

# TRINITY CHURCH

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

August 29, 2021



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## WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO GIVES HIS PEOPLE JOY

Liturgist: Rev. Chris Polski Scripture Reader: Lyn Moffit Pastoral Prayer: Ron Ridderbos, Ruling Elder

## **Quotes and Reflections**

And so, from the day we heard, we have not ceased to pray for you, asking that you may be filled with the knowledge of his will in all spiritual wisdom and understanding, so as to walk in a manner worthy of the Lord, fully pleasing to him: bearing fruit in every good work and increasing in the knowledge of God; being strengthened with all power, according to his glorious might, for all endurance and patience with joy; giving thanks to the Father, who has qualified you to share in the inheritance of the saints in light. — Col. 1:9

"There may be joy in God when there is little joy from God."

— Stephen Charnock

"True Christian joy is both a privilege and a duty!" — Jerry Bridges

## Prelude

## Welcome and Announcements

## WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

#### A Pastoral Lament for Covid

The book of Psalms is full of lament. Some of these laments are personal, and some are corporate. The occasions for these laments are diverse but often have to do with the loss of a battle, a betrayal, a natural disaster, or even a famine. The refrain present in all them is "How long, Oh Lord?"

What follows is a modern lament for the pandemic, fashioned after the many Psalms of Lament in scripture.

How long, Oh Lord? How long will you allow this pandemic continue?

- How long will you allow your church, your people, those called by your name to languish?
- How long will you permit the enemy to undermine the faithful labors of your ministers?
- How long will you allow believers to grow in anger at one another for their differing opinions on masks and vaccines and quarantines and government intrusion?
- How long will you allow one believer to judge the personal decisions of another on disputable matters?

Oh Lord, you have established your church from of old. You have upheld it and caused it to prosper in spite of many dangers, toils and snares.

It has survived wars, pandemics and betrayals.

It has endured unfaithfulness by some of its leaders.

It has grown even when attacked.

Do your miraculous work of preservation again, Oh Lord, and restore to us the joy of our salvation!

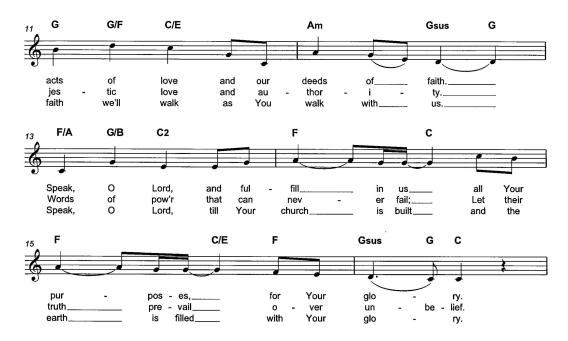
Cause your people, to grow in love for one another. To look not only to their own interests, but the interests of others! Fill them with a selfless kind of love that is far more interested in how they can bless someone else by being selfless than they are concerned about how to fulfill and protect themselves.

Help them to see everything that is good and beautiful in your church, in spite of its flaws. Permit them to gain a greater sense of perspective about what it means to live in faith, in spite of the threats all around. Show them what it means live with gratitude, patience, and mercy.

Do it for your glory and for our good, Oh Lord! For you are gracious and merciful, abounding in steadfast love! Amen.

#### Song of Preparation





## Call to Worship—Psalm 63 (selected)

Leader: O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;

## People: My soul thirsts for you; my flesh faints for you, as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.

- Leader: So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary, beholding your power and glory.
- People: Because your steadfast love is better than life, my lips will praise you.
- All: So I will bless you as long as I live; in your name I will lift up my hands.

## WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

\*Songs of Adoration

A Mighty Fortress Is Our God Trinity Hymnal #92

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 Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 62

#### Zions coming salvation foretold

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet, until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,

and her salvation as a burning torch. The nations shall see your righteousness, and all the kings your glory,

and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give.

You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,

and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken,

and your land shall no more be termed Desolate,

but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married;

for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married.

For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your sons marry you,

and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

On your walls, O Jerusalem, I have set watchmen; all the day and all the night they shall never be silent. You who put the Lord in remembrance, take no rest, and give him no rest until he establishes Jerusalem

and makes it a praise in the earth.

The Lord has sworn by his right hand and by his mighty arm: "I will not again give your grain to be food for your enemies, and foreigners shall not drink your wine for which you have labored; but those who garner it shall eat it and praise the Lord, and those who gather it shall drink it in the courts of my sanctuary." Go through, go through the gates; prepare the way for the people; build up, build up the highway; clear it of stones; lift up a signal over the peoples. Behold, the Lord has proclaimed to the end of the earth: Say to the daughter of Zion, "Behold, your salvation comes;

behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him."

And they shall be called The Holy People, The Redeemed of the Lord;

and you shall be called Sought Out, A City Not Forsaken.

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—1 Peter 3:13-17

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.

## Silent Confession and Lament

## WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

## Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—1 Peter 5:10

And after you have suffered a little while, the God of all grace, who has called you to his eternal glory in Christ, will himself restore, confirm, strengthen, and establish you.

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for His gracious mercies!

#### People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

#### \*Song of Rejoicing

#### We Will Say In That Day

Wendell Kimbrough



# WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD Pastoral Prayer

## **Tithes and Offerings**

(On the 5th Sunday of the month there is no Children's Church)

**Offertory Song** (Ensemble)

You Are My Joy

Andrea Marie Reagan, Brock Human, and Will Reagan

### Sermon

"The Magnetism of the Church" The Third in a Six Part Series on Covenant Renewal Acts 5:12-16 Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

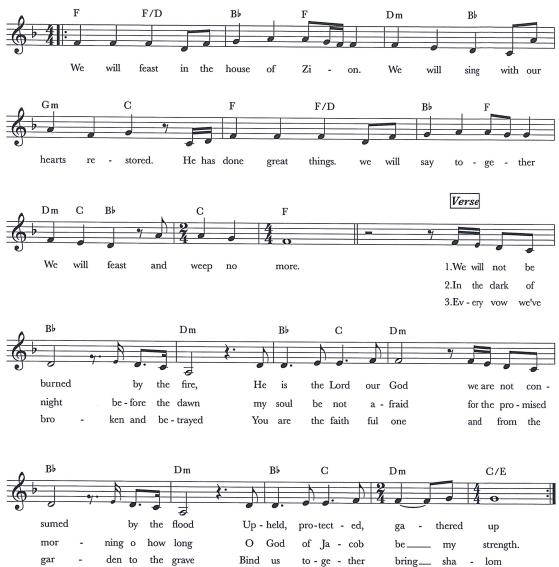
For today's sermon outline scan here with your phone camera:



\*Song of Response

We Will Feast in the House of Zion

Sandra McCracken and Joshua Moore



#### \*Benediction

## UPCOMING EVENTS

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

**Children's Church is in need of four additional volunteers** who could serve once a month. All lessons and materials are prepared and in the classroom prior to your assigned Sunday. Children's Church meets year-round. See Melissa Kocher or Pastor Ben if you are interested.

The Children's Sunday school ministry is looking for more teachers. See Carrie Harrison or Sue Freeman for more info.

**Men's Night** this Wed. at 8pm at Chris Freeman's.

#### Small group sign ups coming next week!

More info will be available in the Narthex or go to groups in Church Center.

We will have an **outdoor service** next Sunday, Sept. 5th at 5:30pm.

The **Men's & Women's Bible Studies** are starting this week. The Women will have two studies to choose from. Sign ups for both are now open on Church Center (see QR code below). The Men will have the option of attending on Wed. evenings or Friday mornings at 6:30am.

**Party on the Lawn** on Sat., Sept. 25 from 4:30-7pm. Sign up today using the QR code below.

Are you new to Trinity? We would love for you to join us for a **Welcome Lunch** following Sunday school on Sept. 12. RSVP to the church office.

You can **sign up for all upcoming events** by scanning your phone camera over the QR code and then following the link:



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.

## ACTION

All Church Things In One Night

Trinity Church's Wednesday night intergenerational dinner and ministry will run from September thru November and January thru May each year. ACTION ministry is scheduled to begin on Wednesday night, September 1st from 5:30-7pm. Along with dinner this ministry will include something for all ages. Sign up using the QR code below:



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.

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