

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

March 29, 2020 The Fifth Sunday of Lent

WE READY OURSELVES TO WORSHIP

As we prepare for worship, meditate on this reflection on the cross from Robert Rayburn:

"The cross is a sacred and beloved symbol to Christians. The cross, standing for the death of the Son of God in our place, his paying the price of our deliverance from sin and guilt by bearing in our place the punishment our sins deserved, is the sacred emblem of the Christian faith. We have built our churches in the shape of crosses, We adorn our churches with crosses. We hang gold crosses around our necks or pin them to our lapels. And that we do so is in one sense utterly amazing because there was nothing originally attractive or beautiful about a cross. No one in Jesus' day would have worn a cross around his neck. No one would have written hymns or poems in celebration of a cross.

The cross was nothing less than *supreme* humiliation and the most exquisite torture known to that world at that time. Crucifixion was the most extreme form of the death penalty then in use in the Roman Empire. There were then three forms of execution: death by burning, by the beasts, and by crucifixion. Everyone acknowledged that crucifixion was by far the worst of those three.

...At the cross of Jesus two fundamentally opposite conceptions collide. In the one case, the offense of the cross - the idea that anything important, anything lifegiving could come from such an execution. And in the other, the Christian proclamation that only through such a death on the part of the Son of God could men be put right with God. And this antithesis, these two different conceptions of the cross are always resolved in the same way. It is only when a person realizes that he or she deserves that death that Jesus died on the cross it suddenly makes sense. It is only when a person comes to feel that he deserves what Jesus suffered that the appalling nature of Christ's death becomes no longer an obstacle to faith but its tremendously powerful attraction...Let a person only see that in dying on that cross Christ was dying for him or for her, in his or her place, for his or her sins, was bearing the curse, suffering the penalty that he or she deserved, and in that moment a halo is cast around that ancient instrument of torture. That Christ went willingly to that for me is the reason why Christians speak so fondly of the cross and why Paul should say, 'May I never boast except in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ.' Others may consider it an offense or foolishness, but to me it is the power of God and the wisdom of God."

WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO HAS SECURED OUR SALVATION

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements



*Call to Worship—Psalm 130 (selected)

Leader: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me,

bless his holy name!

People: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his

benefits,

Leader: He forgives all your iniquity, He heals all your diseases,

People: He redeems our life from the pit, and crowns us

with steadfast love and mercy,

Leader: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so

great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

All: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me,

bless his holy name!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

*Songs of Adoration Praise to the Lord, the Almighty Trinity Hymnal #53 1. Praise the Lord, might - y, King the Al -2. Praise the Lord, who o'er all things won - drous - ly to SO 3. Praise work and to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy de mar - vel -4. Praise to the Lord, who with ous wis - dom hath 5. Praise the Lord! let all O is in tion! O my soul, praise him. for eth, shel - ters thee der his reign un wings, yea, so Sure - ly his good and mer - cy fend thee! ness here made thee, decked thee with health, and with lov - ing hand dore him! All that hath life and breath. come . now with health and sal tion! All ye who hear, now to his va de gent - ly eth! Hast thou not seen how thy sus tain · dai - ly pon - der new what the Al at tend thee; a grief guid - ed and stayed thee. How oft in hath he his prais - es be fore him! Let the sound from tem - ple draw near, join in glad ad me tion. ra e'er have been grant - ed what in he or dain eth? • might - y will do, if with his love he be friend thee. re lief, spread - ing brought thee his wings to o'er shade thee! glad - ly ple gain; for e'er dore him.

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord) Jonas Myrin | Matt Redman

Bless the Lord, O my soul, O my soul, worship His holy name Sing like never before, O my soul, I'll worship Your holy name

The sun comes up it's a new day dawning;
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes

(Chorus)

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger; You're name is great and Your heart is kind For all Your goodness I will keep on signing: Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find

(Chorus)

And on that day when my strength is failing, The end draws near and my time has come Still my soul will sing Your praise unending Ten thousand years and then forever more

(Chorus)

Worship Your holy name Lord, I'll worship Your holy name

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Reading—Ezekiel 37:1-14

The Lord makes the dead to live

The hand of the Lord was upon me, and he brought me out in the Spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of the valley; it was full of bones. And he led me around among them, and behold, there were very many on the surface of the valley, and behold, they were very dry. And he said to me, "Son of man, can these bones live?" And I answered, "O Lord God, you know." Then he said to me, "Prophesy over these bones, and say to them, O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. Thus says the Lord God to these bones: Behold, I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. And I will lay sinews upon you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live, and you shall know that I am the Lord."

So I prophesied as I was commanded. And as I prophesied, there was a sound, and behold, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. And I looked, and behold, there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and skin had covered them. But there was no breath in them. Then he said to me, "Prophesy to the breath; prophesy, son of man, and say to the breath, Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe on these slain, that they may live." So I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived and stood on their feet, an exceedingly great army.

Then he said to me, "Son of man, these bones are the whole house of Israel. Behold, they say, 'Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are indeed cut off.' Therefore prophesy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: Behold, I will open your graves and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will bring you into the land of Israel. And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and raise you from your graves, O my people. And I will put my Spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you in your own land. Then you shall know that I am the Lord; I have spoken, and I will do it, declares the Lord."

Reader: The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of

the Lord stands forever!

People: Amen!

WE CONFESS OUR UTTER UNWORTHINESS BEFORE GOD

Call to Confession—Psalm 130:1-3

Out of the depths I cry to you, O Lord! O Lord, hear my voice! Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my pleas for mercy! If you, O Lord, should mark iniquities, O Lord, who could stand?

Silent Confession and Lament

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

Assurance of Pardon and Prayer for the Peace of the Church

Leader: Brothers and sisters in Christ, hear the good news: "But

with you there is forgiveness, that you may be

feared." (Psalm 130:4)

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

Leader: Let us now take a moment to pray silently for the peace

and sustenance of the church in the midst of this

unprecedented season in the history of the world. You

can do that by typing in prayer comments on the

Facebook page right now or by simply praying on your

own.

*Song of Rejoicing

Christ the Sure and Steady Anchor

Words and Music by Matthew Papa and Matthew Boswell



WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

Pastoral Prayer

Ensemble Song

Jesus Thank You Words and Music by Pat Sczebel

Sermon

"It is Finished" John 19:17-42 Rev. Chris Polski

*Song of Response

What Wondrous Love is This Trinity Hymnal #261



*Benediction

These are just announcement highlights. If you'd like to know more about Trinity, connect with us in one of the following ways...

• 314/821-7311 • www.trinitychurchkirkwood.org • Facebook: Trinity Church Kirkwood Worship and General Church Information

Please look for communication mid-week about ongoing activities at church. We will let you know if there is a change to any of the activities below.

- All Sunday school classes are suspended until further notice.
- The **church office** is closed temporarily, but please don't hesitate to contact your elder or a staff member if you need anything.
- We will not meet this Friday for our prayer gathering, but please pass along any prayer requests to your elders or amymitchell@trinitystlouis.org.
- All Bible Studies will move to an online format for the next few weeks. Your ministry leader will reach out to you with more information.
- Did you know you can use the **Church Center app** for online giving, to sign up for events, connect with your small groups, bible studies, etc? Contact the church office for assistance.
- Choral Ensemble rehearsals have ALL been cancelled.
- If you do not receive our **weekly email updates** on Tuesday mornings, please send your email address to amymitchell@trinitystlouis.org.
- Work Day on Apr. 4th is postponed. However, the deacons will be reaching out with ways you can help in the coming weeks.
- Sign up for the Diaconal Care group by going to Church Center, click the tab that says "Groups" then scroll till you find "Service," click that tab and search for diaconal care group.

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.