

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

January 23, 2022



314-821-7311 | info@trinitystlouis.org

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WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO REIGNS OVER ALL

Liturgist: Matt Pannkuk

Scripture Reader: Cheryl Poe

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Ron Ridderbos

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Quotes and Reflections

For God is the King of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm! God reigns over the nations; God sits on his holy throne. — Psalm 47:7-8

"Here is a fundamental difference between the man of faith and the man of unbelief. The unbeliever is 'of the world', judges everything by worldly standards, views life from the standpoint of time and sense, and weighs everything in the balances of his own carnal making. But the man of faith brings in God, looks at everything from His standpoint, estimates values by spiritual standards, and views life in the light of eternity. Doing this, he receives whatever comes as from the hand of God. Doing this, his heart is calm in the midst of the storm. Doing this, he rejoices in hope of the glory of God."

— Arthur W. Pink, The Sovereignty of God

"There is no such thing as a great man of God, only weak, pitiful, faithless men of a great and merciful God." — Paul Washer

WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

Preparation for Worship- From Tabletalk (Dec. 27, 2007)

Affirming the biblical understanding of election is not usually a way to win many friends. Most Christians are shocked that anyone could believe God's choice determines who will be saved. Others scratch their heads when Reformed believers get excited and promote the Lord's sovereignty over all things. After all, what is the practical relevance of the doctrines of election and providence?

We ought not fault Christians who reject Reformed theology because they have heard it only from overbearing Calvinists. Nevertheless, we confess wholeheartedly that our Creator's sovereignty is the most "practical" of all doctrines, as today's passage reveals.

Joseph assures his brothers of his pardon, stating the lesson his life teaches us: God overrides the intents and deeds of wicked men to bring about good (Gen. 50:20). Or, "For those who love God all things work together for good, for those who are called according to his purpose" (Rom. 8:28). What the Lord does and allows is always good — because a good and praiseworthy end is always His goal, and He always accomplishes it. God blamelessly works concurrently with men, even in their evil events, to achieve an ultimate good.

We can only trust with confidence a Lord who controls everything. If He is unable to use wickedness to further His plan, then evil remains free from His rule, and we could never be sure of His final victory. Some say God only foresees human decisions without ordaining them, but Scripture never teaches this. Moreover, if the Lord only looks into a future in which He has not ordained all things, then there are "chance" events to come that He will have had no control over. How then is He God in any meaningful way? How, then, can He prevent those events He finds undesirable?

If the Lord is sovereign over all things, then every wicked event is in His plan, not because He loves evil, but because He wants to work through and against the sin to achieve a worthy end. Knowing that God does this enables us to fight the good fight of faith and stand against the forces of darkness. Nothing they do to us is outside of the Lord's will, and so they can never derail His good plan for us.

Ministry Moment

Thrive

Song of Preparation

Be Thou My Vision
Trinity Hymnal #642

Call to Worship—Psalm 18 (selected)

Leader: We love you, O Lord, our strength.

People: The Lord is our rock and our fortress and our deliverer, our God, our rock, in whom we take refuge!

Leader: We call upon the Lord, who is worthy to be praised, and we are saved from our enemies.

People: The Lord lives, and blessed be our rock, and exalted be the God of our salvation!

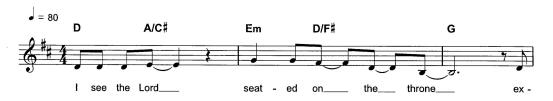
All: For this we will praise you, O Lord, among the nations, and sing to your name.

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

*Songs of Adoration O Worship the King

Trinity Hymnal #2

I See the Lord Chris Falson

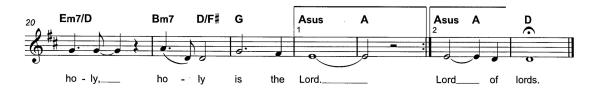












*Prayer of Adoration

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Reading—Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-12

Ezra Reads the Law

And all the people gathered as one man into the square before the Water Gate. And they told Ezra the scribe to bring the Book of the Law of Moses that the Lord had commanded Israel. So Ezra the priest brought the Law before the assembly, both men and women and all who could understand what they heard, on the first day of the seventh month. And he read from it facing the square before the Water Gate from early morning until midday, in the presence of the men and the women and those who could understand. And the ears of all the people were attentive to the Book of the Law... And Ezra opened the book in the sight of all the people, for he was above all the people, and as he opened it all the people stood. And Ezra blessed the Lord, the great God, and all the people answered, "Amen, Amen," lifting up their hands. And they bowed their heads and worshiped the Lord with their faces to the ground...The Levites, helped the people to understand the Law, while the people remained in their places. They read from the book, from the Law of God, clearly, and they gave the sense, so that the people understood the reading.

And Nehemiah, who was the governor, and Ezra the priest and scribe, and the Levites who taught the people said to all the people, "This day is holy to the Lord your God; do not mourn or weep." For all the people wept as they heard the words of the Law. Then he said to them, "Go your way. Eat the fat and drink sweet wine and send portions to anyone who has nothing ready, for this day is holy to our Lord. And do not be grieved, for the joy of the Lord is your strength." So the Levites calmed all the people, saying, "Be quiet, for this day is holy; do not be grieved." And all the people went their way to eat and drink and to send portions and to make great rejoicing, because they had understood the words that were declared to them.

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—John 3:1-6

Now there was a man of the Pharisees named Nicodemus, a ruler of the Jews. This man came to Jesus by night and said to him, "Rabbi, we know that you are a teacher come from God, for no one can do these signs that you do unless God is with him." Jesus answered him, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born again he cannot see the kingdom of God." Nicodemus said to him, "How can a man be born when he is old? Can he enter a second time into his mother's womb and be born?" Jesus answered, "Truly, truly, I say to you, unless one is born of water and the Spirit, he cannot enter the kingdom of God. That which is born of the flesh is flesh, and that which is born of the Spirit is spirit.

Silent Confession and Lament

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—1 Cor. 15:19-22

If in Christ we have hope in this life only, we are of all people most to be pitied. But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. For as by a man came death, by a man has come also the resurrection of the dead. For as in Adam all die, so also in Christ shall all be made alive.

Leader: Church of the Lord Jesus Christ, give thanks to God for making us alive in 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

Christ Our Hope in Life and Death

Keith Getty, Jordan Kauflin Matt Papa, Matt Boswell, & Matthew Merker



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 (Please join when directed)

You Are With Me

Sandra McCracken and Leslie Jordan



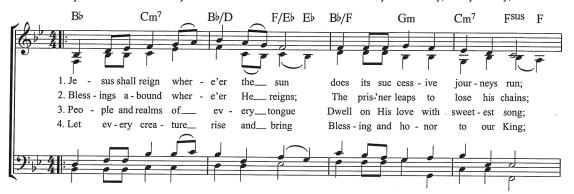
Sermon

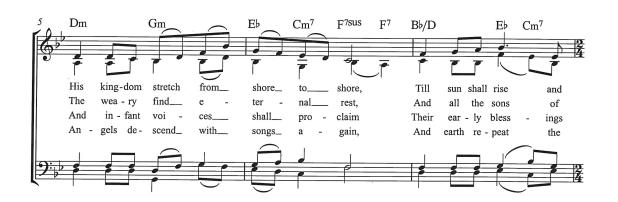
"The Dreamer" Genesis 37:1-11 Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

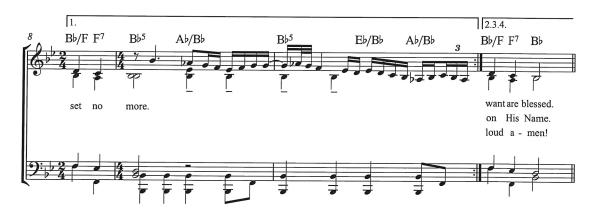
*Song of Response

Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun

Words by Isaac Watts. Music by John Hatton. Chorus Words and Music by Keith Getty, Kristyn Getty, and Ed Cash







*Benediction

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday school classes will resume on Jan. 30th.

Ladies Connect this Monday at 7:30pm at Mickie Schmidt's.

Men's Bible Study will resume on Feb. 2nd and 4th. Pastor Polski will be leading a study of 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 (next gathering: Jan. 25th). The Wednesday studies will resume on Jan. 26th (9am and 6pm) with a look at the Book of Daniel.

ACTION bible studies and children's ministries will resume THIS Wed. If you would like to register for the Chik-fil-a dinner, you must do so on Church Center by Tues. at 10am (or see Amy at the Welcome Table after church).

Kid's Connect: Feb 12th from 9am-11am. This class is for kids who have an understanding of their faith in Jesus and are ready to join the Church as communing members. We generally ask that students be 3rd grade or above, but we do make exceptions for 1st and 2nd graders. Please contact Pastor Ben to sign up or if you have questions.

Save the Date: Trinity's youth are hosting a **Trivia Night** on Friday, Feb. 25th. Proceeds will help cover summer trips.

Join a Small Group! Sign up on Church Center.

Camp Strong, for students in 4-6th grade will take place April 22-24. Registration will open on Mar. 1st. More info to come.

Volunteers next week: Nursery: Bava, McCall, Jorgensen, Boeddeker, SS: Harlow, Bava. Ushers: S. Thomason, Younger, Standerfer, Kocker. Scripture Reader: P. Nichols. 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>:



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday school classes for all ages will resume on Jan. 30th. The adults will have three class options:

- The Gospel of Matthew- Ruling elders Jim Talent and Fielding Poe
- Called to Worship- Pastor Polski and Katie Polski, Director of Music Ministries
- The Heart of Evangelism-Pablo Rosales, Director of Outreach

Upcoming Adult Sunday School

The Gospel of Matthew

Ruling Elders Jim Talent and Fielding Poe Classroom One

This eleven-week class (which may continue into the Spring Semester) seeks to provide an in-depth study of the book of Matthew by addressing the text and various key doctrines that emerge from its study toward the goal of helping church members develop a deeper and firmer understanding of the fundamentals of the faith while also providing encouragement and instruction for those who may be interested in leading their own bible studies in the future. The ultimate goal is that all who take part will come away with a renewed appreciation for the King of Kings!

The Heart of Evangelism

Pablo Rosales, Director of Outreach Classroom Two

Every believer is called and sent. We are called by the grace of God to turn from our sin and live through Christ into eternity. That is the good news; that is the Gospel. Then we are sent to proclaim that very simple message. But how do we do that? A lot of us feel unequipped, and if we're honest, timid, about such a task. Join us as we consider not only the heart of the Sender, but our own hearts as those who are sent. We will explore the Great Commission, the Great Message, the Great Sender, reluctance and barriers to communicating, and making the Gospel known.

Called to Worship-Exploring Worship at Trinity Church

Rev. Dr. Chris Polski and Katie Polski, Director of Music Ministries Fireplace Room

Have you ever wondered about why we worship the way we do or how worship gets planned or how we sort out which songs to sing and when? Join us for an eight-week exploration of worship. We will review the biblical parameters of worship, delve deeply into the way that worship is formed, and walk through some of the controversial issues surrounding worship. We may even spend some time singing.

| 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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