

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

February 21, 2021 First Sunday in Lent

# WORSHIPING THE GOD OF STEADFAST LOVE

Liturgist: Rev. Nate Taylor Scripture Reader: Lily Polski Pastoral Prayer: Ron Ridderbos

# **Quotes and Reflections**

For as many of you as were baptized into Christ have put on Christ. There is neither Jew nor Greek, there is neither slave nor free, there is no male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus. And if you are Christ's, then you are Abraham's offspring, heirs according to promise. — Genesis 3:27-29

"God's love is not drawn out by our lovableness, but wells up, like an artesian spring, from the depths of his nature." — Alexander MacLaren

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

# WE READY OURSELVES TO WORSHIP

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

#### "Four Observations from Genesis 9"

- Rev. Garrett Kell from thegospelcoalition.org

#### 1. Noah blessed Shem and Japheth.

A driving theme in Genesis is the promised seed of woman who will crush the serpent's head (Gen. 3:15). The author traces the seed from Adam to Abel to Seth to Noah and here through Shem, who turns out to be the great-grandfather of Abraham (Gen. 11:10–26).

#### 2. Not all of Ham's sons were cursed.

Ham had four sons: Cush, Egypt, Put, and Canaan, but only Canaan was cursed (Gen. 9:25–27; 10:6–20). The Canaanites' abundant wickedness proved the curse was warranted. As a result, they were enslaved by a coalition of eastern kings (Gen. 14), by the Israelites during the conquest (Josh. 9:27; Judg. 1), and by Solomon during his reign as king (1 Kings 9:20–21).

#### 3. The curse on Ham's son wasn't about skin color.

Noah's curse of Canaan was due to his sinful conduct, not his skin color. Though most of Ham's sons and the cities they built (Babel, Nineveh, Sodom, Gomorrah) were marked by idolatry and immorality, Canaan was uniquely evil and defiled the land (cf. Lev. 18). The Canaanites were cursed because they were evil-hearted, not because they were dark-skinned. In fact, recent scholarship has shown that "the name Ham is not related to the Hebrew or to any Semitic word meaning 'dark' [or] 'black.'"

#### 4. Ham wasn't cursed.

Perhaps most glaringly, there is no curse of Ham in Genesis 9 or anywhere else in the Bible. Canaan, not Ham, was cursed by Noah. This means that the "biblical" doctrine used to justify the enslavement of dark-skinned peoples is completely fabricated and has no exegetical warrant.

#### Song of Preparation

The Steadfast Love (with Better is One Day)

Edith McNeil and Matt Redman





# \*Call to Worship—1 Chronicles 16 (selected)

- Leader: Ascribe to the Lord, O families of the peoples, ascribe to the Lord glory and strength!
- People: (We will) ascribe to the Lord the glory due his name; (We will) bring an offering and come before him!
- Leader: Worship the Lord in the splendor of holiness; tremble before him, all the earth.
- People: Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice,
- Leader: Let them say among the nations,
- All: "The Lord reigns!"

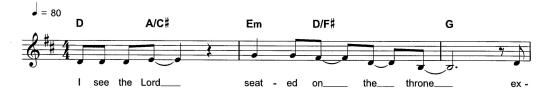
# WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

\*Songs of Adoration

Crown Him with Many Crowns Trinity Hymnal #295

I See the Lord

Chris Falson

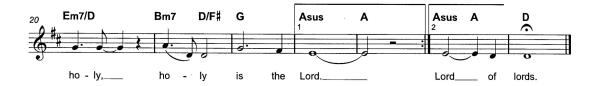












# \*Prayer of Adoration

# WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD New Testament Reading—1 Peter 3:13-22

It is better to suffer for doing good!

Now who is there to harm you if you are zealous for what is good? But even if you should suffer for righteousness' sake, you will be blessed. Have no fear of them, nor be troubled, but in your hearts honor Christ the Lord as holy, always being prepared to make a defense to anyone who asks you for a reason for the hope that is in you; yet do it with gentleness and respect, having a good conscience, so that, when you are slandered, those who revile your good behavior in Christ may be put to shame. For it is better to suffer for doing good, if that should be God's will, than for doing evil.

For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God, being put to death in the flesh but made alive in the spirit, in which he went and proclaimed to the spirits in prison, because they formerly did not obey, when God's patience waited in the days of Noah, while the ark was being prepared, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were brought safely through water. Baptism, which corresponds to this, now saves you, not as a removal of dirt from the body but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers having been subjected to him.

- 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—Psalm 25

#### A Corporate Prayer of Confession (to be prayed in unison)

To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; let me not be put to shame; let not my enemies exult over me. Indeed, none who wait for you shall be put to shame; they shall be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. Make me to know your ways, O Lord; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all the day long. Remember your mercy, O Lord, and your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Remember not the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for the sake of your goodness, O Lord!

# Silent Confession and Lament

# WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

# Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Psalm 103:8-11

The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever. He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities. For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;

Leader: Church of the Lord Jesus Christ, give thanks to God for his steadfast love!

#### People: Thanks be to God!

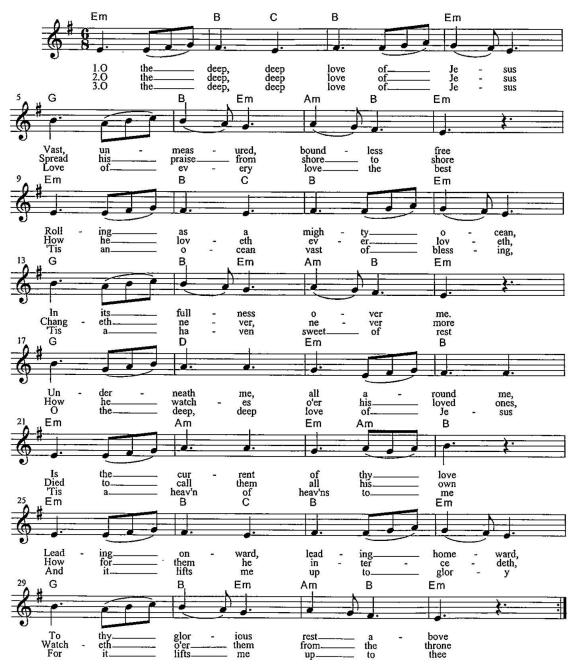
Leader: Now may the peace of Christ be with you all!

## People: And also with you!

#### Song of Rejoicing

O The Deep, Deep Love of Jesus

Words by Samuel Trevor Francis. Music by Thomas J. Williams. Arr. by Ryan Foglesong, Patrick Anderson and John Martin



# **Baptismal Song**

Jesus Loves Me, This I Know Trinity Hymnal #189

Q: What is baptism?

A: Baptism is a sacrament, wherein the washing with water, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost, doth signify and seal our ingrafting into Christ, and partaking of the benefits of the covenant of grace, and our engagement to be the Lord's.

# 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)

Psalm 150 (Praise the Lord)

Matt Boswell and Matt Papa. Arr. by Grant Wall

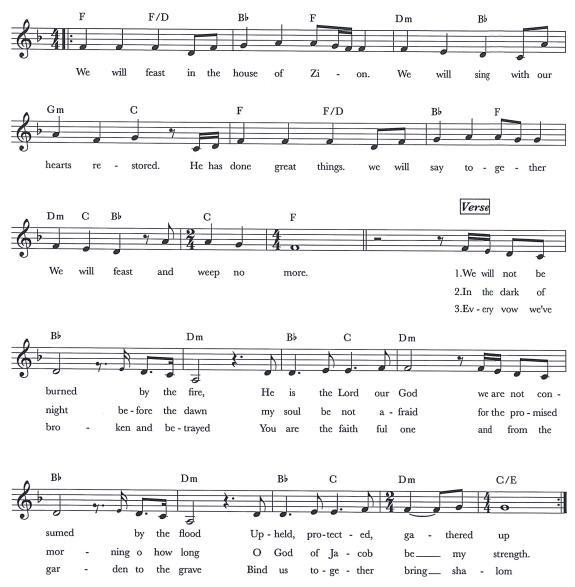
# Sermon

"A New Beginning with a Familiar Result" Genesis 9:18-28 Rev. Chris Polski

#### Song of Response

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Sandra McCracken and Joshua Moore



"Hearty thanks must be given to God: such as comes not from the roof of the mouth, but the root of the heart." — John Trapp

#### \*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.

- Jr. High Small Groups meet at Trinity on Sundays from 5:30-7pm. Sr. High meets on Wednesdays from 7-8:30pm. See Ben Tharp if you have any questions.
- **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 group will meet this week at 6:30pm for fellowship (bring your dinner if you wish), followed by a look at the final chapter of Tim Keller's book, <u>Generous Justice</u> at 7pm. See Melissa Jorgensen if you would like to join via Zoom.
- 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.
- Men's Bible Study this Fri. at 6:30am either in person or via Zoom. This semester the men are studying the Book of Acts.
- 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.