

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

July 11, 2021

WELCOME

We are glad you could join us! We would love to connect with you and answer any questions you may have about Trinity. Scan below with your phone camera to leave us your contact information.



WEEKLY SERVICES & MEETINGS

SUNDAY 9:30am worship Jr. High Youth | 5:30pm

WEDNESDAY Sr. High Small Group | 7-8:30pm FRIDAY Men's Bible Study | 6:30am

314.821.7311 | info@trinitystlouis.org

www.trinitychurchkirkwood.org • Facebook: Trinity Church Kirkwood





WORSHIPING THE GOD OF MYSTERIOUS MERCY

Liturgist: Rev. Ben Tharp

Scripture Reader: Beth Thorpe

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Jim Talent

Quotes and Reflections

Now to him who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the preaching of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but has now been disclosed and through the prophetic writings has been made known to all nations, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God be glory forevermore through Jesus Christ! Amen. — Rom. 16:25

"Mystery is but another name for our ignorance; if we were omniscient all would be perfectly plain." — Tyron Edwards

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

Preparation for Worship from Tabletalk Magazine

https://www.ligonier.org/learn/devotionals/mysterys-gods-purpose/

It is easy to be filled with thanksgiving the first time we confess Christ, for the riches of God's grace and mercy shine so clearly the moment we come out of the darkness of sin and into the light of the kingdom. Over time, however, as we walk with Jesus and face the struggles of everyday life, it can be difficult to maintain the spirit of thanksgiving we enjoyed at our conversion. We need reminders of all that Christ has done for us so that we never forget our need to thank and bless God for His work.

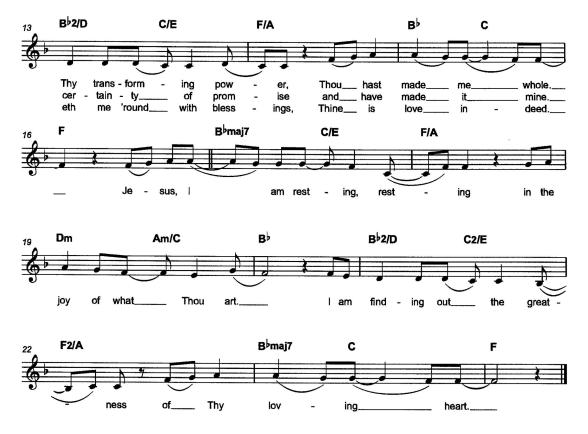
Paul gives us these reminders in Ephesians 1, and in today's passage the apostle tells us that our Creator has not only saved us from His wrath through Jesus' blood, but that forgiveness is not the only gift lavished upon us in the Savior (Eph. 1:7-9). That grace would have been more than enough, but in Christ the Father has bestowed this forgiveness "in all wisdom and insight" (v. 8). We need not only the pardon of our sins to be faithful disciples of our Lord, but also the knowledge of how we should live in light of our forgiven status — in freedom without taking advantage of God's mercy or presuming upon His grace (Rom. 6:1-14; 1 Peter 2:16). The wisdom and insight needed to accomplish this hard task is given to us in Jesus (Eph. 1:8), but that does not mean that we always put this wisdom into practice, for Paul asks in Ephesians 1:17 for the insight given in Jesus to increase. For wisdom and insight to be effective, they must be cultivated, and we cultivate what the Lord has already given to us in Jesus through prayer, the study of His Word, fellowship, and the other means of grace (Col. 1:9-11; 2 Tim. 2:15; Philem. 4-7). If we do not continually nurture this wisdom, we may lose our ability to practice it, just as Solomon started out looking for wisdom but later fell into foolishness (1 Kings 3:1–15; 11:1–43).

Pouring wisdom and insight upon us, God also made known to us "the mystery of his will" (Eph. 1:9). Charles Hodge offers wise comments here, reminding us that a biblical mystery is not mysterious "in the sense of incomprehensible as in that of not being able to be discovered by human reason, as it is a matter of divine revelation." The mystery of God's will is His plan to redeem His people through the death and resurrection of His Son, the way of salvation that we cannot discern from nature but receive by faith alone as the Word of God is proclaimed to us (1 Cor. 1:18–25).

Song of Preparation

Jesus, I am Resting, Resting Words by Jean Sophia Pigott. Music by David Hampton





Call to Worship—Psalm 24 (selected)

Leader: The earth is the Lord's and the fullness thereof, the world and those who dwell therein,

People: For he has founded it upon the seas and established it upon the rivers.

Leader: Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors, that the King of glory may come in.

People: Who is this King of glory?

All: The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

*Songs of Adoration

Behold Our God



*Prayer of Adoration

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

New Testament Reading—Ephesians 1:3-14

The spiritual blessings we possess when we are in Christ

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth.

In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

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 24:3-4

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord? And who shall stand in his holy place? He who has clean hands and a pure heart, who does not lift up his soul to what is false and does not swear deceitfully.

Silent Confession and Lament

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Psalm 24:5-6

He will receive blessing from the Lord and righteousness from the God of his salvation. Such is the generation of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob. Selah

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for the gift of

righteousness through Christ!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

*Song of Rejoicing

Give Us Clean Hands

Words and Music by Charlie Hall



WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

(Children ages 4yr to 2nd grade may be excused for Children's Church)

Offertory Song (Ensemble)

You Are With Me Sandra McCracken and Leslie Jordan

Sermon

"Tested" Genesis 21:22-22:1 Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

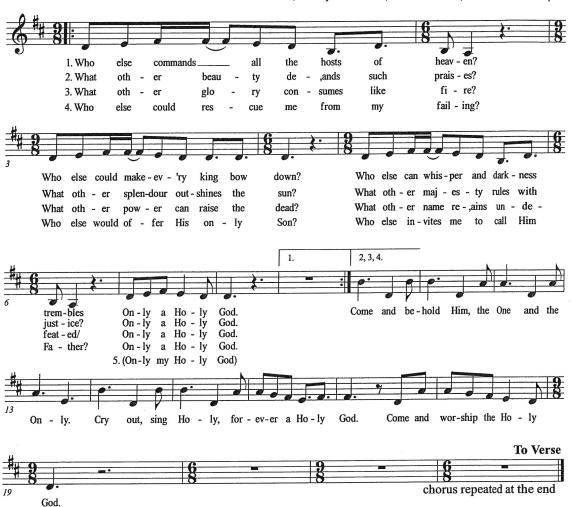
For today's sermon outline scan here with your phone camera:



*Song of Response

Only A Holy God

Michael Farren, Jonny Robinson, Dustin Smith, and Rich Thompson



*Benediction

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday school is on Summer hiatus and will return for all ages on Sept. 12.

Please be sure to **sign the Trinity Hymnal** in the Narthex for the Taylors and Louise Jones.

Men's Bible Study this Friday at 6:30am either at Trinity or via Zoom. See your weekly email for the link.

The Women's Bible Studies are taking a short break for the Summer. Look for sign ups for our next studies coming soon!

We are in **need of a few more folks to join our sound crew**. No experience necessary. See Dan Bailey or Katie Polski for more info.

Save the Date: Make plans to join us for Party on the Lawn on Sat., Sept. 25.

We are now using Church Center ONLY for our directory. You need to go to your app and allow viewing of your information to be included if you would like our Trinity family to be able to contact you. Feel free to see Amy Mitchell or your weekly email if you need 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 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).

Did you know you can use the **Church Center app** for online giving, church directory, to sign up for events, connect with your small groups, bible studies, etc? Contact the church office for assistance.

Congregational Meeting

The Session of Trinity Church, pursuant to BCO 23, is calling a congregational meeting for **Sun.**, **July 18 at 11:00am** for the purpose of dissolving the pastoral relationship between Nate Taylor and the congregation of Trinity Church Kirkwood and recommending Nate, with great joy and thanksgiving for his service at Trinity, to the care of Mission to the World as he pursues his calling to overseas missions.

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.

www.trinitychurchkirkwood.org