

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

September 5, 2021

WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO GIVES HIS PEOPLE COURAGE

Liturgist: Matt Pannkuk

Scripture Reader: Ellie Perry

Pastoral Prayer: Fielding Poe, Ruling Elder

Quotes and Reflections

"Faith is reason at rest in God." — Spurgeon

"What is faith unless it is to believe what you do not see." — Augustine

"Faith brings a man empty to God, that he may be filled with the blessings of God." — Calvin

"Risk is a reality that is either met in faith or fear." $\,-\,$ Anon.

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

An Excerpt from "What is Risk?" By John Piper

If our single, all-embracing passion is to make much of Christ in life and death, and if the life that magnifies him most is the life of costly love, then life is risk, and risk is right. To run from it is to waste your life.

I define risk very simply as an action that exposes you to the possibility of loss or injury. If you take a risk, you can lose money, you can lose face, you can lose your health or even your life. And what's worse, if you take a risk, you may endanger other people and not just yourself. Their lives may be at stake also. Will a wise and loving person, then, ever take a risk? Is it wise to expose yourself to loss? Is it loving to endanger others? Is losing life the same as wasting it?

It depends. Of course, you can throw your life away in a hundred sinful ways and die as a result. In that case, losing life and wasting it would be the same. But losing life is not always the same as wasting it. What if the circumstances are such that *not* taking a risk will result in loss and injury? It may not be wise to play it safe. And what if a successful risk would bring great benefit to many people, and its failure would bring harm only to yourself? It may not be loving to choose comfort or security when something great may be achieved for the cause of Christ and for the good of others.

Why is there such a thing as risk? Because there is such a thing as ignorance. If there were no ignorance about the future, there would be no risk. Risk is possible because we don't know how things will turn out. This means that God can take no risks. He knows the outcome of all his choices before they happen. This is what it means to be God over against all the gods of the nations (Isa. 41:23; 42:8–9; 44:6–8; 45:21; 46:8–11; 48:3). And since he knows the outcome of all his actions before they happen, he plans accordingly. His omniscience rules out the very possibility of taking risks.

But not so with us. We are not God; we are ignorant. We don't know what will happen tomorrow. God does not tell us in detail what he intends to do tomorrow or five years from now. Therefore, risk is woven into the fabric of our finite lives. We cannot avoid risk even if we want to. Ignorance and uncertainty about tomorrow is our native air. All of our plans for tomorrow's activities can be shattered by a thousand unknowns whether we stay at home under the covers or ride the freeways. One of my aims is to explode the myth of safety and to somehow deliver you from the enchantment of security. Because it's a mirage. It doesn't exist. Every direction you turn, there are unknowns and things beyond your control...The paralyzing fear of making a decision serves no one. It is cowardly. Risk is the only way forward...It is right to seek to make much of Christ by taking the risks of love.

Song of Preparation

Dear Refuge of My Weary Soul Words Anne Steele. Music by Kevin Twit



Call to Worship—Psalm 31 (selected)

Leader: In you, O Lord, do we take refuge; let us never be put

to shame;

People: Be a rock of refuge for us, a strong fortress to save

us!

Leader: For you are our rock and our fortress; and for your

name's sake you lead us and guide us;

People: We trust in you, O Lord; Our times are in your hand;

Leader: Make your face shine on your servants; save us in your

steadfast love!

All: Blessed be the Lord, for he has wondrously shown his

steadfast love to us!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

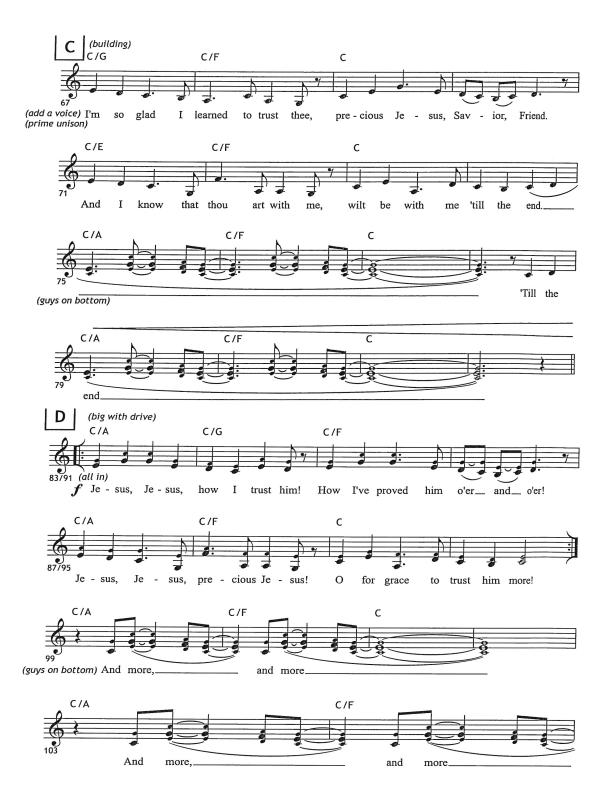
*Songs of Adoration

Rejoice, the Lord Is King Trinity Hymnal #310 (vv. 1-3, 5)

'Tis So Sweet To Trust In Jesus

Stead, Kirkpatrick. Arr. Page CXVI





*Prayer of Adoration

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Reading—Deuteronomy 31:1-8

Be strong and courageous!

So Moses continued to speak these words to all Israel. And he said to them, "I am 120 years old today. I am no longer able to go out and come in. The Lord has said to me, 'You shall not go over this Jordan.' The Lord your God himself will go over before you. He will destroy these nations before you, so that you shall dispossess them, and Joshua will go over at your head, as the Lord has spoken. And the Lord will do to them as he did to Sihon and Og, the kings of the Amorites, and to their land, when he destroyed them. And the Lord will give them over to you, and you shall do to them according to the whole commandment that I have commanded you. Be strong and courageous. Do not fear or be in dread of them, for it is the Lord your God who goes with you. He will not leave you or forsake you."

Then Moses summoned Joshua and said to him in the sight of all Israel, "Be strong and courageous, for you shall go with this people into the land that the Lord has sworn to their fathers to give them, and you shall put them in possession of it. It is the Lord who goes before you. He will be with you; he will not leave you or forsake you. Do not fear or be dismayed."

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 14:28-30

And Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat and walked on the water and came to Jesus. But when he saw the wind, he was afraid, and beginning to sink he cried out, "Lord, save me."

Silent Confession and Lament

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Matt. 14:31-33

Jesus immediately reached out his hand and took hold of him, saying to him, "O you of little faith, why did you doubt?" And when they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Leader: People of God, give thanks to the Father for sending

His son to save us!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

*Song of Rejoicing

Yet Not I But Through Christ In Me

Words and Music by Jonny Robinson, Rich Thompson, and Michael Farren



WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD **Pastoral Prayer**

Tithes and Offerings

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

Sermon

"The Courage of the Church"

The Fourth in a Six Part Series on Covenant Renewal

Acts 9:10-31

Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

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



*Song of Response

How Firm a Foundation Trinity Hymnal #94 (vv. 1-3, 5)

THE SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

*Sursum Corda

Pastor: The LORD be with you.

People: And also with you.

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up unto the LORD.

Pastor: Let us give thanks unto the LORD our God.

People: It is good and right so to do.

*Confession of Faith

Leader: Christian, in whom do you believe?

All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty,

Creator of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived of the Holy Spirit,

born of the Virgin Mary,

suffered under Pontius Pilate.

was crucified, died, and was buried.

The third day He arose again from the dead.

He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty, whence He

shall come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,

the holy universal church, the communion of saints.

the forgiveness of sins,

the resurrection of the body,

and life everlasting. Amen

Words of Institution-Matthew 26:26—29

Now as they were eating, Jesus took bread, and after blessing it broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat; this is my body." And he took a cup, and when he had given thanks he gave it to them, saying, "Drink of it, all of you, for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins. I tell you I will not drink again of this fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new with you in my Father's kingdom."

Prayer of Consecration

The Giving of the Bread and Cup

* Upon direction from the ushers, please come forward down the center aisle, keeping six feet between you and the those in front of you. After you receive the elements, please return to your seats via the side aisles. Please hold the elements until we are all able to partake together. After the service, please dispose of your used communion cup.

(Please note: Grape juice is in all the cups today)

Communion Song (Ensemble)

Come, O Sinner
Words and Music by Jordan Kauflin

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Sending Song

Mighty God We Thank and Praise You

Words by Wendell Kimbrough, based on the Book of Common Prayer. Music by Ludwig van Beethoven



- 1. Migh-ty God we thank and praise you for this meal, this Bread of Life;
- 2. Hum-bly now we ask you, Fa ther, In your grace, to make us strong,



Pre - cious blood and bo - dy, bro-ken, From your Son our Sav - ior, Christ. That, with all the saints be-fore us, In good works we may press on!



In these myst-'ries you as - sure us we are mem-bers of your Son; Send us out to love and serve you! Send us out to sing your praise!



Heirs of your e - ter-nal King-dom, with all faith-ful peo-ple, One. Fa - ther, Son and Ho-ly Spi-rit, Pow'r and glo-ry to your name!



*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.

Sign up for a Small Group! See today's insert for more info. Sign up sheets are in the Narthex or go to groups in Church Center.

We will have an **outdoor service** tonight at 5:30pm.

Men's Bible Study: The men will have the option of attending on Wed. evenings at 6pm or Friday mornings at 6:30am. Pastor Polski is leading a study on the Book of Acts.

Women's Bible Studies: We offer two options- Two Tues. a month a group meets at Melissa Jorgensen's home at 7pm to discuss the Sermon on the Mount (starting 9/14). On Wednesdays we meet at Trinity for a study of 1 & 2 Thessalonians either at 9am or 6pm.

Mark your calendars for **An Evening of Prayer & Worship** on Sat., Sept. 18th at 6:30pm.

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

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

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.

WELCOME LUNCH

Welcome Lunch on Sun., Sept. 12 after Sunday school in the Narthex at 12pm.

New to Trinity? We would love to welcome YOU by inviting you to lunch. Come to learn more about the church and ministry opportunities. RSVP by texting "welcome lunch" to 314-384-2444 by Friday the latest!



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.

314-821-7311 | info@trinitystlouis.org

www.trinitychurchkirkwood.org • Facebook: Trinity Church Kirkwood



