

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

March 27, 2022 Fourth Sunday of Lent

WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO BLESSES HIS PEOPLE

Liturgist: Aaron Goldstein

Scripture Reader: Lyn Moffitt

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Chris Freeman

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Quotes and Reflections

It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion! For there the Lord has commanded the blessing, life forevermore. — Psalm 133:3

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

As we come to worship today, let me ask you a question: How are you turning God's blessings of you out on other people?

As we will see in today's passage, Joseph was the means of great blessing in the lives of his family, and even the world. Jacob, in his dying moments extends blessings to his children. Both of these men acknowledge that they do it because it's what the Lord has done for them.

The doxology (quoted on previous page) reminds us that it is from God that "all blessings flow." Those blessings flow from Him to us! We are the recipients of that never ending stream of blessings! Unfortunately, instead of being blessed-blessers, we far too often focus our attention on the things we feel we are lacking or the areas in which we feel deficient, those areas where we don't feel blessed.

But what if we took this week to consider one special way that we could pass along the heart of one of God's great blessings in our own lives, to another person?

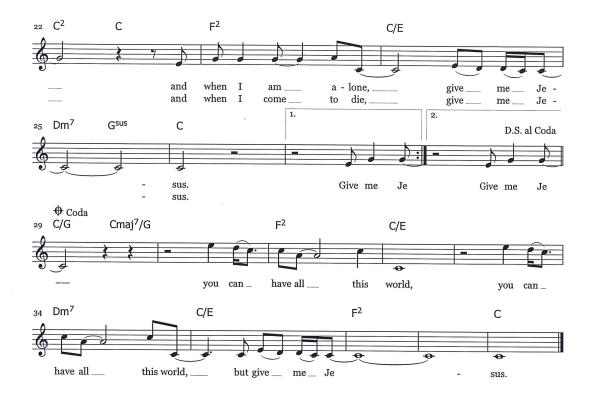
How? Prayerfully review your life for one of the ways that God has blessed you and then ask Him to show you how to leverage that blessing into the life of another person. Aim to be a blessed-blesser and see what the Lord might do in the midst of that process this week.

Song of Preparation

Give Me Jesus

African American Spiritual. Arr. by Fernando Ortega





Call to Worship—Psalm 65 (selected)

Leader: Praise is due to you, O God, in Zion, and to you shall vows be performed.

People: O you who hear prayer, to you shall all flesh come.

Leader: When iniquities prevail against me, you atone for our transgressions.

People: Blessed is the one you choose and bring near, to dwell in your courts!

All: We shall be satisfied with the goodness of your house, the holiness of your temple!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

*Songs of Adoration

Praise the Savior, Now and Ever

Venantius Fortunatus, ca. 530-609. Tr. by Augustus Nelson, 1863-1949



Goodness of God

Words and Music by Jenn Johnson, Ed Cash, Jason Ingram, Ben Fielding, and Brian Johnson





*Prayer of Adoration

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

New Testament Reading—2 Corinthians 5:14-21

If anyone is in Christ, they are a new creation!

For the love of Christ controls us, because we have concluded this: that one has died for all, therefore all have died; and he died for all, that those who live might no longer live for themselves but for him who for their sake died and was raised. From now on, therefore, we regard no one according to the flesh. Even though we once regarded Christ according to the flesh, we regard him thus no longer. Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, he is a new creation. The old has passed away; behold, the new has come. All this is from God, who through Christ reconciled us to himself and gave us the ministry of reconciliation; that is, in Christ God was reconciling the world to himself, not counting their trespasses against them, and entrusting to us the message of reconciliation. Therefore, we are ambassadors for Christ, God making his appeal through us. We implore you on behalf of Christ, be reconciled to God. For our sake he made him to be sin who knew no sin, so that in him we might become the righteousness of God.

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—Luke 15:1-3

Now the tax collectors and sinners were all drawing near to hear him. And the Pharisees and the scribes grumbled, saying, "This man receives sinners and eats with them." So he told them this parable: "What man of you, having a hundred sheep, if he has lost one of them, does not leave the ninety-nine in the open country, and go after the one that is lost, until he finds it? And when he has found it, he lays it on his shoulders, rejoicing. And when he comes home, he calls together his friends and his neighbors, saying to them, 'Rejoice with me, for I have found my sheep that was lost.' Just so, I tell you, there will be more joy in heaven over one sinner who repents than over ninety-nine righteous persons who need no repentance."

Silent Confession and Lament

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Psalm 32:1-2

Blessed is the one whose transgression is forgiven, whose sin is covered. Blessed is the man against whom the Lord counts no iniquity, and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

Leader: Christian, give thanks to God for not counting our sin

against us!

People: Thanks be to God!

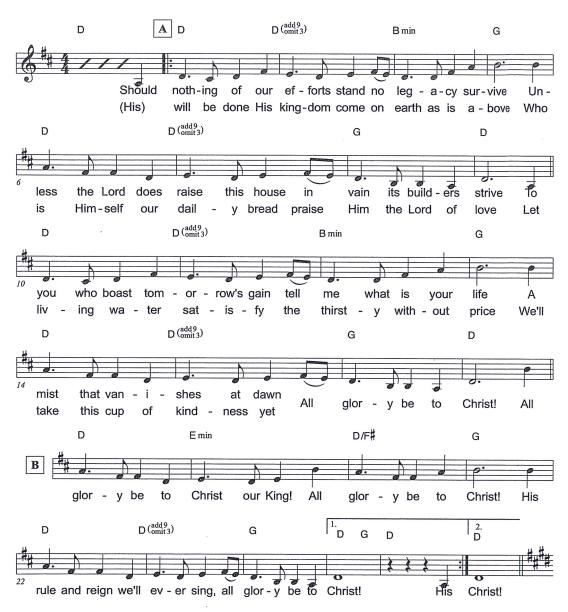
Leader: Now may the peace of Christ be with you all!

People: And also with you!

Song of Rejoicing

All Glory Be To Christ

Words and Arrangement by Dustin Kensrue





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 (Ensemble)

King of Love

Henry Williams Baker, Jonathan Smith, Stuart Garrard, Matthew Hein, Adam Palmer, and Stephanie Kulla

Sermon

"Blessings" Genesis 48:1-49:27 Rev. Dr. Chris Polski

*Song of Response

Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing
Trinity Hymnal #457

UPCOMING EVENTS

Sunday school classes for all ages meet today. The adults will have a combined class today in the sanctuary. Oasis International founders and directors, Mark and Joani Akers, will be joining us and sharing about ways we can come alongside refugees here in St. Louis.

Men's Bible Study: this Wed. at 6pm or Fri. at 6:30am. 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: 4/12). The Wednesday studies meet weekly (9am and 6pm) with a look at the Book of Daniel.

ACTION bible studies and children's ministries meet this Wed. If you would like to register for the Chick-fil-A dinner, you must do so on Church Center by Tues. at 10am or email Amy Mitchell.

Join a Small Group! Sign up on Church Center.

Camp Strong, for students in 4-6th grade will take place April 22-24. Registration is now open. See Pastor Ben for more info.

Holy Week: Maundy Thursday, Apr. 14th at 6pm (please use the QR code to the right to register). Good Friday devotion time, Apr. 15th open from 7:30am to 7:30pm, Easter Services: Apr. 17th at 7am and 9:30am.

Church Work Day: Make plans to help us out on Sat., Apr. 9th at 9am as we care for our chuch home.

Volunteers next week: Nursery: Poe, Williamson, Akin, Garner. SS: Oehlerking. Ushers: Oehlerking, Moen, Smith, Broughton. Scripture Reader: Roberts. 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>:



MAUNDY THURSDAY

Make plans to join us on Apr. 14th at 6pm as we share a meal, followed by the Lord's Supper and a time of worship and reflection. You must register by the end of TODAY so we can make preparations. There is no chilcare, but we welcome families to take part! Sign up here:

MISSION UPDATE

Today we welcome Oasis International founders, Mark and Joani Akers. Together they have spent the last several decades serving families seeking refuge right here in the greater St. Louis area. Founded in 1989, Oasis was birthed out of a desire to live out their faith in Jesus in very practical ways by loving and welcoming our new neighbors who often arrive with very little.

After spending nearly two decades on staff at a local church and traveling the globe delivering aid and hope to thousands, God opened their eyes to the Nations streaming into our own city. One day Mark visited a newly settled Ethiopian family in town only to discover they were sleeping on the hardwood floor. That day began a journey toward a brand new, and much-needed, ministry to provide refugees with the fresh start they desperately need. In 2006, they purchased a property in South St. Louis City where they welcome and serve refugees year-round. Together they have served over 50 nations here in St. Louis through Oasis International.

Please stay after our Worship Service to hear about their heart for immigrants and refugees, and how we can be prepared to serve them.

Here are some of the service opportunities (from their website):

- Childcare for families learning English
- Teaching English as a Second Language (ESL)
- Furniture deliveries
- Hosting baby showers
- Transportation assistance
- Building projects at Outreach events

For more information on getting involved with this local ministry, visit them at www.oasis4refugees.org/get-involved.

To donate furniture, or financially, visit www.oasis4refugees.org/donate or scan the QR code here:



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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