

TRINITY CHURCH

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

October 3, 2021

WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO BLESSES US!

Liturgist: Mr. Matt Pannkuk Scripture Reader: Peg Nichols Pastoral Prayer: Bill Elzinga, Ruling Elder

Quotes and Reflections

Now may our Lord Jesus Christ himself, and God our Father, who loved us and gave us eternal comfort and good hope through grace, comfort your hearts and establish them in every good work and word. — 2 Thessalonians 2:16-17

"God's goodness is the pre-eminent expression of his glory!" — Jerry Bridges

Good when he gives, supremely good, Nor less when he denies, E'en crosses from his sovereign hand Are blessings in disguise! — James Hervey

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP <u>The Goodness of God</u>- Rev. Eric Alexander (Ligonier.org; Aug. 25, 2016)

Rom. 8:28 And we know that for those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose.

Let me first of all point out two things Paul is not saying. First, he is not saying that life is guaranteed to be trouble free for the Christian. Indeed, in verse 17 of this very chapter, he tells us that "sharing in Christ's sufferings" is a condition of "sharing in his glory." Second, Paul does not claim to know or understand all of God's mysterious providences. "We know" in verse 28 sits comfortably in the same chapter with the disclaimer in verse 26: "We do not know what to pray for as we ought." But we do know God, and we know that whatever He decrees or permits will be for our ultimate good and for His glory.

Now we can follow Paul as he elaborates the way God is at work in our lives. First, God is personally at work for us. You must have heard the secular version of this conviction, which has absolutely nothing to do with God, the Bible, or Christianity. It is usually expressed like this: "Don't worry; everything will work out alright, you'll see." That is human optimism, founded on nothing but wishful thinking. Paul's conviction, on the other hand, is founded on the character of God as a loving Father who cares for us and on His personal government over every detail of our lives (see v. 32).

Second, God is ceaselessly at work for us. We know this from the tense of the verb Paul uses. It is the present tense, which implies an unceasing action. That means God is working out His purposes for us whether we are spiritually dry or spiritually refreshed. He never gives up. As A.W. Tozer put it, "Our heavenly Father . . . does not keep office hours, nor set aside a time when he will see no one. God never changes His moods, or cools off in His affections, or loses enthusiasm."

Third, God is universally at work for us and in us. Notice that Paul says "in all things." That means that nothing is excluded from the personal government of God over what happens to us. It includes the bitterest as well as the sweetest of experiences. It includes the sinful acts of others, as Joseph states in Genesis 50:20: "You intended it for evil to me, but God meant it for good." John Calvin said, tellingly, "Whatever poison Satan produces, God turns it into medicine for His elect." Spurgeon said, "Omnipotence has servants everywhere."

Now the final question is, what type of person is able to say that God is working in all things for my good? Well, Paul is anything but vague about that. Indeed, he is quite specific. His first description is "those who love God." But, of course, that love, in Scripture, is the love of commitment. I have often spoken with young people who told me they had declared their love for someone, only to receive the answer, "Oh now, I don't want to get too serious!" There are many who say that to God. Could you be one of them?

The second description in Romans 8:28 is "those who are called by God." Now, whenever someone hears the gospel message, they hear the external call of God summoning them to personal faith in Jesus Christ. But that call, when it is truly heard inwardly by those to whom God has given spiritual ears to hear it, actually draws the sinner to Christ: "I heard the voice of Jesus say 'Come unto me and rest': I came to Jesus, as I was." The question is, have you heard the call of God in the gospel, and have you found it drawing you to Christ? So, "all things work together for good for those who love God, who are called by God." They then discover that they are caught up into the perfect, sovereign purposes of God, which involve His "good and acceptable and perfect will" (Rom. 12:2).

Joseph Hart in the eighteenth century expressed it perfectly in his hymn: How good is the God we adore, Our faithful, unchangeable friend, His love is as great as His power, And knows neither measure nor end.

Song of Preparation

All I Have Rebecca Elliot and Bobby Gilles

Creator, giver of all things. All I have is yours Accept my humble offering. All I have is yours When I was chained to greed and pride, Tight-fisted destined just to die You paid my debt and bought my life All I have is yours

All I have, all I have. All I have is yours

Call to Worship—Psalm 95 (selected)

- Leader: Oh sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth!
- People: Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.
- Leader: Declare his glory among the nations,

People: His marvelous works among all the peoples!

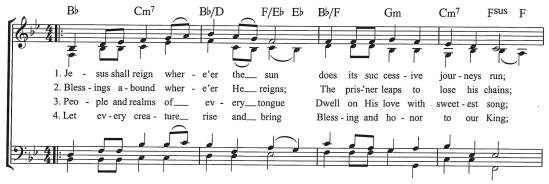
- Leader: For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised; Say among the nations...
- All: "The Lord reigns!"

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

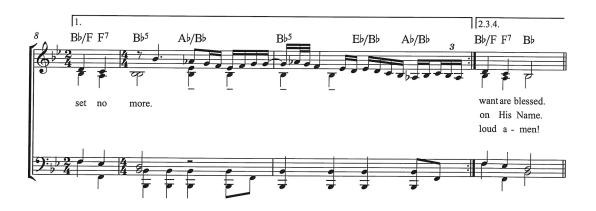
***Songs of Adoration**

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Isaac Watts and John Hatton







All Glory Be To Christ

Words and Arrangement by Dustin Kensrue





*Prayer of Adoration

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD New Testament Reading—Hebrews 1:1-4, 2:5-9

God has spoken to us by His Son

Long ago, at many times and in many ways, God spoke to our fathers by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by his Son, whom he appointed the heir of all things, through whom also he created the world. He is the radiance of the glory of God and the exact imprint of his nature, and he upholds the universe by the word of his power. After making purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

For it was not to angels that God subjected the world to come, of which we are speaking. It has been testified somewhere,

"What is man, that you are mindful of him,

or the son of man, that you care for him?

You made him for a little while lower than the angels;

you have crowned him with glory and honor,

putting everything in subjection under his feet."

Now in putting everything in subjection to him, he left nothing outside his control. At present, we do not yet see everything in subjection to him. But we see him who for a little while was made lower than the angels, namely Jesus, crowned with glory and honor because of the suffering of death, so that by the grace of God he might taste death for everyone.

Reader: The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever!

People: Thanks be to God!

Call to Confession—Job 2:4-10

Then Satan answered the Lord and said, "Skin for skin! All that a man has he will give for his life. But stretch out your hand and touch his bone and his flesh, and he will curse you to your face." And the Lord said to Satan, "Behold, he is in your hand; only spare his life." So Satan went out from the presence of the Lord and struck Job with loathsome sores from the sole of his foot to the crown of his head. And he took a piece of broken pottery with which to scrape himself while he sat in the ashes. Then his wife said to him, "Do you still hold fast your integrity? Curse God and die." But he said to her, "You speak as one of the foolish women would speak. Shall we receive good from God, and shall we not receive evil?" In all this Job did not sin with his lips.

Silent Confession and Lament

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Ps. 103:8-12

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; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for removing our transgressions from us!

People: Thanks be to God!

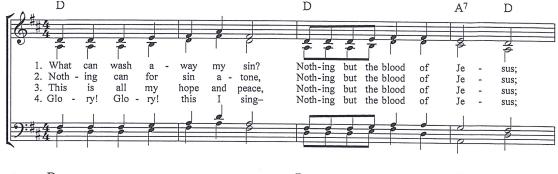
Leader: Now may the peace of Christ be with you all!

People: And also with you!

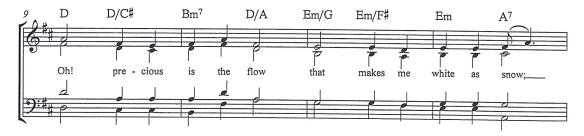
*Song of Rejoicing

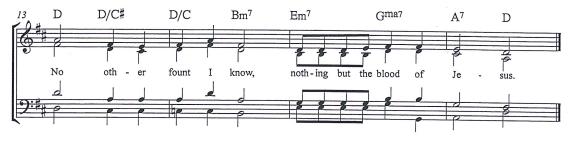
Nothing But the Blood of Jesus

Words and Music by Robert Lowry. Arr. by Keith Getty, Fionan de Barra, Dave Cleveland, Ross Holmes, and Matt Menafee









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 God of Our Past, Pressent, and Future" Genesis 26:1-35 Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

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



*Song of Response

Christ The Sure And Steady Anchor

Words and Music by Matthew Papa and Matthew Boswell



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 Lord Jesus

Words and Music by Marc Willerton

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Sending Song

*Benediction

Doxology Trinity Hymnal #731

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday school classes for all ages meet today at 11am. Children Pre-K-2nd grade meet in the Pre-K/K room. Grades 3rd-5th meet in the 3-5th classroom. Adults meet in the classrooms across from the kitchen.

Sign up for a Small Group! Sign up sheets are in the Narthex or go to groups in Church Center.

Interested in becoming a member of Trinity? Join us for our new members Sunday school class, Trinity Connect, starting on Oct. 17. RSVP to the church office.

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 10/12). On Wednesdays we meet at Trinity for a study of 1 & 2 Thessalonians either at 9am or 6pm.

All Church Work Day: Sat., Oct. 23rd at 9am. We will have things to do both indoors and out. Sign up on Church Center.

Ladies, make plans to come out for game night on Friday, Oct. 8th. More details to come this week.

Flannel Palooza meets Trunk or Treat:

Friday, Oct. 29th at 5pm. Wear your favorite flannel or costume and come out for food, games, costume contest, and trunk or treat (costumes not required). 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.

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



WELCOME LUNCH

Welcome Lunch on Sun., Oct. 31st 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.



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

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