



T
H
E
R
E
T
U
R
N
O
F
C
H
R
I
S
T

1 THESSALONIANS

4:13-18



TRINITY
Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP | Sunday, May 3, 2020

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.

Who You Say I Am

CALL TO WORSHIP | Matthew 24:23-27 (ESV)

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

Then if anyone says to you, 'Look, here is the Christ!' or 'There he is!' do not believe it. For false christs and false prophets will arise and perform great signs and wonders, so as to lead astray, if possible, even the elect. See, I have told you beforehand. So, if they say to you, 'Look, he is in the wilderness,' do not go out. If they say, 'Look, he is in the inner rooms,' do not believe it. For as the lightning comes from the east and shines as far as the west, so will be the coming of the Son of Man.

PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

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 | Revelation 21:1-5 (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.

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."

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.

Because He Lives (Amen)

Christ Be Magnified

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.

The Apostle's Creed: I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, and born of the virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified dead and buried; He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION

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.

SONG OF RESPONSE

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

The Lion And The Lamb

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: 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18 (ESV)

Title: The Return of Christ

Teacher: Tim Rice

¹³ But we do not want you to be uninformed, brothers, about those who are asleep, that you may not grieve as others do who have no hope. ¹⁴ For since we believe that Jesus died and rose again, even so, through Jesus, God will bring with him those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁵ For this we declare to you by a word from the Lord, that we who are alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ Then we who are alive, who are left, will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air, and so we will always be with the Lord. ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Intro: What does the term "*beatific vision*" mean?

THE PROBLEM OF UNCHECKED EVIL

What if there was no ultimate reconciliation of everyone and everything?

THE REMEDY OF JESUS' RETURN

Why do we believe Jesus IS coming back?

THE FUTURE'S IMPACT, NOW

Therefore, how should we live?

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...

1. Worship the LORD for His true goodness and power to conquer evil. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, for already conquering death and hell in Christ, and His promised victory over all evil at Jesus' Return.
2. How have you lived in ignorance of how spiritual forces of evil are real, or in fear that they will overcome you? Confess your fear and unbelief asking Jesus to cleanse you and to secure you in His love and power.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for how He is trustworthy by what He has done and for what He has promised. Thank Him for already winning out over sin, death, Satan and hell, *and* for His guarantee that He is coming back for us!
4. Who do you know that is overwhelmed by suffering and evil? Read Revelation 21:1-5, and pray for them asking Jesus, the Lord Almighty, to give them peace in His rule and power.
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to give you insight into the certainty of Jesus' reign and future return. Pray for sobriety, perspective and hope under Jesus' rule while you continue to live faithfully for Him.

WELCOME TO TRINITY!

We're so glad you are here.

Please place completed tear-off in offering plate.

Name (Please Print) Gender Male Female

Spouse

Children (Include DOB for Children's Ministry)

Address

City/State

Country/Zip

Phone

E-mail Address

- First-Time Visitor Regular Attendee
- Member College Student
- Update my contact information

I would like to receive:

- Worship Folder & Announcement Emails

I would like information about:

- Children's Ministry New Member Class
- College Ministry Student Ministry
- Community Group Volunteering
- Men's Ministry Women's Ministry
- _____

Prayer

How can our staff pray for you?

Community Bible Reading

communitybiblereading.org

May 4 - 9, 2020

(3-year plan: read blue passages | 1-year plan: read all)

Monday	2 Corinthians 5 1 Chronicles 11	Exodus 39 Jeremiah 15
Tuesday	2 Corinthians 6 1 Chronicles 12	Exodus 40 Jeremiah 16
Wednesday	2 Corinthians 7 1 Chronicles 13	Leviticus 1 Jeremiah 17
Thursday	2 Corinthians 8 1 Chronicles 14	Leviticus 2 Jeremiah 18
Friday	2 Corinthians 9 1 Chronicles 15	Leviticus 3 Jeremiah 19
Saturday	Psalms 71	Psalms 19 Psalm 119:73-96

Scripture Memory for the Week:

1 Thessalonians 4:16 & 18 (ESV)

¹⁶ For the Lord himself will descend from heaven with a cry of command, with the voice of an archangel, and with the sound of the trumpet of God. And the dead in Christ will rise first. ... ¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

Communication

Register for events at trinitylakeland.org/events



Vacation Bible School (VBS) - Rocky Railway

July 13-16, 8:45a-12p

Contact [Callie Sandman](mailto:Callie.Sandman) if you are interested in volunteering.



High School Summer Camp

June 27 - July 2 **CANCELLED**

Contact [Brown Peterson](mailto:Brown.Peterson) for information.



Middle School Summer Camp

July 13-17 **CANCELLED**

Contact [Brown Peterson](mailto:Brown.Peterson) for information.

Office Hours:

Mon - Fri | 8:30a - 5:00p

301 N Florida Ave, Lakeland, FL 33801

863-603-7777 | trinitylakeland.org

