

TRINITY CHURCH

— KIRKWOOD —

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

June 21, 2020

WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO REIGNS OVER LIFE AND DEATH

Liturgist: Rev. Nate Taylor

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Jim Talent

Scripture Reader: Ruling Elder, Fielding Poe

Quotes and Reflections

Count it all joy, my brothers, when you meet trials of various kinds, for you know that the testing of your faith produces steadfastness. And let steadfastness have its full effect, that you may be perfect and complete, lacking in nothing.

— James 1:2-4

Therefore, just as sin came into the world through one man, and death through sin, and so death spread to all men because all sinned. — Romans 5:12

“The fact is, staving off our own death is one of our favorite national pastimes. Whether it’s exercise, checking our cholesterol or having a mammogram, we are always hedging against mortality.” — The New York Times Magazine

“The growing influence of the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual of Mental Disorders (DSM) is one among many other social factors spreading the harmful cultural belief that much of our everyday suffering is a damaging encumbrance best swiftly removed—a belief increasingly trapping us within a worldview that regards all suffering as a purely negative force in our lives.” — James Davies, *The Importance of Suffering*

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

WE READY OURSELVES TO WORSHIP

Reflect quietly and prayerfully on these words as we prepare to enter into worship.

An excerpt from *Walking with God through Pain and Suffering*, by Tim Keller

“Not long after the December 2012 Newtown school shootings, and all the speeches by civic leaders, memorial services, and funerals were over, Samuel G. Freedman wrote a column in the New York Times titled, 'In a Crisis, Humanists Seem Absent.' Freedman observed the heavy use of explicit religious vocabulary and symbolism in all public ceremonies and by both political leaders and sufferers. Connecticut is hardly the center of the U.S. Bible belt, yet every single family in Newtown who lost a child chose to hold religious services which took place in Catholic, Congregational, Mormon, and Methodist churches, as well as in a Protestant mega-church and a Jewish cemetery. A black Christian youth group journeyed from the Deep South to sing 'Amazing Grace.' President Obama delivered a eulogy that was essentially a sermon, speaking of God 'calling the children home.' He quoted extensively from 2 Corinthians 4 and 5 and used its hope for a world and life beyond this one to console and make bearable the losses we experience here and now.”

“Freedman was one of many who found it startling that in an increasingly secular society, where now some twenty percent of the population told pollsters they had 'no religious preference,' our society turned so visibly to God and faith to communally face the tragedy. Freedman said that it all 'has left behind one prickly question: where were the humanists? At a time when the percentage of Americans without religious affiliation is growing rapidly, why did the 'nones,' as they are colloquially known, seem so absent?'"

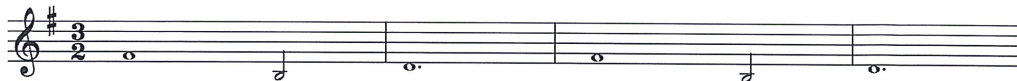
Song of Preparation

He Will Hold Me Fast

Words and Music by Ada Habershon and Matthew Merker

$\text{♩} = 66$ **INTRO**

Gmaj⁷ G/B C² Gmaj⁷ G/B C²



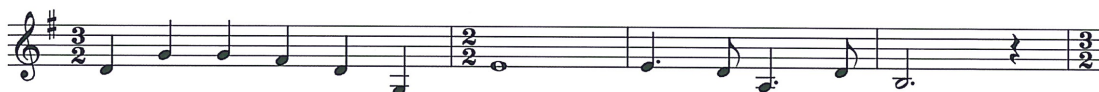
VERSE 1 & 2

5 G G/B C D G



1. When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
2. Those He saves are His de - light, Christ will hold me fast;

9 G/B C D G



When the tempt - er would pre - vail, He will hold me fast.
Pre - cious in His ho - ly sight, He will hold me fast.

13 Em D/F# G C B Em



I could nev - er keep my hold through life's fear - ful path;
He'll not let my soul be lost; His Prom - is - es shall last;

17 D/F# G/B C D G



For my love is oft - en cold; He must hold me fast.
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.

CHORUS

22 C D Em D/F# G



He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;

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 Em⁹ C

VERSE 3

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 C D Em

CHORUS

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 D G D G

ENDING

He will hold me fast. He will hold me fast.

61 Am⁹ G/B C G/B Am⁷ D^{7sus} G

***Call to Worship—Psalm 86 (selected)**

Leader: There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours.

People: All the nations you have made shall come and worship before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name.

Leader: For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

People: Teach me your way, O Lord, that I may walk in your truth;

All: Unite our hearts to fear your name!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

***Songs of Adoration**

How Great Thou Art
Trinity Hymnal #44 (vv. 1, 3, 4)

10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)

Words and Music by Keith Getty and Stuart Townend

Chorus

**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
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all Your goodness I will keep on singing
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 forevermore

(Chorus)

Lord, I'll worship Your holy name

***Prayer of Adoration**

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

New Testament Reading—Romans 5:1-11

Why we can rejoice, even in suffering

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God. Not only that, but we rejoice in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, and hope does not put us to shame, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us.

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 still sinners, Christ died for us. Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

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

Corporate Call to Confession—Psalm 86 (selected)

Leader: Incline your ear, O Lord, and answer me, for I am poor and needy.

People: Preserve my life, for I am godly; save your servant, who trusts in you—you are my God.

Leader: Be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all the day.

People: Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.

Leader: For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving, abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.

People: Give ear, O Lord, to my prayer; listen to my plea for grace. In the day of my trouble I call upon you, for you answer me.

PLEASE TAKE A MOMENT TO SILENTLY CONFESS YOUR SINS

Silent Confession and Lament

"How easily sin gets into the heart; how hardly it gets out of the mouth." — Joseph Hall

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Ps. 86 (selected)

Leader: There is none like you among the gods, O Lord, nor are there any works like yours.

People: For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God.

Leader: But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

All: Turn to me and be gracious to me!

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for His saving grace!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

*Song of Rejoicing

Jesus, My Great High Priest

Words Isaac Watts. 1709. Music by Kirk Ward, 2005

verse

1. Je - sus, my great High Priest Of - fered his blood and
 (2.To) this dear Sure - ty's hand Will I com - mit my
 (3.My) Ad - vo - cate ap - pears For my de - fense on
 (4.Should) all the hosts of death And pow'r of hell un -

died cause; My gul - ty con - science seeks No
 high; He an - swers and ful - fils His
 known Put their most dread - ful forms And Of

sa - cri - fice be - side. His pow'r - ful blood did
 Fa - ther's bro - ken laws. Be - hold my soul at
 rage and mis - chief on, Not all that hell or
 I shall be safe, for

once a - tone, And now it pleads be - fore the throne; And
 free - dom set; My Sure - ty paid the dread - ful debt; My
 sin can say, Shall turn his heart, his love, a - way Shall
 Christ dis - plays His con - qu'ring pow'r and guard - ian grace; His

now it pleads be - fore the throne.
 Sure - ty paid the dread - ful debt.
 turn his heart, his love, a way.
 con - qu'ring pow'r and guard - ian grace.



16 **E** **E** **Chorus** **B** **A**
 2.To Now I ap - proach the

19 **E** **B** **A** **E** **B** **A** **C#m7**
 throne, and I have con - fi - dence for Je - sus my great High Priest of - fered His

24 **F#m7** **B** **E** **B** **A** **E**
 blood and died Now I ap - proach the throne, and I have

28 **B** **A** **E** **B** **A** **C#m7**
 con - fi - dence for Je - sus my great High Priest of - fered His

32 **F#m7** **B** **E** **A/E** **E** *Fine* *D.C. al Fine*
 blood and died for me. 3.My
4.Should

WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

Pastoral Prayer

"When a man makes alliance with the Almighty, giants look like grasshoppers."
 — Vance Havner

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Song

Is He Worthy?

Words and Music by Andrew Peterson and Ben Shive

Ensemble: Do you feel the world is broken? **All: We do**

Ensemble: Do you feel the shadows deepen? **All: We do**

Ensemble: But do you know that all the dark won't stop the
light from getting through? **All: We do**

Ensemble: Do you wish that you could see it all made new? **All: We do**

Ensemble: Is all creation groaning? **All: It is**

Ensemble: Is a new creation coming? **All: It is**

Ensemble: Is the glory of the Lord to be the light within our midst? **All: It is**

Ensemble: Is it good that we remind ourselves of this? **All: It is**

Ensemble: Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll? The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave, He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave. Is He worthy, is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory? Is He worthy of this? **All: He is**

Ensemble: Does the Father truly love us? **All: He does**

Ensemble: Does the Spirit move among us? **All: He does**

Ensemble: And does Jesus, our Messiah, hold forever those He loves? **All: He does**

Ensemble: Does our God intend to dwell again with us? **All: He does**

All: Is anyone worthy? Is anyone whole? Is anyone able to break the seal and open the scroll? The Lion of Judah who conquered the grave, He is David's Root and the Lamb who died to ransom the slave. From every people and tribe, every nation and tongue, He has made us a kingdom and priests to God to reign with the Son. Is He worthy, is He worthy of all blessing and honor and glory?

Ensemble: Is He worthy, is He worthy? Is He worthy of this? **All: He is**

Ensemble: Is He worthy, Is He worthy? **All: He is. He is.**

Sermon

How do Christians explain suffering and death?
The Fifth Sermon in the Series on "Honest Questions"

Ecclesiastes 9:1-5

Rev. Chris Polski

*Song of Response

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

Words and Music by Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Jordan Kauflin, Matthew Merker, and Matt Papa

D Dsus D Dsus D Bm7

What is our hope in life and death? Christ a-lone, Christ a-
 What truth can calm the trou-bled soul? God is good, God is
 Un-to the grave, what shall we sing? Christ, he lives! Christ, he

A D A/C# Bm G D/A A

5 lone. What is our on-ly con-fi-dence? That our souls to him be-
 good. Where is his grace and good-ness known? In our great Re-deem-er's
 lives! And what re-ward will heav-en bring? Ev-er-last-ing life with

D F#m Bm Em7 D/F#

9 long Who holds our days with-in his hand? What comes a-part from His com-
 blood. Who holds our faith when fears a-rise? Who stands a-bove the storm-y
 him. There we will rise to meet the Lord, then sin and death will be de-

G D/A A(F#/A# Bm G D/A A D

13 mand? And what will keep us to the end? The love of Christ, in which we stand. —
 trial? Who sends the waves that bring us nigh un-to the shore the rock of Christ? —
 stroyed, and we will feast in end-less joy, When Christ is ours for-ev-er more. —

Bm G D A/C# A Bm D/F# G

18 — O sing hal-le-lu-jah Our hope springs e-ter-nal; O — sing hal-le-

D/F# G D/F# A G Bm A D

24 lu-jah! Now and ev-er we con-fess Christ our hope in life and death.

*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

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.

- **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.
- **Ladies Connect is back!** Join us **Sun., Jun. 28th at 6pm** in Jessica Doiron's backyard. Bring your own lawn chair, snack, and beverage.
- Each Sunday evening from 5:30-7pm **students grades 6th-12th** are invited to join us for our **Sunday Summer Study**. We will have a time of fellowship and games, as well as discussion on the Sermon on the Mount. **Students bring your own dinner**, and we will provide bottled water. Email Pastor Ben for more information @ ben.e.tharp@gmail.com.
- Each Wednesday evening from 7-8:30pm at the church, unless otherwise stated, **students grades 6th-12th** are invited to join us for our **Wednesday Fun Day**. This is a time of fellowship and fun where we get to build friendships and community. Email Pastor Ben @ ben.e.tharp@gmail.com to be added to our communication list, so you are up to date with when and where these events will occur.
- **Family Fun Nights:** Bike Night-Jun. 22nd, Splash Night-Jun. 24, Crazy Olympics-Jun. 26th. All from 5:30-7pm. Register and find more details on Church Center.
- 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 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.