

Christ
THE
LORD

I AM THE TRUE VINE
JOHN 15:1-8



TRINITY
Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP | Sunday, December 29, 2019

Listening devices are available for the hearing impaired.

Please speak with a greeter or visit the sound booth upstairs for a listening device.

SONG OF GATHERING & PREPARATION

The people of God always sang as they ascended the hill in Jerusalem up to the temple to worship (see Psalms 120-134). We, as well, prepare our hearts, minds, and bodies for worship by singing about the God we serve.

In Christ Alone

CALL TO WORSHIP | Galatians 5:22-25 (ESV)

We read God's Word, the Bible, together. It reveals to us who God is and what He expects of us.

But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, self-control; against such things there is no law. And those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the flesh with its passions and desires. If we live by the Spirit, let us also keep in step with the Spirit.

PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION | John Tucker

We pray together praising God for who He really is (Adoration) and admitting our inability to live up to what He expects of us (Confession).

ASSURANCE OF PARDON | Psalm 16:1-2, 5 & 8-11 (ESV)

We read God's Word together and are reminded that mercy and grace are freely given to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.

Preserve me, O God, for in you I take refuge. I say to the LORD, "You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you." ... The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot. ... I have set the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be shaken. Therefore my heart is glad, and my whole being rejoices; my flesh also dwells secure. For you will not abandon my soul to Sheol, or let your holy one see corruption. You make known to me the path of life; in your presence there is fullness of joy; at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace for us in Jesus by giving generously to the work of this church and the kingdom of God.

Abide With Me

PRAISE & CELEBRATION

Our response to God's free grace is celebratory worship. We express our praise to God for who He is and what He has done for us.

Rescue

God With Us

CONFESSION OF FAITH

As an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ in solidarity with his people, we declare the substance of what we believe.

From the New City Catechism:

Q. 52. What hope does everlasting life hold for us?

A. It reminds us that this present fallen world is not all there is; soon we will live with and enjoy God forever in the new city, in the new heaven and the new earth, where we will be fully and forever freed from all sin and will inhabit renewed, resurrection bodies in a renewed, restored creation.

KIDS' WORSHIP DISMISSAL

Infants - Kindergarten are dismissed. Please see your child's check-in name tag for class assignment.

GREETING

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION | John Tucker

We express in prayer our gratitude to God for what He has done and ask Him to continue to act for our good and the good of others in our community and world.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD | Tim Rice, Lead Pastor & Director of Church Planting

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our lives and circumstances.

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING | Mercy Fund Offering

SONG OF RESPONSE

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace by singing again of His goodness and greatness.

The Way

BENEDICTION

Because the hand of God's wrath was raised against Jesus, we now receive the hand of God's blessing as we are sent out to live our lives to the glory of God.

May the LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD turn His face toward you and give you His peace,
both now and forevermore. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE & SERMON OUTLINE

Proclamation of God's Word

Text: John 15:1-8 (ESV)

Title: I AM the True Vine

Teacher: Tim Rice

¹ "I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. ² Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. ³ Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. ⁴ Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. ⁵ I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing. ⁶ If anyone does not abide in me he is thrown away like a branch and withers; and the branches are gathered, thrown into the fire, and burned. ⁷ If you abide in me, and my words abide in you, ask whatever you wish, and it will be done for you. ⁸ By this my Father is glorified, that you bear much fruit and so prove to be my disciples."

Intro: When did you last tend a plant? *How confident are you?*

LIFE IN THE VINE

Why do we believe that God is necessary *and* that we're created for dependence upon Him?

CUT OFF & LIFELESS

What has happened because of our own choices?

OUR SAVIOR WHO ABIDES

Why is it significant that Jesus takes on God's Covenant Name?

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...

1. Worship the LORD, our Creator as the Giver of Life. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit for how He has designed us for a life-giving relationship with Him, even when we have rebelled against Him.
2. How have you attempted to live independently from Jesus and His people? Confess your pride to Him and ask Him to forgive you and restore you from how you have shattered His design.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for being the Covenant-keeping God and Savior! Thank Him for being willing to be cut off in our place so that we could be given an unbreakable bond with Him, the Father and the Spirit.
4. Who do you know that lives independently? Pray for them, asking the Lord to persuade them of how much they truly need Him, and to soften their heart to receive what He has to give them.
5. Read the call to worship again (from Galatians 5). *Ask the Holy Spirit to grow you in wisdom about your own heart (how you're broken and foolish) and about His loving power (how His Spirit produces Christ-like character in you).*

