

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

January 24, 2021

WORSHIPING THE LORD WHO GIVES ENDURING FAVOR TO HIS CHILDREN

Liturgist: Rev. Nate Taylor

Scripture Reader: Ellie Perry and Ella Polski

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Bill Elzinga

Quotes and Reflections

But I received mercy for this reason, that in me, as the foremost, Jesus Christ might display his perfect patience as an example to those who were to believe in him for eternal life. — 1 Timothy 1:16

"God leads us to eternal life not by our merits, but according to his mercy."

— Augustine

"Remembrance of past mercies is a great stimulus to present faith."

— Jerry Bridges

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

WE READY OURSELVES TO WORSHIP

<u>Total Depravity: Evangelicalism's Leaky Tire: Rev. Erik Reymond</u> https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/blogs/erik-raymond/total-depravity-is-evangelicalism-leaky-tire/

What does it mean to say that someone is totally depraved? In short it means that humanity is dead in sin. We are neither willing nor able to merit God's favor by acts of righteousness for we are all unrighteous (Rom. 3:10-19, 23; Eph. 2:1-3; Col. 1:21; Tit. 3:3). This does not mean that people cannot do any good things—there is relative good (i.e. helping the old lady across the street)—however, we cannot and do not do good things before God apart from Christ. As the Heidelberg Catechism says, we by nature are prone to hate God and neighbor, and daily increase our debt.

I have noticed that many people speak of depravity in terms of what we do. In explaining the depravity of man they talk of homosexuality, murder, slander, etc. I don't think this is helpful. Instead of speaking first of what we do we should instead speak of who we are. We are depraved, therefore we do sinful things.

I think this is the logic that Paul follows in Ephesians 2:

"And you were dead in the trespasses and sins in which you once walked, following the course of this world, following the prince of the power of the air, the spirit that is now at work in the sons of disobedience— among whom we all once lived in the passions of our flesh, carrying out the desires of the body and the mind, and were by nature children of wrath, like the rest of mankind." (Ephesians 2:1-3)

At this point you might say, "OK, I give. This makes sense. You are right-admittedly slicing hairs a bit-but right still."

But it is not splitting hairs. This is why: it becomes a gospel issue.

See, if we think of depravity in terms of what we do instead of who we are, then it is not surprising that the "good news" becomes "good works". Think about it, is this not the explanation for all of the moralistic preaching that has built Moralanity instead of Christianity.

If the problem is our works then we just need to reform our behavior, however, if the problem is fundamentally who we are—then we need a new nature. We don't simply need reformation, we need regeneration. It is a difference between new habits and new life. This, I believe, is the leaky tire of evangelicalism.

Song of Preparation

Be Still, My Soul Trinity Hymnal #689

*Call to Worship—Psalm 62:5-12

Leader: For God alone my soul waits in silence; from him

comes my salvation.

People: He alone is my rock and my salvation, my fortress; I shall not be greatly shaken.

Leader: For God alone, O my soul, wait in silence, for my hope

is from him.

People: On God rests my salvation and my glory; my mighty rock, my refuge is God.

Leader: Trust in him at all times, O people; pour out your heart

before him;

All: God is a refuge for us.

[&]quot;Worship is the highest function of the human soul." — Geoffrey King

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

*Songs of Adoration

The Lord Is My Salvation





Holy, Holy, Holy! (10:45 service only)

Trinity Hymnal #100

*Prayer of Adoration

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

New Testament Reading—1 Corinthians 7:17-24; 29-31

Let Each One Rest in the Place that God Has Made for Him

Only let each person lead the life that the Lord has assigned to him, and to which God has called him. This is my rule in all the churches. Was anyone at the time of his call already circumcised? Let him not seek to remove the marks of circumcision. Was anyone at the time of his call uncircumcised? Let him not seek circumcision. For neither circumcision counts for anything nor uncircumcision, but keeping the commandments of God. Each one should remain in the condition in which he was called. Were you a bondservant when called? Do not be concerned about it. (But if you can gain your freedom, avail yourself of the opportunity.) For he who was called in the Lord as a bondservant is a freedman of the Lord. Likewise he who was free when called is a bondservant of Christ. You were bought with a price; do not become bondservants of men. So, brothers, in whatever condition each was called, there let him remain with God.

This is what I mean, brothers: the appointed time has grown very short. From now on, let those who have wives live as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no goods, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

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 4:18-22

While walking by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon (who is called Peter) and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea, for they were fishermen. And he said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of men." Immediately they left their nets and followed him. And going on from there he saw two other brothers, James the son of Zebedee and John his brother, in the boat with Zebedee their father, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Silent Confession and Lament

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Matthew 16:25

For whoever would save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for His life restoring mercy!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

[&]quot;Peace is not real peace until it has been tested in the storm." — Eric Hayman

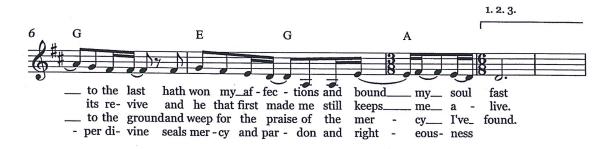
Song of Rejoicing

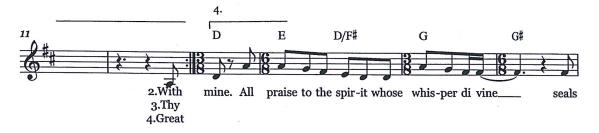
Thy Mercy My God, Is the Theme of My Song

Sandra McCracken











WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

Children may be dismissed for Children's Church (8:45 service only)

Offertory Song (Ensemble)

His Kingdom Now Is Come

Paul Zach, Isaac Wardell, Leslie, Jordan, Lorenzo Baylor, Brian Nhira. Transcribed by Owen Stroud

Sermon

"Increasing Corruption on the Earth"
Genesis 6:1-8
Rev. Chris Polski

*Song of Response

Come Ye Sinners

Joseph Hart and Nortal Hall Band





SERVICE OF ORDINATION AND INSTALLATION TO THE OFFICE OF DEACON & RULING ELDER (8:45 service only)

"God does not ask about our ability or our inability, but our availability." — Anon.

Jim Talent (RE), J Harrison (RE), Dave Nichols (D), Jamie McCall (D)

The Warrant and Nature of the Offices of Ruling Elder and Deacon

The Questions of Ordination and Installation

The Prayer of Ordination

The Right Hand of Fellowship

The Pronouncement of Ordination

The Charge

*Sending Song

Doxology Trinity Hymnal #732

^{*}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.

- **Small Groups** are a great way to get connected. For more information pick up a flyer at the Welcome Center.
- The Tuesday Women's Study will meet this Tuesday at 7pm, either in-person at Trinity or via Zoom. This week we will finish the last chapter of <u>Generous Justice</u> by Tim Keller.
- The Wed. Women's Bible studies meet weekly. We are studying 2 Samuel this semester. We will meet in a hybrid format at 9am or via Zoom only at 7pm.
- 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.
- There are several easy ways to serve at Trinity. Feel free to reach out to these ministry coordinators if you would like to get involved: Ushers: Paul Schaffer (PaulSchaffer1012@gmail.com), Children's Church: Melissa Kocher (medcalf.melissa@gmail.com), Greeters: Elisa Tharp (elisa.f.tharp@gmail.com), Nursery: Sarah Oehlerking, Deborah Moen, Alyssa Hall, and Ruth Harlow (nursery@trinitystlouis.org), Sunday coffee: Amy Mitchell (amymitchell@trinitystlouis.org).
- We are moving our on-line directory to the Church Center app. Each member or regular attender needs to log in to Church Center and go to the directory link and click "share now" to chose what contact information you would like to be included.

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.