

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth.

Words for Reflection

The essence of sin is we human beings substituting ourselves for God, while the essence of salvation is God substituting himself for us. We put ourselves where only God deserves to be; God puts himself where we deserve to be.

– John Stott

Lent strips off layers of self-deception and self-defense that screen us from the Risen Christ.

- Peter Leithart

All fear is but the notion that God's love ends.

– Ann Voskamp

Order of Worship

The Third Sunday in Lent — March 23, 2025 —

The LORD Calls Us

God invites and calls us into His presence to worship Him. He enters into our busy lives to speak to us.

The Call to Worship

Oh come, let us sing to the Lord;

let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation! Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving;

let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise! For the Lord is a great God,

and a great King above all gods.

-Psalm 95:1-3 ESV

Hymn of Praise | Jesus, Everlasting King

We sing praises to God and proclaim through song the good news of what He has done in Jesus' death and resurrection. Some songs might be initially unfamiliar, but we believe the rich, true, beautiful words of these hymns will make their way into your heart.

Jesus, everlasting King, Accept the tribute which we bring; Accept the well-deserved renown, And wear our praises as your crown.

O send Your Spirit to impart Rest and repentance to our hearts, Like the dear hour when from above We first received Your pledge of love. (Chorus)

The gladness of redemption's day, Our hearts would wish it long to stay, Nor let your faith forsake its hold, Nor comforts sink, or love grow cold. (Chorus)

May every time of worship see Your grace revealed more rich and free Till we are raised to sing Your name At the great supper of the Lamb. (Chorus)

O that the months would roll away And bring the coronation day; The King of Grace shall fill the throne With all His Father's glories on. (Chorus)

Words: Isaac Watts, Matthew S. Smith; Music: Matthew S. Smith

Opening Prayer & Lord's Prayer

We ask for God to be present among us and conclude with the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray.

Our Father, Who art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Doxology

Doxology means "glory words." We lift our voices and our hands to give God glory for who He is and all that He has done.

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.

The LORD Cleanses Us

God cleanses and restores us through Jesus' death and resurrection. We fight the temptation to hide our sin and instead acknowledge it openly to God, but we do so in light of the grace that is ours in Jesus.

Confession of Sin

Almighty and Most Merciful Father,

We have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against Your holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done; and apart from Your grace, there is no health in us. O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare all those who confess their faults. Restore all those who are penitent, according to Your promises declared to all people in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake, that we may now live a godly, righteous, and sober life, to the glory of Your holy Name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

—Romans 5:1 ESV

Hymn of Response | By Thy Mercy

We respond in thanks and praise for God's redemptive work in Christ.

Jesus, Lord of life and glory, Bend from heaven thy gracious ear; While our waiting souls adore thee, Friend of helpless sinners, hear:

From the depth of nature's blindness, From the hardening power of sin, From all malice and unkindness, From the pride that lurks within,

By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord By thy mercy, O deliver us, good Lord, good Lord.

When temptation sorely presses, In the day of Satan's power, In our times of deep distresses, In each dark and trying hour.

When the world around is smiling, In the time of wealth and ease, Earthly joys our hearts beguiling, In the day of health and peace. (Chorus)

In the weary hours of sickness, In the times of grief and pain, When we feel our mortal weakness, When all human help is vain. In the solemn hour of dying, In the awful judgment day, May our souls, on thee relying, Find thee still our Rock and Stay. *(Chorus)*

Words: James John Cummins; Music: Greg Thompson

Confession of Faith | Philippians 2:5-11

We join the church in history by confessing this basic statement of what Christians believe.

Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, but emptied himself, by taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

The LORD Converses with Us

God speaks to us by His Word, and we respond with prayer, gratitude, and offerings.

The New Testament Lesson

Revelation 15:2-4

God speaks to us by His Word.

15:2 And I saw what appeared to be a sea of glass mingled with fire and also those who had conquered the beast and its image and the number of its name, standing beside the sea of glass with harps of God in their hands. **3** And they sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying, "Great and amazing are your deeds, O Lord God the Almighty! Just and true are your ways, O King of the nations! **4** Who will not fear, O Lord, and glorify your name? For you alone are holy. All nations will come and worship you, for your righteous acts have been revealed."

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

The Offering

In gratitude, we offer our gifts to God.

Children are now dismissed for TrinityKids (4 years old - 2nd Grade). After the sermon, their teachers will return them to worship where they will come to you or you may meet them in the Galveston foyer.

The Prayers of the People

We lift up our requests to God knowing that He hears us when we pray and conclude with a Lenten prayer that focuses on Jesus' suffering.

Heavenly Father, You have made us for Yourself, and our hearts are restless until they rest in You: Look with compassion upon the heartfelt desires of Your servants, and purify our disordered affections, that we may behold Your eternal glory in the face of Christ Jesus; who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

Vocational Prayer Focus: Service, Trades, & Industry Church Prayer Focus: Grace Community Presbyterian Church Mission Prayer Focus: Bradford Green & TCU RUF

The Reading of the Word

Ecclesiastes 5:1-7

God speaks to us by His Word.

5:1 Guard your steps when you go to the house of God. To draw near to listen is better than to offer the sacrifice of fools, for they do not know that they are doing evil. **2** Be not rash with your mouth, nor let your heart be hasty to utter a word before God, for God is in heaven and you are on earth. Therefore let your words be few. **3** For a dream comes with much business, and a fool's voice with many words.

4 When you vow a vow to God, do not delay paying it, for he has no pleasure in fools. Pay what you vow. **5** It is better that you should not vow than that you should vow and not pay. **6** Let not your mouth lead you into sin, and do not say before the messenger that it was a mistake. Why should God be angry at your voice and destroy the work of your hands? **7** For when dreams increase and words grow many, there is vanity; but God is the one you must fear.

Reader: The Word of the Lord. **People: Thanks be to God.**

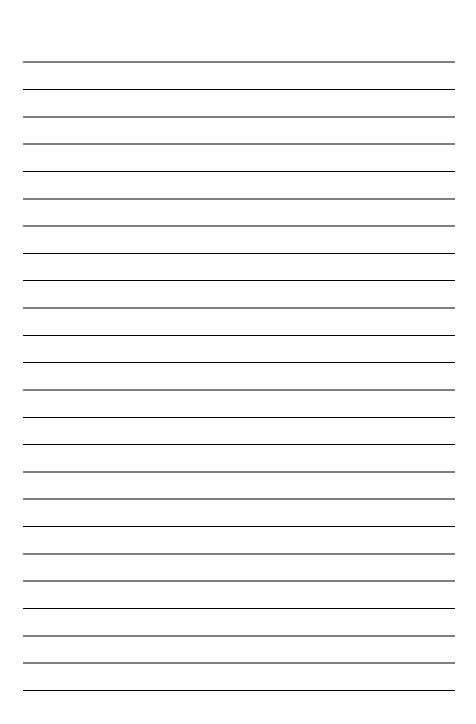
The Preaching of the Word

Rev. Bradford Green

Love and Fear

Sermon Notes

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The LORD Communes with Us

God invites us to feast with Him at His Table.

The Celebration of Holy Communion

Communion (also called the Lord's Supper or the Eucharist) is the family meal of baptized Christians. It's not a meal for good people. It's a meal for desperate people who trust in Jesus alone for salvation, who are at peace with God and with their neighbor, and who seek strength and grace to live more faithfully with Jesus. You will be invited to come forward. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal today, we encourage you to use the prayers printed below and spend this time in reflection or prayer.

Children who have not received their first communion are welcome to come forward with their families. We invite children who are ready to make a public profession of faith in Christ to arrange a meeting with the elders, and thus become "communicants" at the Lord's Table.

*Note about communion wine: We serve wine during communion. If you'd prefer non-alcoholic grape juice, please indicate by pointing at the tray.

Pastor:	The Lord be with you.
People:	And also with you.
Pastor:	Lift up your hearts!
People:	We lift them up to the Lord.
Pastor:	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People:	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Words of Institution

Pastor:	Let us proclaim the mystery of the faith:
People:	Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.
	Hallelujah!
Pastor:	Christ, our Passover, has been sacrificed for us.
	Hallelujah!
People:	Therefore, let us keep the feast.
Pastor:	The gifts of God for the people of God.

Prayers During Communion

A prayer for those searching for truth:

Lord Jesus, you claim to be the way, the truth, and the life. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open to me the reality of who you are. Give me the ability to follow you no matter what it might cost me. Give me an understanding for you that is coherent, convincing, and leads to the life that you promise. Amen.

A prayer of belief:

Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever believed, but through you, I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross and offering forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead and are now representing me at the Father's right hand in heaven, I turn from my sins and receive you as my savior. Amen.

A prayer for those struggling against sin:

Lord Jesus, give me the ability to see in you the fulfillment of all my needs and desires, and help me to turn from every false source of satisfaction to feed on you, the true and living bread. Enable me to lay aside the sin that clings so closely to me, and run with perseverance the race that you have set before me, looking only to you, the author and perfecter of my faith. Amen.

A prayer for covenant children who have not yet made a profession of faith:

Lord Jesus, thank you for giving me the opportunity to grow up in a Christian family where I am surrounded by the good news of the gospel. Help me to grow in my understanding of who you are and what you have done for me on the cross. Help me learn what it means for me to turn from my sins and trust in you alone for my salvation. Teach me what it means to follow you as one of your disciples. Amen.

Hymns for Communion

Jesus, Cast a Look on Me Jesus, cast a look on me, Give me sweet simplicity Make me poor and keep me low, Seeking only Thee to know

All that feeds my busy pride, Cast it evermore aside Bid my will to Thine submit, Lay me humbly at Thy feet.

Make me like a little child, Of my strength and wisdom spoiled Seeing only in Thy light, Walking only in Thy might.

Leaning on Thy loving breast, Where a weary soul can rest Feeling well the peace of God, Flowing from His precious blood.

> In this posture let me live, And hosannas daily give In this temper let me die, And hosannas ever cry!

Words: John Berridge; Music: Matthew Perryman Jones

How Long?

How long? Will You turn Your face away? How long? Do You hear us when we pray? On and on, still we walk this pilgrim way - How long?

How long 'til Your children find their rest? How long 'til You draw them to Your breast? We go on holding to Your promises - How long?

'Til You wipe away the tears from ev'ry eye 'Til we see our home descending from the sky Do we wait in vain? Jesus, give us hope again!

How long 'til Your word will still the storm? How long 'til You bare Your mighty arm? How we groan 'til You snatch us from the thorns - How long? (Chorus)

How long? Sweet the dawn that ends the race. How long? Weak our hearts but strong our legs. Looking on - great that cloud of witnesses! How long? *(Chorus)*

> Words: Samuel John Stone; Music: Brian Moss Music: Jean Sibelius

Life at Trinity

The LORD Commissions Us

God blesses us and sends us out to be a part of His mission to Fort Worth & the world.

Departing Hymn | Hail to the Lord's Anointed

We respond in faith and song. *Children are invited to come to the front to lead & sing. Parents are also welcome.

Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son! Hail in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free, To take away transgression, and rule in equity. *(Chorus)*

He comes with comfort speedy to those who suffer wrong, To help the poor and needy, and bid the weak be strong.

To give them songs for sighing, their darkness turn to light, Whose souls, condemned and dying, are precious in His sight. *(Chorus)*

He shall come down like showers upon the fruitful earth, Love, joy, and hope, like flowers, spring in His path to birth.

The tide of time shall never His covenant remove. His Name shall stand forever, That Name to us is Love. (Chorus)

Words: James Montgomery; Music: Sandra McCracken

The Benediction

God sends us out with his blessing. A benediction is not a prayer. We don't bow our heads. We lift them up and even lift up our hands to receive his blessing as we are sent out as participants in His mission to Fort Worth.

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

-Numbers 6:24-26 ESV

The Sending

The people of God are sent into the world to love God, love people, and love Fort Worth.

Pastor: Let us go forth to serve Fort Worth and the world as those who love our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

People: Thanks be to God!

Announcements

Men's Retreat

Registration is open! Our annual Men's Retreat will be held at the Lone Oak RV Ranch and Retreat Center in Gainesville, Texas, April 4 & 5. This event is an opportunity for men to "get away", sit under the preached word of God, enjoy some free time, and build relationships with other believers. This year's speaker will be Paul Hahn, Lead Pastor of Redeemer Presbyterian Church, San Antonio. Invite your friends! Find details and registration in the Church Center app.

Women's Retreat

Whether you are a visitor or long-time member to Trinity, our 2025 Women's Retreat is a great way to get to know other women while having fun, delicious food, and good teaching, too. The retreat is April 25 & 26 and our speaker is Karen Hodge who will share about "Gospel-Centered Friendship". The cost is \$85 but don't let cost prevent you from coming! Scholarships are available (contact Susan at susan@trinitypresfw.org). Although we are doing our retreat "staycation style," feel free to book a hotel room nearby to share with friends or maybe just for yourself & sleep in on Saturday morning! Register in the Church Center app.

DASH Night of Worship

After furnishing two new homes, we will be welcoming the whole DASH family to our church home for an International Night of Worship on Saturday, March 29. This is a beautiful evening celebrating the global church and worshipping our Lord along the sojourners in our city. It's a great event for the whole family!

Rivertree Academy Serve Saturday

Rivertree's next (and last!) Serve Saturday will be held on Saturday, April 5 from 9am to 1pm. And it is a big one! We need help cleaning out our storage building. Most of what is in storage is old and needs to be trashed, so we will have a large dumpster on site. This project will require heavy lifting as we will be moving things such as furniture, Christmas trees/decor, old curriculum, etc. For more details or to help, please email Abbie (abbie@rivertreeacademy.org).

Men's Spring Bible Study

Join us as we study Revelation this Spring. We have a Wednesday study from 12 -1pm (lunch provided) and a Thursday study from 6:30-7:30am (coffee provided) – both are in the Fellowship Hall. Please register in the Church Center app.

Women's Spring Bible Study

Many of us studied the messy women of Jesus's genealogy and how their stories fit into God's Big Story. Join us this Spring as we look at "the rest of the story" by studying Revelation. The morning study meets in the Fellowship Hall at Trinity from 9:30-11am. Childcare is provided. The evening study meets Wednesdays at Becky Burt's home, 7-8:30pm.

Young Adults

We're so glad you're here! Connect with us on the Church Center app to learn about ways to stay connected throughout the week. Contact: Jack (jacksonkassing@gmail.com) or Rebecca (rebecca.boswell17@gmail.com) for more info.

To the Parents of Young Children

Welcome! We are so glad you are here. We believe the church is for all people, even children, and we want Trinity to be a church where children are both seen and heard. So don't worry if your children wiggle in the pews or make a little noise! We invite you to keep your children in our service and help them understand what is going on, sing the songs with you, and participate in worship. Children learn how to worship by imitating you. We say parts of our worship service every week in order to help our non-reading children to participate, and we have children's bulletins available in the back. There are also ages, stages, and times when it might not be best for your children to be in worship. We have a nursery program that is set up to handle children from birth to 4 years old, and a TrinityKids program during the sermon for children 4 years old through 2nd grade. We also have a nursing mothers' room available off of the Fellowship Hall (basement level) if you need to nurse or change a diaper! All nursery volunteers have been through both background checks and Ministry Safe training. Parents often check their children out of the nursery and/or TrinityKids prior to Communion so that they can help lead us in our departing hymn.

The Liturgy

Our order of worship may be new to you. Every worship service in every church has a structure. We want to be intentional about ours as it is a real back-and-forth conversation between us and God. He calls us to worship, and then we respond and move through the different elements of the service. We have both spontaneous, personal prayers as well as ancient, printed prayers. Please look over the service beforehand to see what we will hear and say along the way.

Welcome Notepads

At some point during service, a welcome pad will be passed down your row. We would love for you to fill it out and pass it to the person on your right, so that we will have record of your visit. We promise we won't spam you.

Lost and Found

If you have misplaced something, please check our Lost & Found. It is located in a cabinet behind the Information Desk in the Fellowship Hall.

Online Giving

If you'd prefer to give online as either a one-time gift or as a recurring gift, you may do so through our website: <u>www.trinitypresfw.org/give</u>. Giving is seen only by the Deacon & the team in charge of counting the offering for that particular day and by our Church Administrator.

Church Office Hours

Our office is closed on Mondays and open Tuesday through Friday 9am – 4pm.

Christian Formation Classes/Rooms:

- 4s Room 116
- 5s/Kindergarten Room 214
- 1st/2nd Grades Room 215
- 3rd/4th Grades Room 217
- 5th/6th Grades Room 219
- Middle School Room 220
- High School Room 221
- Adult FH (Ten Commandments)

Church Contact Information

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Staff

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Trinity Presbyterian Church

Our Mission

Trinity exists to embrace, embody, and extend the redemptive message of Jesus to the people and places of Fort Worth and beyond.

Our Core Commitments

Trinity is a gospel-centered church committed to following Jesus by...

- Worshipping God together through historic liturgy that is rich, accessible, and emotionally honest
- Striving to know and be known in our life together
- Engaging in formative spiritual practices
- Extending the welcome of the gospel in word and deed
- Serving our city

Meeting Address: 207 West Broadway, Fort Worth, TX 76104 Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100754, Fort Worth, TX 76185 Web: <u>www.trinitypresfw.org</u> 682.703.2120

We are a congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).