

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

June 7, 2020

WORSHIPING THE GOD OF JUSTICE

Liturgist: Rev. Ben Tharp

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Bill Elzinga

Scripture Reader: Ruling Elder, Michael Jorgensen

WE READY OURSELVES TO WORSHIP

"If God is God and mankind is made in His image, then each person is significant." — Os Guinness

Reflect over and join with this prayer from Rev. Kevin Deyoung as we prepare to enter into worship.

O great God, the God of Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob, the God who created all things, the God above all gods, the God who was, and is, and is to come, the God who never changes, the God who never slumbers nor sleeps, the God & Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, *have mercy upon us.*

We are in the midst of a global pandemic. More than 100,000 lives lost in this country alone. We hear of new cases, new hospitalizations, new deaths each day. **Lord have mercy.**

In the last three months 40 million Americans have entered the ranks of the unemployed. Many who still have a job are scared. Others are anxious and depressed. **Lord have mercy.**

As states re-open some cities and neighborhoods, even some families and churches, are sniping at each other over masks or no masks, re-open quickly or re-open slowly, COVID is worse than you think or this has been a massive over-reaction. **Lord have mercy.**

Last week, a white police officer in Minneapolis put his knee on the neck of George Floyd for eight minutes, murdering a black man made in the image of God, while three other officers did nothing to stop the injustice. **Lord have mercy.**

The anger and fear and pain felt in the black community isn't prompted by this one incident alone. It comes out of the legacy of slavery, and Jim Crow, and too many times where power and force were used against them in ways that were evil and unjust. **Lord have mercy.**

Every time we witness another tragedy like this we know it makes the difficult and honorable job of law enforcement almost impossible. Many police officers–risking their lives to serve and protect–will suffer unfairly because of actions done a thousand miles away, actions they condemn, actions outside their control. **Lord have mercy.**

And now we see dozens and dozens of our great cities are torn apart by senseless destruction and violence. Businesses have been burnt down. Grocery stories destroyed. Neighborhoods ruined. Lives threatened or lost. *Lord have mercy.*

You have our attention. O God, give us ears to hear. What do you want to say to us in your Word? What should we do? What needs to change? How can we help?

Let our lives be marked by charitable thoughts, love, compassion, meekness, gentleness, kindness, peaceable, mild, and courteous speeches and behavior. Let us forbear with others and demonstrate a readiness to be reconciled, and a patient enduring and forgiving of injuries. Let us comfort the distressed and protect and defend the innocent (WLC 135).

We weep. We lament. We mourn. But not as those who have no hope. May gospel beauty rise from these smoldering, literal ashes. May truth triumph over lies and grace conquer lawlessness. May your people be one as you, O Father, and your Son are one. May the church—the body of Christ, the bride of Christ—rise up as an example of love and with a message of salvation for a weary and war-torn world. Give us grace to serve you, O God, and, if necessary, grace to suffer for what is right. Give us the peace and health and safety we do not deserve. Give us the reformation and revival we need. *Lord have mercy*.

Prelude

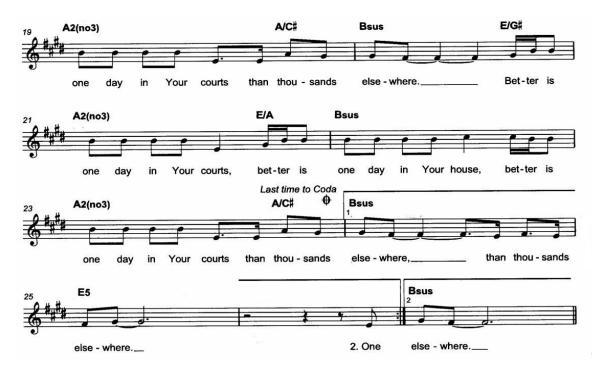
Welcome and Announcements

Song of Preparation

Better Is One Day

Words and Music by Matt Redman





*Call to Worship—Psalm 33 (selected)

Leader: Shout for joy in the Lord, O you righteous!

People: Give thanks to the Lord with the lyre; make melody to him with the harp of ten strings!

Leader: Sing to him a new song;

People: For the word of the Lord is upright, and all his work is done in faithfulness.

All: Our soul waits for the Lord; he is our help and our shield.

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

*Songs of Adoration

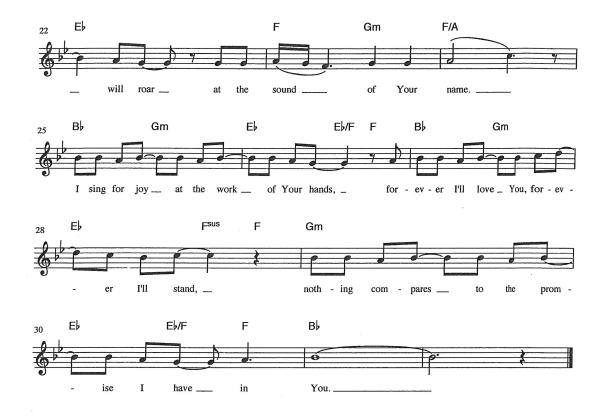
O Worship the King

Trinity Hymnal #2

Shout to the Lord

Words and Music by Darlene Zschech





*Prayer of Adoration

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

New Testament Reading—Romans 4:13-25

The promise of salvation is by grace, through faith

For the promise to Abraham and his offspring that he would be heir of the world did not come through the law but through the righteousness of faith. For if it is the adherents of the law who are to be the heirs, faith is null and the promise is void. For the law brings wrath, but where there is no law there is no transgression.

That is why it depends on faith, in order that the promise may rest on grace and be guaranteed to all his offspring—not only to the adherent of the law but also to the one who shares the faith of Abraham, who is the father of us all, as it is written, "I have made you the father of many nations"—in the presence of the God in whom he believed, who gives life to the dead and calls into existence the things that do not exist. In hope he believed against hope, that he should become the father of many nations, as he had been told, "So shall your offspring be." He did not weaken in faith when he considered his own body, which was as good as dead (since he was about a hundred years old), or when he considered the barrenness of Sarah's womb. No unbelief made him waver concerning the promise of God, but he grew strong in his faith as he gave glory to God, fully convinced that God was able to do what he had promised. That is why his faith was "counted to him as righteousness." But the words "it was counted to him" were not written for his sake alone, but for ours also. It will be counted to us who believe in him who raised from the dead Jesus our Lord, who was delivered up for our trespasses and raised for our justification.

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—Matthew 9:10-13

And as Jesus reclined at table in the house, behold, many tax collectors and sinners came and were reclining with Jesus and his disciples. And when the Pharisees saw this, they said to his disciples, "Why does your teacher eat with tax collectors and sinners?" But when he heard it, he said, "Those who are well have no need of a physician, but those who are sick. Go and learn what this means: 'I desire mercy, and not sacrifice.' For I came not to call the righteous, but sinners."

Silent Confession and Lament

"Touched with a sympathy within...He knows our feeble frame; He knows what sore temptations mean...For He has felt the same." — Isaac Watts

*Song of Confession

Lord Have Mercy

Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, Aaron Keyes, and James Tealy. Arr. by Dustin Loehrs and Grant Wall



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WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Romans 5:2

Through Christ we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for giving us the

hope of glory!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

*Song of Rejoicing

On Jordan's Stormy Banks I Stand

Words by Samuel Stennett. Music by Christopher Miner. Arr. by Joel Littlepage



WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

Pastoral Prayer

"Never make the blunder of trying to forecast the way that God is going to answer your prayer." — Oswald Chambers

Tithes and Offerings

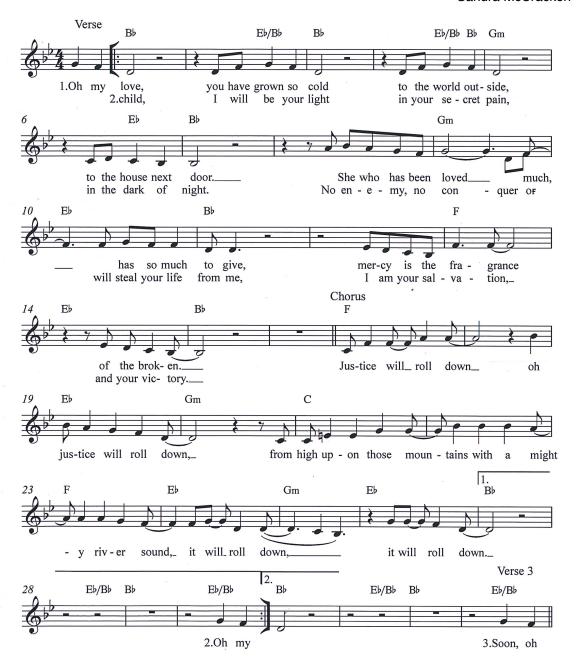
Sermon

How Do Christians Define Justice?
The Third Sermon in the Series on "Honest Questions"
Leviticus 19:15-18
Rev. Chris Polski

*Song of Response

Justice Will Roll Down

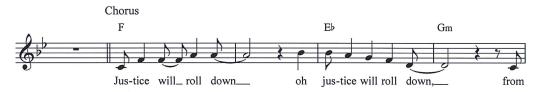
Sandra McCracken

















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-Matthew 26:26—29

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

Prayer of Consecration

The Giving of the Bread and Cup

* Upon direction from the ushers, please come forward down the center aisle, keeping six feet between you and the those in front of you. 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.

(Please note: Grape juice is in all the cups today)

Communion Song (Ensemble)

A Living Sacrifice
Kirk Ward, Based on Romans 12:1-2

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Sending Song

Doxology Trinity Hymnal #731

*Benediction

We will dismiss by rows following the 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 <u>Worship and General Church Information</u>

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.

- Sunday school classes are on Summer hiatus.
- Men's Bible Study this Friday at 6:30am. The men are looking at the Book of Judges.
- Ladies, join us for *Steadfast*, a devotional bible study on the Book of James on Wednesdays
 - at 9am and 7:30pm. Check your email for Zoom links.
- 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.
- If you do not receive our **weekly email updates** on Tuesday mornings, please send your email address to amymitchell@trinitystlouis.org.
- If you would like one of our **pastors stop by for a front porch visit** or to give you a phone call, please email info@trinitystlouis.org
- 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.
- Now more than ever, it is important we stay in touch. Please help us to keep our online directory up to date. Pass along your contact info and picture to Amy Mitchell.

Trinity's ministries are organized around the core values in purpose statement which reads: Trinity Church exists to exal name, establish God's people, equip God's church and er God's world, in the power of the Holy Spirit and for the sake Risen King, Jesus Christ.	lt God's ngage