

Trinity Church • April 25, 2021 The Fourth Sunday in Easter



WEEKLY SERVICES & MEETINGS

SUNDAY

9:30am worship Sunday School for all ages | 11am Jr. High Small Group | 5:30pm

MONDAY Ladies Connect | 7:30pm WEDNESDAY Women's Bible Study | 9am & 7pm Sr. High Small Group | 7-8:30pm

TUESDAY Women's Bible Study | 6:30pm

FRIDAY NO Men's Bible Study

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WORSHIPING THE GOD OF WHO IS OUR SHIELD AND VERY GREAT REWARD

Liturgist: Rev. Ben Tharp Scripture Reader: Ellie Perry Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Ron Ridderbos

Quotes and Reflections

What then shall we say was gained by Abraham, our forefather according to the flesh? For if Abraham was justified by works, he has something to boast about, but not before God. For what does the Scripture say? "Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness." — Romans 4:1-3

"Though men are false, God is faithful." — Matthew Henry

"You can never understand the faithfulness of God by taking the short view."

— Paul S. Rees

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

WE READY OURSELVES TO WORSHIP

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

From O Palmer Robertson's, Christ of the Covenants:

What is a covenant?

Asking for a definition of "covenant" is something like asking for a definition of "mother."

A mother may be defined as the person who brought you into the world. That definition may be correct formally. But who would be satisfied with such a definition?

Some would discourage any effort to present a single definition of covenant which would embrace all the varied usages of the term in scripture. They would suggest that the many different contexts in which the word appears imply many different meanings.

Clearly any definition of the term covenant must allow for a broad latitude as the data of Scripture demands. Yet the very wholeness of the biblical history in being determined by God's covenant suggest an overarching oneness in the concept of the covenant.

What then is a covenant? How do you define the covenantal relation of God to His people?

A covenant is a bond in blood, sovereignly administered. When God enters into a covenantal relationship with men, he sovereignly institutes a life and death bond. A covenant is a bond in blood, or a bond of life and death, sovereignly administered. (p. 3-4)

WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

Song of Preparation

Amazing Grace! Trinity Hymnal #460 (vv. 1, 4, 3)

Call to Worship—Based on Psalm 23

- Leader: We come to worship and give thanks to the Lord our Guarding Shepherd.
- People: We come, because God quiets our fears and blesses us with a purpose.
- Leader: We come to sing our praises to the Lord who gives us strength after rest.
- People: We come, knowing that God sends us out again into life, after our times of refreshment.
- Leader: We come to worship the Lord, our Compassionate Shepherd, who blesses us by carrying us over the rough paths in the dark valley of suffering.
- People: We come to give thanks, knowing that we are blessed with a feast of God's overflowing grace!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD ***Songs of Adoration** Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

Trinity Hymnal #53 (vv. 1, 2, 4, 5)

*Prayer of Adoration

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

New Testament Reading—John 10:11-21

The Good Shepherd's Ministry Among His Sheep

"I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. He who is a hired hand and not a shepherd, who does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and flees, and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. He flees because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father; and I lay down my life for the sheep. And I have other sheep that are not of this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life that I may take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down, and I have authority to take it up again. This charge I have received from my Father."

There was again a division among the Jews because of these words. Many of them said, "He has a demon, and is insane; why listen to him?" Others said, "These are not the words of one who is oppressed by a demon. Can a demon open the eyes of the blind?"

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 John 3:16-18

By this we know love, that he laid down his life for us, and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers. But if anyone has the world's goods and sees his brother in need, yet closes his heart against him, how does God's love abide in him? Little children, let us not love in word or talk but in deed and in truth.

Silent Confession and Lament

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Isaiah 12:2

"Behold, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid; for the Lord God is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation."

Leader: People of God, give thanks to the Father for being our salvation!

People: Thanks be to God!

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

People: And also with you!

"I will not glory because I am righteous, but because I am redeemed; not because I am clear of sin, but because my sins are forgiven." — Ambrose

*Song of Rejoicing

We Will Say in That Day (Isaiah 12)

(Please join in singing when directed) Wendell Kimbrough



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Reception of New Members

Charles & Elizabeth Barker, James & Karen Broughton, Christen Chiles, Emily Givens, Dustin & Sarah Sweet, Levi & Chloe Wyse

Believer's Baptism

James Broughton, Emily Givens, and Dustin Sweet

Covenant Baptism

Hudson Samuel Sweet and Laken Lawrence Sweet

Song of Rejoicing

Nothing but the Blood Trinity Hymnal #307 (vv. 1, 4)

WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

Offertory Song (Ensemble) The Lord Is My Shepherd (Psalm 23) Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, and Tom Douglas. Arr. by Dan Galbraith

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

Sermon "God's Covenant with Abraham Part 1" Genesis 15:1-21 Rev. Chris Polski

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



*Song of Response

The Lord Is My Salvation

Kieth Getty, Kristyn Getty, Nathan Nockles and Jonas Myrin. Arr. by Dustin Loehrs





*Benediction

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ladies Connect this Monday at Sugar Creek Park at 7:30pm. Bring your lawn chair.

The **Tuesday Evening Women's Study** will meet THIS Tues. at 6:30pm for fellowship and coloring (bring your own dinner), followed by a study of the Book of James at 7pm (also available via Zoom).

Ladies, join us for a study, Women of the Word-how to study the Bible with both our hearts and minds. We meet Wednesdays, either at 9am at Trinity or 7pm via Zoom (see weekly email for Zoom link). Pick up a schedule on the Welcome Table.

NO Men's Bible Study this week.

1000 plus pastors and elders will be coming to St. Louis for **General** Assembly Jun. 28-Jul. 2. If you would like to **volunteer** to help serve, scan the QR code with your phone camera.



Sunday school for all ages meets today. Adults will gather in the sanctuary, the 5th-12th gr. will meet in the lower level youth rooms, and the elementary students will split up to allow room for social distancing. After the service, the 2nd-4th grade will head out to the playground, and the prek-1st grade will head to the 3rd-5th grade classroom. 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).

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.

VBS

The King is Coming! Our prayer is that through VBS this year, children who are believers can be encouraged to learn that Christ is returning to gather his saints from this fallen world, and that those who don't know him will receive him because his return is imminent. Children pre-k through 5th grade are invited to join the fun July 19-23 from 5:30-7:30pm. There will be skits, Bible lessons, crafts, games, and more! Sign up today by scanning the QR code.



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