

## **TRINITY CHURCH**

### — KIRKWOOD –

2 CORINTHIANS 4:5

May 1, 2022



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# WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO CALLS US HIS CHILDREN

Liturgist: Aaron Goldstein Scripture Reader: Glynn Schlitt Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Fielding Poe

#### Prelude

#### Welcome and Announcements

#### **Quotes and Reflections**

"You sum up the whole of the New Testament religion if you describe it as knowledge of God as one's holy father. If you want to judge how well a person understands Christianity, find out how much he makes of the thought of being God's child, and having God as his Father. If this is not the thought that prompts and controls his worship and prayers and his whole outlook on life, it means that he does not understand Christianity very well at all. For everything that Christ taught, everything that makes the New Testament new, and better than the Old, everything that is distinctively Christian as opposed to merely Jewish, is summed up in the knowledge of the Fatherhood of God. "Father" is the Christian name for God." — J.I. Packer, *Knowing God* 

WSC Q. 20. Did God leave all mankind to perish in the estate of sin and misery?A. God, having out of his mere good pleasure, from all eternity, elected some to everlasting life, did enter into a covenant of grace to deliver them out of the estate of sin and misery, and to bring them into an estate of salvation by a Redeemer.

"God is dead. God remains dead. And we have killed him. How shall we comfort ourselves, the murderers of all murderers? What was holiest and mightiest of all that the world has yet owned has bled to death under our knives: who will wipe this blood off us? What water is there for us to clean ourselves? What festivals of atonement, what sacred games shall we have to invent? Is not the greatness of this deed too great for us? Must we ourselves not become gods simply to appear worthy of it?" — Friedrich Nietzsche

## WE READY OURSELVES FOR WORSHIP

Excerpt from "Loved by the Father in the Son" Ligonier.com

When Jesus says He has shown His glory to His disciples for the purpose of their unity, He is really saying that He has revealed the truth of God to them for the sake of their oneness (John 17:22). Christian unity, therefore, must be grounded in truth, particularly the truth of God as He has revealed Himself in Christ.

When such unity occurs, Jesus says the world will know that God has loved His people just as He has loved His Son (v. 23). This verse tells us, incredibly, that the Father loves us with the same perfect, eternal love with which He loves the Son. If we are in Christ, God cannot stop loving us, for He cannot stop loving His Son. We are secure in His grace forever, for His love for us cannot end."

It is the love of God that caused Him to send His Son to rescue us from the depths of our own sins. His fatherly love pursued us into a distant country through His Son, Jesus. He did this so that you would be His child. He did this so that you would be united in Christ with brothers and sisters from every tribe, tongue, and nation.

Sadly, there are people in our lives who are not children of God. Even though the culture tells us, "We are all God's children," the Bible makes clear that we have divorced ourselves from our creator by our own sins. However, He calls us to come home. He calls us to become his children. He promises us an inheritance far greater than we could ever have in this world. He calls us to become heirs. Have you come home? Have you returned to the Father's love? Are you a child of God as defined by the Father in Scripture? Or do you remain in a distant country?

Take time this week to thank the Father for showing us the way home through Jesus. He is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and no one comes to the Father but through Him (John 14:6). Also, take time to grieve and pray for those who are still "a long way off." The Father longs to embrace and kiss prodigal children.

Song of Preparation

#### \*Call to Worship—Psalm 103:8-13

- Leader: The Lord is merciful and gracious, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.
- People: He will not always chide, nor will he keep his anger forever.
- Leader: He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.
- People: For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
- Leader: As far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.
- All: As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear him.

# WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD **\*Songs of Adoration**Holy, Holy, Holy!

Trinity Hymnal #100

Across the Lands



## WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD New Testament Reading—Revelation 21:1-7

The New Heavens and the New Earth

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth, for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband. And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "Behold, the dwelling place of God is with man. He will dwell with them, and they will be his people, and God himself will be with them as their God. He will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning, nor crying, nor pain anymore, for the former things have passed away."

And he who was seated on the throne said, "Behold, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this down, for these words are trustworthy and true." And he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give from the spring of the water of life without payment. The one who conquers will have this heritage, and I will be his God and he will be my son."

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 20:24-25

Now Thomas, one of the twelve, called the Twin, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see in his hands the mark of the nails, and place my finger into the mark of the nails, and place my hand into his side, I will never believe."

#### Silent Confession and Lament

#### Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—John 20:26-29

Eight days later, his disciples were inside again, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were locked, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here, and see my hands; and put out your hand, and place it in my side. Do not disbelieve, but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have believed."

Leader: Christian, give thanks to God for revealing himself to us!

#### People: Thanks be to God!

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

#### People: And also with you!



## 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

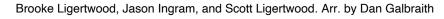
"God the Father" The second in a series on *The Foundations of the Christian Faith* Luke 15:11-24 Pablo Rosales

How has God revealed Himself as God the Father?

- I. Through Creation
- II. Through Chronicles
- III. Through Christ

#### \*Song of Response

King of Kings



Kings.

of



maj - es - ty, praise for - ev - er to the King

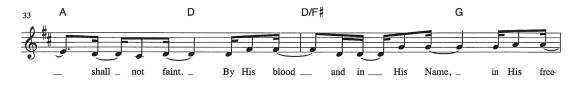














## THE SERVICE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

#### \*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. Bread is gluten and nut free)

**Communion Song** (Ensemble)

He Is Among Us

Orlando Palmer, Isaac Wardell, Paul Zach, Jon Swinton, Andy Piercy

Prayer of Thanksgiving

\*Sending Song

Doxology Trinity Hymnal #731

\*Benediction

## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Sunday school classes for all ages today.** No Sunday school next week.

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 at 7pm (next gathering: 5/10) to discuss the Sermon on the Mount. The Wed. 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 Jimmy John's dinner, you must do so on Church Center by Tues. at 10am.

**Student Ministry midweek studies** meet on Wednesday nights. Jr High, meets from 6-7pm. Sr High, meets 7-8:30pm. Students are invited to join us for a time of fun, fellowship, and discussion. For more information contact Pastor Ben.

**Men's Night:** This Wed. at 7:30pm at Chris Freeman's.

**VBS: registration is now open** for this Summer's VBS, July11-15 from 6-7:30pm for kids pre-k through 5th gr. Register on Church Center.

**Volunteers next week: Nursery**: Nichols, Wyse, Oehlerking, Younger. **Ushers**: Roberts, Maglione, Wong, O'Neal.

**Missionaries, Hatem and Lisa Botros** will be in St. Louis with their two children Jul. 18-Aug. 31st. They are looking for a place to stay during that time. Please contact the church office if you are able to help.

**OASIS Coffee:** Oasis has partnered with Cherry Street Roasters in Illinois to provide a smooth, Fairtrade Sumatra bean coffee. Bags of coffee are available to purchase directly from our new coffee area through the QR code. ALL of the proceeds go directly to support Oasis' work with newly-arriving refugees right here in St. Louis.

Officer **nominations for elder or deacon** can be filled out here through May 29, 2022:



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>:



## MOMS

Moms of littles, looking for a night out or encouragement from other moms who have faced the joys and struggles of parenting? Join us TOMORROW night at Rosalita's in Des Peres at 6:30pm. Once a month a group also gets together in someone's home for a Taco Night. The next one is May 16th at 6:30pm at Alyce Bava's. Reach out to Alyce for more details about either of these events or to learn more about our growing mom's ministry.

## YOUTH & ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL

**Jr High Sunday Schoo**l, grades 6th-8th, meet downstairs in room LL4. This spring the Jr. High are going through a study on Prayer.

**Sr. High Sunday School**, (9th-12th), meet downstairs in room LL1. The Sr. High are going through a study of the book of Daniel.

#### The Essential Truths of the Christian Faith

Rev. Dr. Chris Polski Classroom Two

Beginning this Sunday and continuing through the summer, we will be embarking on a new preaching series entitled, The Essential Truths of the Christian Faith. Alongside of this preaching series we will be hosting a Sunday school that continues on with the theological themes covered in each week's sermon.

Why take the time to do a preaching series on theology?

Because basic theological understanding is eroding in modern Christianity and with it, an ability to clearly articulate the reasons why the gospel is so compelling. Theology, as John Frame says, is "applying scripture to life!" To that end we not only want you to better understand the various doctrines of the Christian faith, but to realize their significance for Christian living and their value in evangelism.

So please join us as we dialogue about the application of the doctrine covered in each week's sermon.

#### 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!

## MISSION UPDATE

#### **Medical Mission**

Cheryl Crocker is a medical missionary, who Trinity supports through your generous giving. In March she traveled to the Philippines with a medical team and served alongside 4 Lighthouse Presbyterian Church plants. She writes, "It has been so special to walk alongside these pastors and congregations as they seek to fulfill the vision of planting covenantal, reformed churches all throughout the Philippines."

She was also able to spend two nights and three days "retreating" at Ang Bahay Parola Staff retreat. "It has been a very difficult two years for them as they have taken care of the boys and girls under their care!" The staff went through lockdown for years with 25 boys and 25 girls. The staff has sacrificed so much to love these children. It was a much need retreat for them.

If you would like to continue to support this ministry or want more information, please visit: https://mtw.org/missionaries/details/cheryl-crocker or scan the QR code here:

#### Local Mission Update – BBQ at Oasis International

Registration for our BBQ is now open! Please join us as we host a BBQ for refugees and immigrants at Oasis International on **May 21**. This is an opportunity to welcome, serve, and bless, a growing population in St. Louis. Trinity will be providing burgers and hot dogs, as well as fun activities for the family. We are open to any ideas (like arts and crafts, face painting, etc.) Please let us know what ideas you have and your willingness to participate in them.

We will need a minimum of 30 adult/teen volunteers to help set up tables and chairs, and have fun. **We will also need a "Grill Master."** Is this you? There can only be one, but I guess we can make room for an "ASSISTANT Grill Master." If you want the title, you *must* indicate so in the registration. Only the first and second to claim the title will get it. The "Grill Master" (and assistant...and maybe an assistant to the assistant) will be **announced May 8** during our morning announcements. Don't wait!

Sign up to volunteer 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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