TRINITY CHURCH

KIRKWOOD

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

November 22, 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 BOUND US TOGETHER IN CHRIST

(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): Kimberly Linenbroker, Debbie Highmark, Alyce Bava, Maggie McCall

Liturgist: Mitchell Dixon

Scripture Reader: Glynn Schlitt

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, J Harrison

Welcome and Announcements

Quotes and Reflection

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. — I Thess. 5:16-18

Therefore let us be grateful for receiving a kingdom that cannot be shaken, and thus let us offer to God acceptable worship, with reverence and awe. — Heb. 12:28

"I would maintain that thanks are the highest form of thought, and that gratitude is happiness doubled by wonder." — G.K. Chesterton

"In ordinary life we hardly realize that we receive a great deal more than we give, and that it is only with gratitude that life becomes rich." — Dietrich Bonhoeffer

WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

Living Without Complaint This Thanksgiving by Dwayne Cline (Abridged)

It's noticeable. In almost every conversation I find myself in, the conversation eventually moves toward complaint. If you don't believe me, listen carefully to the next five conversations you are part of or take a second look at texts from friends and family. At some point, those conversations or texts will likely gravitate toward complaining about work, finances, neighbors, a spouse, children, church, health, governments, or an array of other things.

I was reminded this Thanksgiving that Christian thankfulness is not rooted primarily in our circumstances. It is rooted in the work Jesus Christ has done for us.

Thanksgiving Begins with What God Has Done for Us

Thanksgiving naturally causes us to think about what we have received: food, family, shelter, health, work, and countless other gifts. Christians should thank God for all his provision and kindness, but the apostles take our gratitude deeper. Our greatest reason for thanksgiving is our salvation.

Paul writes that we are to give "thanks to the Father, who has qualified [us] to share in the inheritance of the saints in light" and "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" (Col. 1:12–14).

Every morning when we wake up, we have reason to give thanks. Regardless of my circumstances, I am redeemed and forgiven. I have been reconciled to God and adopted into his family. The Holy Spirit dwells in me. I have been promised an eternal inheritance. Before I thank God for anything else, I thank him for Christ. That should be our waking breath and thought.

Thanksgiving Is Hard When Life Hurts

But giving thanks can be challenging. Paul writes, "Give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you" (1 Thess. 5:18).

There are days when gratitude does not come naturally. But Scripture does not call us to pretend suffering doesn't hurt. Nor does it suggest that acknowledging pain somehow diminishes our faith. Instead, Scripture reminds us that suffering does not diminish God's goodness.

Christian thanksgiving is not pretending everything is fine. It is declaring that even when everything is not fine, God is still good.

Thanksgiving Pushes Back Against Complaint

Then comes one of the verses I find particularly challenging: "Do all things without grumbling or disputing" (Phil. 2:14). Paul has just described Christ humbling himself, taking the form of a servant, and becoming obedient to the point of death on a cross. He then reminds believers that God himself is at work in them, "both to will and to work for his good pleasure".

It is then that he tells us not to grumble. Grumbling often reveals something about what I believe I deserve. Thanksgiving reminds me that everything I have is God's gracious gift.

A Thankful People

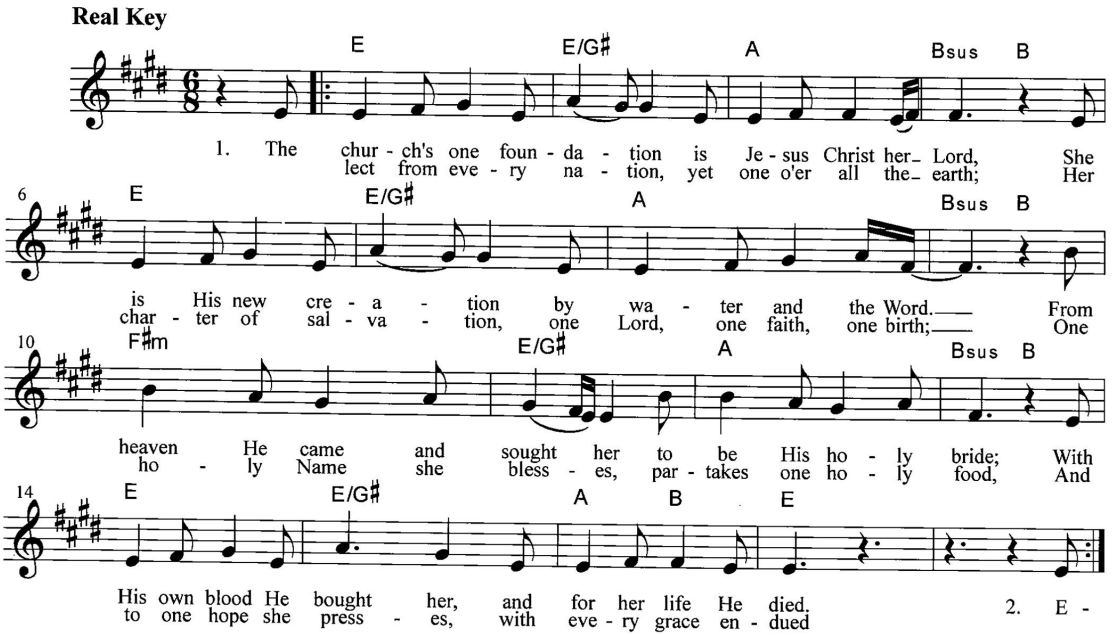
Thanksgiving is more than a holiday. It is a Christian posture toward life. We thank God for salvation. We thank him for the people he has placed in our lives. We thank him even while we lament what hurts. And we resist allowing complaining to become the soundtrack of our lives.

In a world filled with complaining, a genuinely thankful life is noticeable. Happy Thanksgiving.

Song of Preparation

The Church's One Foundation

Words by Samuel Stone. Music by Brian Moss



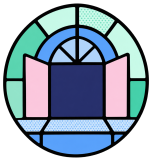
3. Though with a scornful wonder,
Men see her sore oppressed
By schisms rent asunder,
By heresies distressed
Yet saints their watch are keeping,
Their cry goes up "How long?"
And soon the night of weeping,
Shall be the morn of song

4. The church shall never perish,
Her dear Lord to defend
To guide, sustain and cherish,
Is with her to the end
Though there be those that hate her,
And false sons in her pale
Against a foe or traitor,
She ever shall prevail

5. Mid toil and tribulation,
And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation,
Of peace for evermore
Till with the vision glorious,
Her longing eyes are blest
And the great church victorious
Shall be the church at rest

6. Yet she on earth hath union
With God the Three in One
And mystic sweet communion
With those whose rest is won
O happy ones and holy,
Lord gives us grace that we
Like them the meek and lowly,
On high may dwell with Thee.

Call to Worship— Psalm 100:1-5



Leader: Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth! Serve the Lord with gladness! Come into his presence with singing!

People: (We) know that the Lord, he is God! It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving, and his courts with praise!

People: (We will) give thanks to him; bless his name!

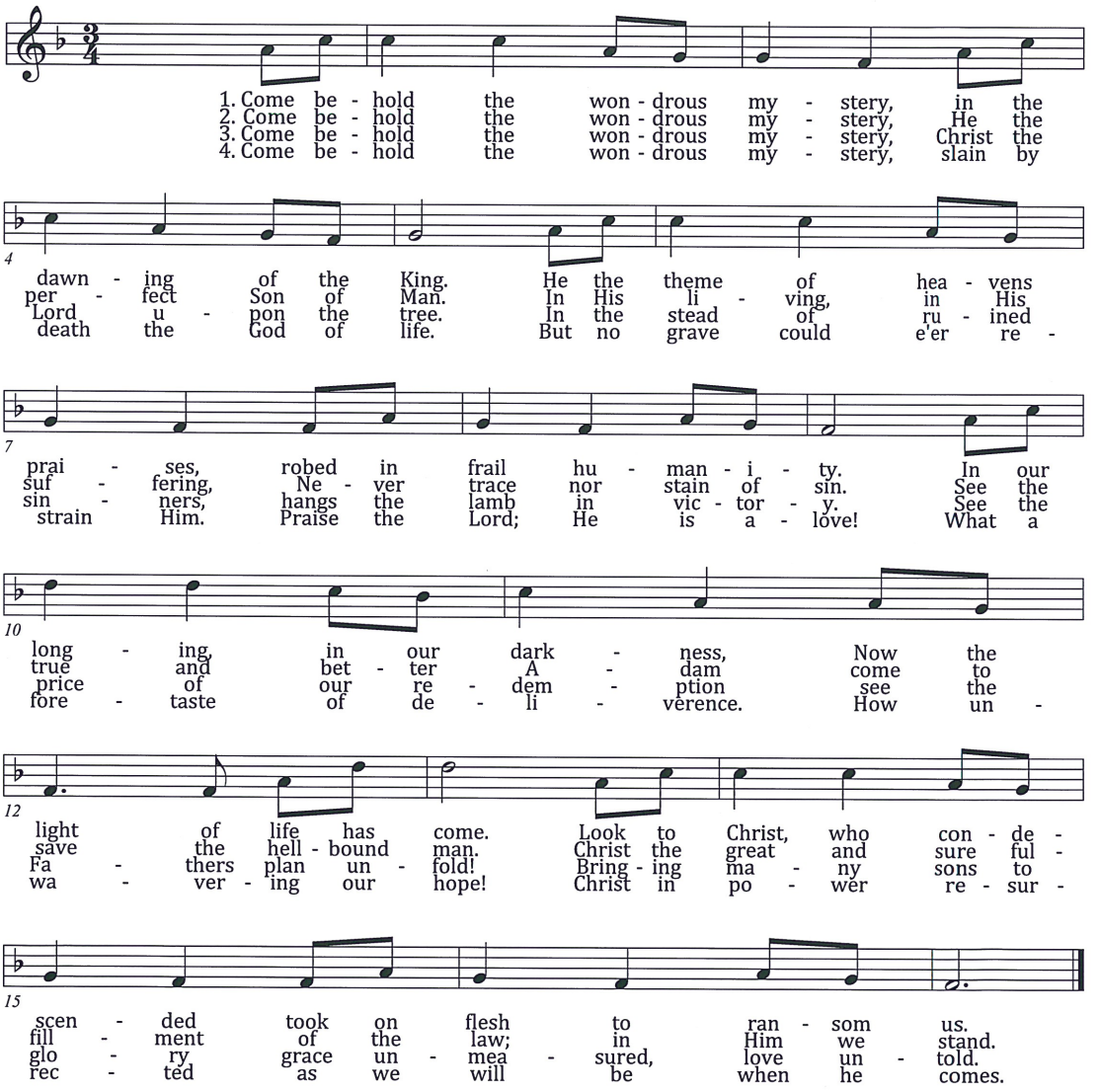
All: For the Lord is good; his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

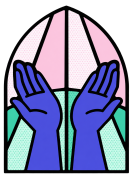
Leader: Help us this morning to celebrate your faithfulness with gratitude and wonder and praise.

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

***Songs of Adoration** *Come Behold the Wondrous Mystery*

Matt Boswell, Matt Papa, and Michael Bleecker





All People That on Earth Do Dwell

Trinity Hymnal #1

*Prayer of Adoration



WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading—Matthew 5:1-12

The Beatitudes

Seeing the crowds, he went up on the mountain, and when he sat down, his disciples came to him.



And he opened his mouth and taught them, saying:

"Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are those who mourn, for they shall be comforted.

"Blessed are the meek, for they shall inherit the earth.

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they shall be satisfied.

"Blessed are the merciful, for they shall receive mercy.

"Blessed are the pure in heart, for they shall see God.

"Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called sons of God.

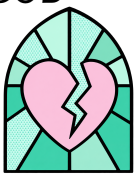
"Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

"Blessed are you when others revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for so they persecuted the prophets who were before you."

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— James 3:6-10

And the tongue is a fire, a world of unrighteousness. The tongue is set among our members, staining the whole body, setting on fire the entire course of life, and set on fire by hell. For every kind of beast and bird, of reptile and sea creature, can be tamed and has been tamed by mankind, but no human being can tame the tongue. It is a restless evil, full of deadly poison. With it we bless our Lord and Father, and with it we curse people who are made in the likeness of God. From the same mouth come blessing and cursing. My brothers, these things ought not to be so.

Corporate Confession of Sin

O Lord and Father, we feel the weight of these exhortations about the way we speak to one another. We confess that we are guilty of cursing others while singing your own praise. We confess that we use our words to exact revenge, to undermine, to marginalize and to damage the reputations of others, even people who we say we love. We acknowledge that this use of our words is displeasing to you, degrading to others and damaging to our own sense of joy. Forgive us Lord, not because we deserve it, but because of your great mercy. Amen.

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace— Titus 3:4-6

But when the goodness and loving kindness of God our Savior appeared, he saved us, not because of works done by us in righteousness, but according to his own mercy, by the washing of regeneration and renewal of the Holy Spirit, whom he poured out on us richly through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Leader: Christian, give thanks to God for saving us according to His own mercy!



People: Thanks be to God!

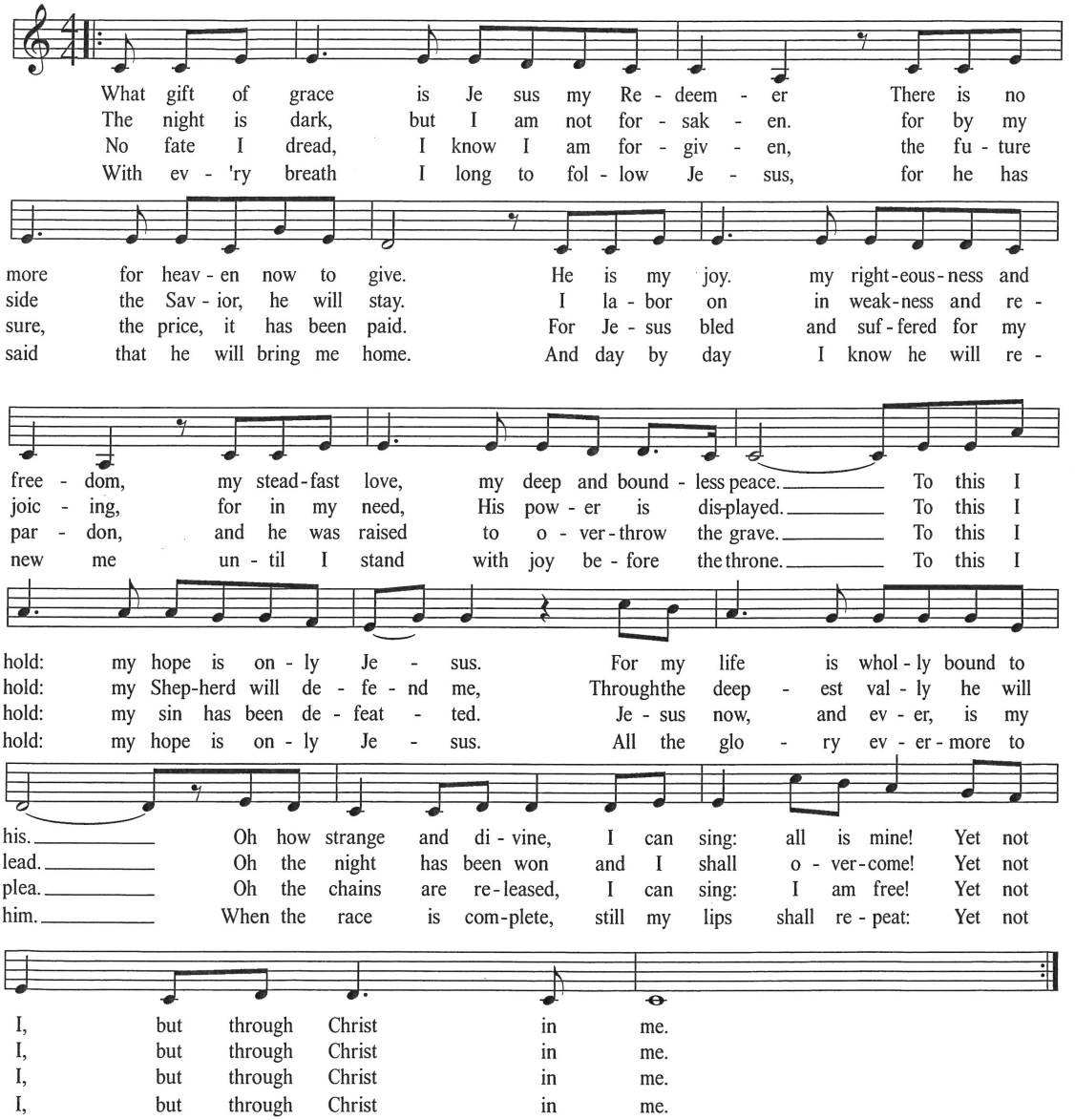
Leader: Now may the peace of Christ be with you all!

People: And also with you!

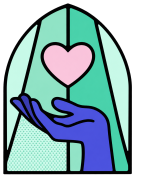
*Song of Rejoicing

Yet Not I but Through Christ in Me

Jonny Robinson, Michael Farren, and Rich Thompson. Arr. by Dan Galbraith



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 (please join when directed) *Oh How Good It Is*

Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, Ross Holmes, and Stuart Townend. Arr. by Joel Mott

Oh how good it is, when the family of God
Dwells together in spirit, in faith and unity.
Where the bonds of peace, of acceptance and love
Are the fruit of His presence, here among us.

So with one voice we'll sing to the Lord
And with one heart we'll live out His word
Till the whole earth sees, The Redeemer has come
For He dwells in the presence of His people.

Oh how good it is, on this journey we share
To rejoice with the happy and weep with those who mourn.
For the weak find strength; the afflicted find grace
When we offer the blessing of belonging.

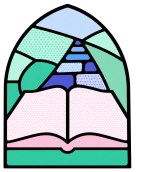
Oh how good it is, to embrace His command
To prefer one another; forgive as He forgives.
When we live as one, we all share in the love
Of the Son with the Father and the Spirit.

Sermon

"All Dressed Up for Thanksgiving"

Colossians 3:12-17

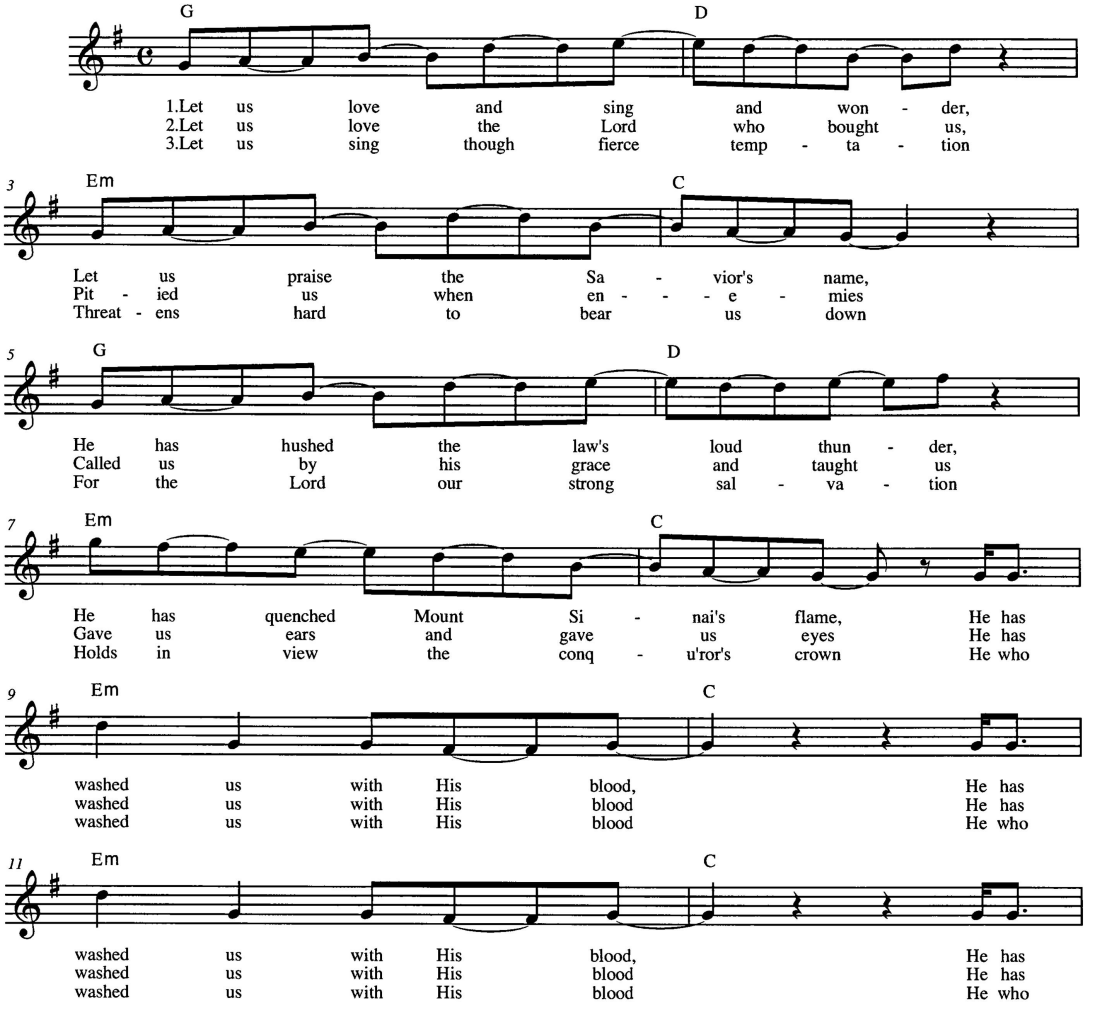
Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

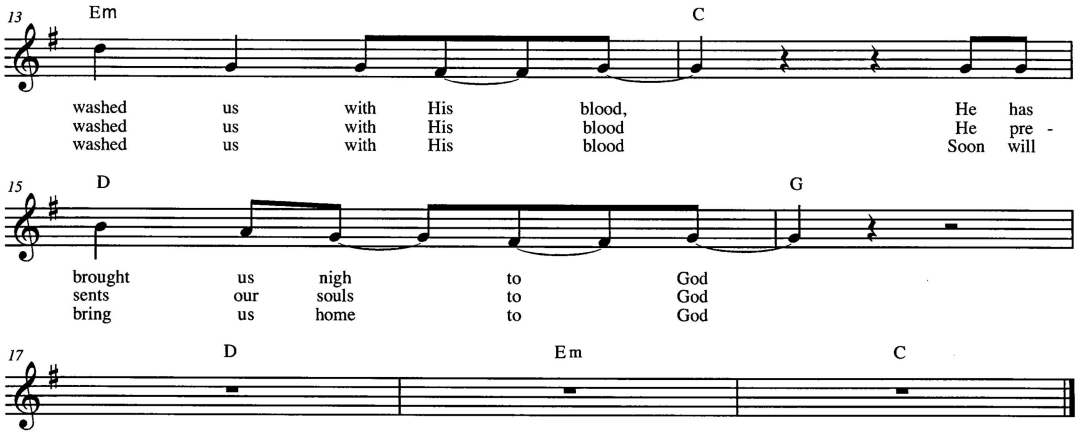


*Song of Response

Let Us Love and Sing and Wonder

Words by John Newton. Music by Laura Taylor





4. Let us wonder grace and justice
Join and point to mercy's store
When through grace in Christ our trust is
Justice smiles and asks no more
He who washed us with His blood
He who washed us with His blood
He who washed us with His blood
Has secured our way to God

5. Let us praise and join the chorus
Of the saints enthroned on high
Here they trusted Him before us
Now their praises fill the sky
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou hast washed us with Thy blood
Thou art worthy Lamb of God

***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: Schaffer, Thomason, Schlitt, Roberts. Nursery: Linenbroker, Highmark, Bava, McCall. SS: Steele. CC: Doiron, Hawley. **Next Sunday**: Ushers: Heintz, Standerfer, Smith, McCall. Nursery: McCall, Schlitt, Davis, Linenbroker. SS: Pannkuk.

Thank you to all who have signed up to help with the Christmas Craft Party! For the craft leaders and those in the Pre-K room, there is an important **meeting today** after Sunday school in room 110.

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.

Please consider helping us decorate the sanctuary for the Advent and Christmas season! We will meet on Sat., Nov. 28 at 9am.

The **Christmas Craft Party for kids ages 4yrs thru 5th grade** is on Sat., Dec. 5th from 9am to 12:15pm. Register today. We have a FEW SPOTS left.

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.

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. **Gifts are due on Sun., Dec. 6.**

The **Christmas concert** is right around the corner! On Sat., Dec. 19 & Sun., Dec. 20 at 6:30 pm. See today's insert for details!

Annual Congregational Meeting, Dec. 6th during the Sunday school hour. We will go over the budget, elect officers, and review 2026.

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. 22 Food Pantry items due
Nov. 22 Craft Leaders meeting
Nov. 22 Kingdom Kids 4:30-6pm
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

Local Mission News
Featuring RUF Local
WashU
Tim Price, Campus Minister

Reformed University Fellowship (RUF) is a campus ministry that reaches college students from all backgrounds with the hope of Jesus Christ. College is a time when beliefs are explored, decisions are made, and lives are changed. We invite students into authentic relationships and the study of God's Word. Through the ministry of RUF, students discover the love of Christ, find their significance in God's redemptive story, and engage in the life of His church.

Prayer

If you would like to join our prayer team, we'd love to have you! We currently have 30 people on the texting list, and I would love to have at least 50 of you praying for us weekly! I will start sending them out on Monday.

If you would like to commit to praying with me for students on campus, please send me a text (512) 658-8122 or email to confirm that you would like to opt into receiving prayer updates.

Please pray for the following...

- **New Students!**
- Our ministry team of student leaders and our retreat on Labor Day weekend. They love their peers so well and teach them about the love of Jesus through their words and actions. Pray Christ would work powerfully in and through them this semester.
- Please **pray** for God to graciously provides and help us meet our goal. Finally, I ask that you would prayerfully consider giving or raising your current giving amount to help us get to where we need to be.
- Our new Campus Assistant, Robert Kullberg. Robert was an RUF intern at Duke for the last two years. He is now working his way slowly through seminary while coming on full-time staff with us! He is awesome, and a gift as he fills a big need.

Give to RUF

Please **pray** for God to graciously provides and help us meet our goal. Finally, I ask that you would prayerfully consider giving or raising your current giving amount to help us get to where we need to be.

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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