good and gracious King

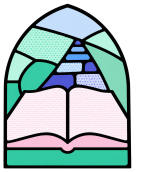
Sermon

"The King of Morning Light"

2 Samuel 23:1-7

Sermon Series, 2 Samuel
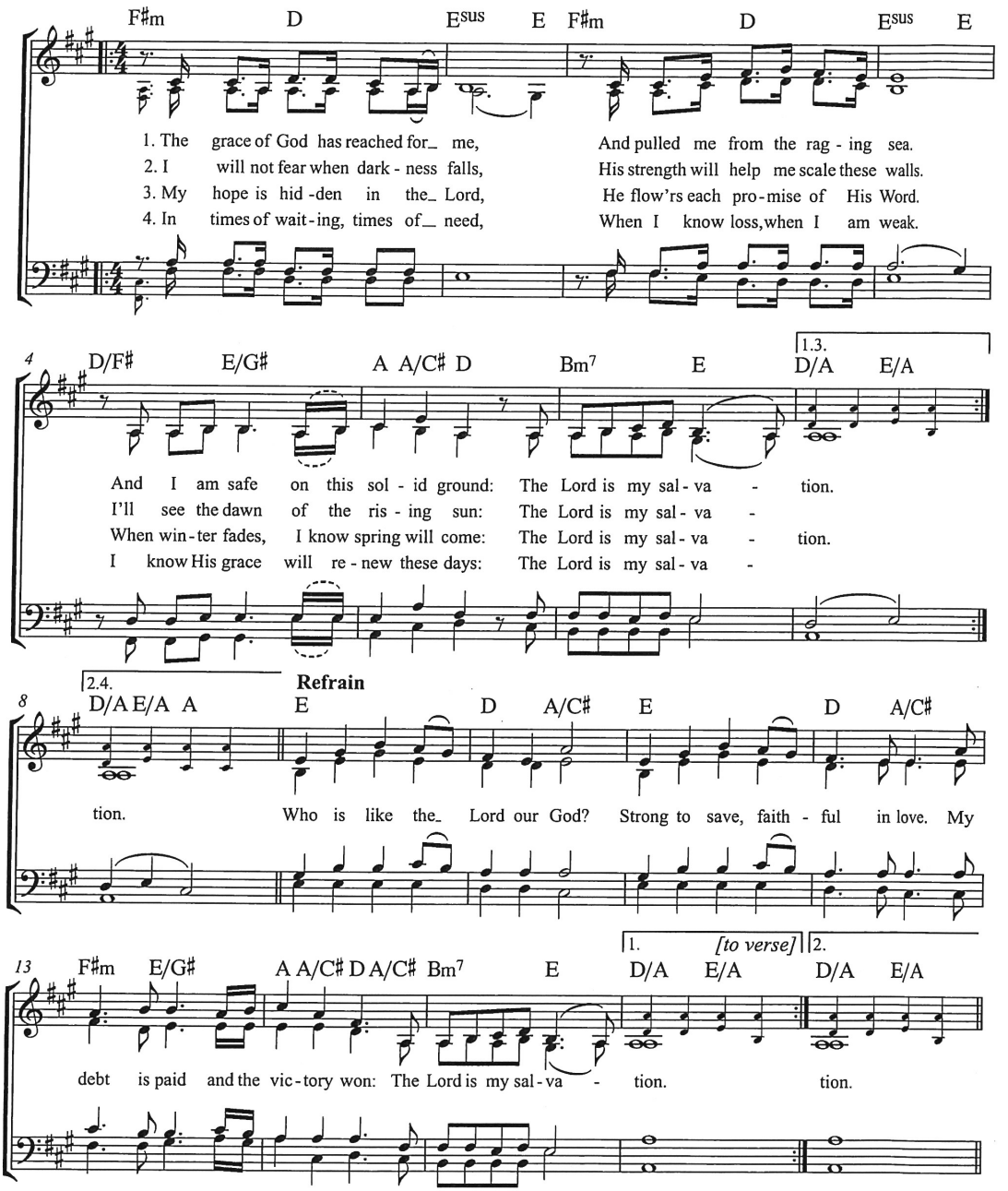
Rev. Dr. Chris Polski
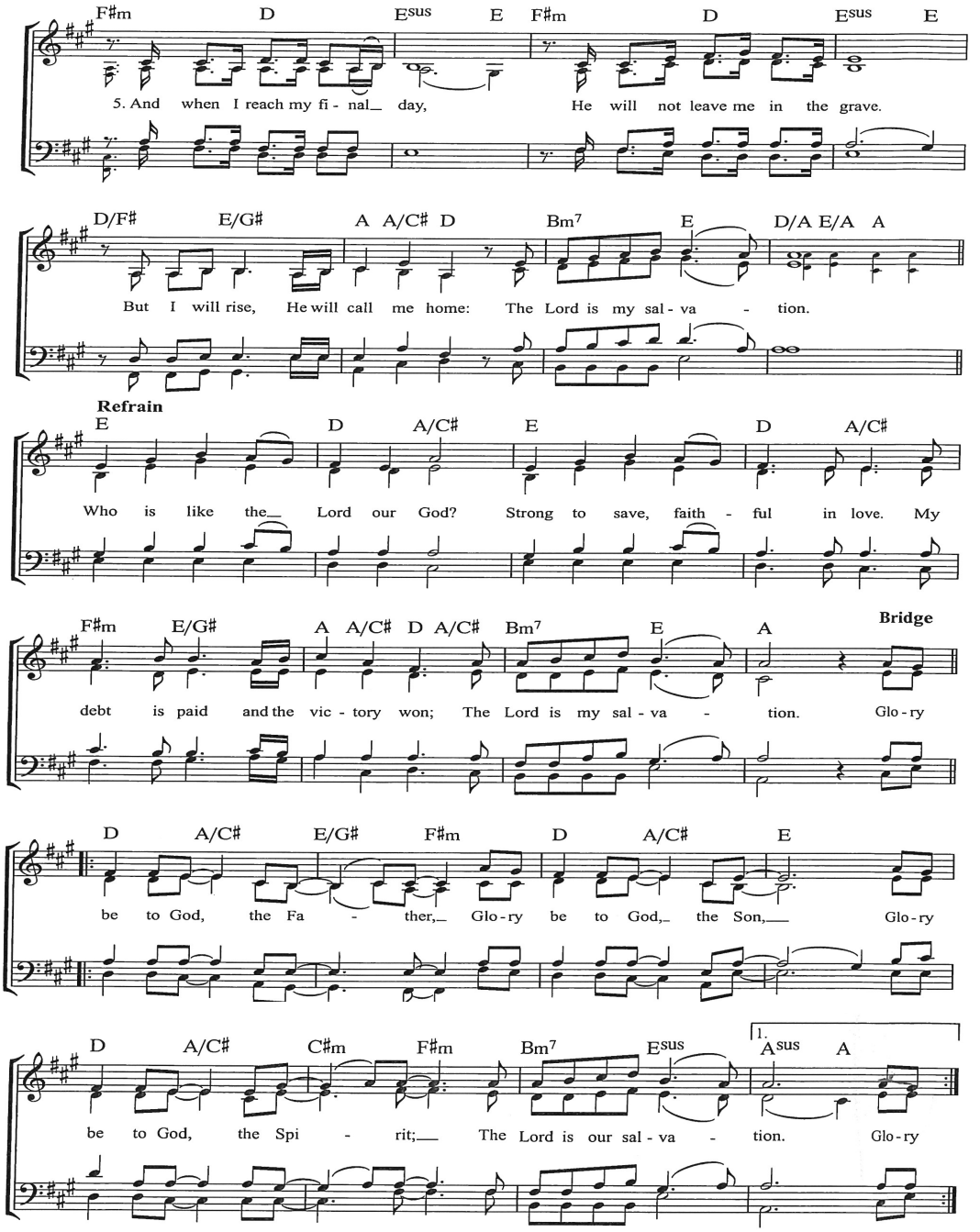


*Song of Response

The Lord Is My Salvation

Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Nathan Nockles, and Jonas Myrin. Arr. by Dustin Loehers





***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: Roberts, Wong, Maglione, Brown. Nursery: Thomason, Hendricks, Poe, Standerfer. SS: Harlow. CC: Waldrons, Goldstein. **Next Sunday**: Ushers: Schaffer, Thomason, Schlitt, Roberts. Nursery: Linenbroker, Highmark, Bava, McCall. SS: Steele. CC: Doiron, Hendricks, Hawley.

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 Chris Freeman's.

Our annual Christmas Craft Party is favorite of our Trinity kids and a wonderful outreach. We **need a FEW MORE volunteers and donations** to make it a success. Information and sign ups are on the table in the main hallway. You can also sign up 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 via the QR code to the right.

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.**

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!** We will enjoy time together while making a simple evergreen wreath (we will guide you step-by-step). Details on Church Center.

Join us for our family-friendly **Service of Thanksgiving** on Wed., Nov. 25 at 5:30pm. We will give thanks through prayer, song, and personal testimonies.

Angel Tree: This year we are partnering with Mission Gate to help families in need and children with an incarcerated parent. If you would like to participate, pick up a tag in the narthex. Instructions can be found there.

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. 20 & 21 New Member's Class
Nov. 22 Food Pantry items due
Nov. 22 Craft Leaders meeting
Nov. 23 Robinson Food Pantry
Nov. 25 Thanksgiving Service 5:30pm
Nov. 28 Church Christmas Decorating
Dec. 5 Christmas Craft Party
Dec. 6 Angel Tree gifst due
Dec. 6 Annual Congregational Mtg.
Dec. 9 Women's Wreath Party
Dec. 19 & 20 Christmas Concert
Dec. 21 Robinson Food Pantry
Dec. 24 Christmas Eve Service 5pm

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.

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

314-821-7311 | info@trinitychurchkirkwood.org

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Trinity Church is a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America

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