



TRINITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth.

Words for Reflection

The gospel can divide a church just as easily as it might a family. But actually there's nothing more prone to stirring up mess than the grace of God that has arrived to create order.

- Jared Wilson

Christ is the cause of the greatest division, but he is also the medium of the greatest union.

- Charles Spurgeon

In whatever sins you wish to follow of your own will, [the Bible] says to you, 'Do not do that.' It is the enemy of your will until it becomes the assurance of your salvation. Oh, what an honest and helpful enemy!

- Augustine

Order of Worship

The Third Sunday of Easter

— May 4, 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

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

Oh sing to the LORD a new song;

sing to the LORD, all the earth!

Sing to the LORD, bless his name;

tell of his salvation from day to day.

Declare his glory among the nations,

his marvelous works among all the peoples!

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

—Psalm 96:1-3 ESV

Hymn of Praise | Christ, Our Hope in Life and Death

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.

What is our hope in life and death?

Christ alone, Christ alone.

What is our only confidence?

That our souls to Him belong.

Who holds our days within His hand?

What comes, apart from His command?

And what will keep us to the end?

The love of Christ, in which we stand.

O sing hallelujah!

Our hope springs eternal;

O sing hallelujah!

Now and ever we confess

Christ, our hope in life and death!

What truth can calm the troubled soul?

God is good, God is good.

Where is His grace and goodness known?

In our great Redeemer's blood.

Who holds our faith when fears arise?

Who stands above the stormy trial?

Who sends the waves that bring us nigh

Unto the shore, the rock of Christ? (Chorus)

Unto the grave, what shall we sing?
"Christ, he lives; Christ, He lives!"
And what reward will heaven bring?
Everlasting life with Him.

There we will rise to meet the Lord,
Then sin and death will be destroyed,
And we will feast in endless joy,
When Christ is ours forevermore. (Chorus 2x)

Words & Music: Keith Getty, Matt Boswell, Jordan Kauflin, Matt Merker, & Matt Papa

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

Most Merciful God,

We thank You that while we were dead in our trespasses and sins, You made us alive together with Christ. Yet we confess our reluctance to admit our need of Your grace. We would rather put forward the image of competence and self-sufficiency than admit our utter helplessness apart from You. We pray that by Your Spirit, You would enable us to turn from our sin and receive the forgiveness that Jesus alone can provide. We pray in his name. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Return to the LORD your God, for he is gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love; and he relents over disaster.

—Joel 2:13 ESV

Hymn of Response | He Will Hold Me Fast

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

When I fear my faith will fail, Christ will hold me fast;
When the tempter would prevail, He will hold me fast.
I could never keep my hold through life's fearful path;
For my love is often cold; He must hold me fast.

*He will hold me fast, He will hold me fast;
For my Savior loves me so, He will hold me fast.*

Those He saves are His delight, Christ will hold me fast;
Precious in his holy sight, He will hold me fast.
He'll not let my soul be lost; His promises shall last;
Bought by Him at such a cost, He will hold me fast.
(Chorus)

For my life He bled and died, Christ will hold me fast;
Justice has been satisfied; He will hold me fast.
Raised with Him to endless life, He will hold me fast
'Till our faith is turned to sight, When He comes at last!
(Chorus 2x)

Words: Ada Habershon & Matthew Merker; Music: Matthew Merker

Confession of Faith | Selections from 1 Corinthians 15

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

Dear Christians, let us remember what has been delivered to us as of first importance—the gospel which we received, in which we stand, by which we are being saved:

That Christ died for our sins, that he was buried, and that he was raised on the third day, all in accordance with the Scriptures; that he appeared to Peter, then to the twelve, and then to more than five hundred at one time; that he has been raised from the dead as the firstfruits of those who have fallen asleep. Just as we have borne the image of the man of dust, we shall also bear the image of the man of heaven. Death is swallowed up in victory! Therefore, let us be steadfast, immovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord our labor is not in vain.

The LORD Converses with Us

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

The Old Testament Lesson

Joel 2:1-13

God speaks to us by His Word.

2:1 Blow a trumpet in Zion; sound an alarm on my holy mountain! Let all the inhabitants of the land tremble, for the day of the LORD is coming; it is near, **2** a day of darkness and gloom, a day of clouds and thick darkness! Like blackness there is spread upon the mountains a great and powerful people; their like has never been before, nor will be again after them through the years of all generations. **3** Fire devours before them, and behind them a flame burns. The land is like the garden of Eden before them, but behind them a desolate wilderness, and nothing escapes them. **4** Their appearance is like the appearance of horses, and like war horses they run. **5** As with the rumbling of chariots, they leap on the tops of the mountains, like the crackling of a flame of fire devouring the stubble, like a powerful army drawn up for battle. **6** Before them peoples are in anguish; all faces grow pale. **7** Like warriors they charge; like soldiers they scale the wall. They march each on his way; they do not swerve from their paths. **8** They do not jostle one another; each marches in his path; they burst through the weapons and are not halted. **9** They leap upon the city, they run upon the walls, they climb up into the houses, they enter through the windows like a thief. **10** The earth quakes before them; the heavens tremble. The sun and the moon are darkened, and the stars withdraw their shining. **11** The LORD utters his voice before his army, for his camp is exceedingly great; he who executes his word is powerful. For the day of the LORD is great and very awesome; who can endure it?

12 "Yet even now," declares the LORD, "return to me with all your heart, with fasting, with weeping, and with mourning; **13** and rend your hearts and not your garments." Return to the LORD your God, for he is

gracious and merciful, slow to anger, and abounding in steadfast love;
and he relents over disaster.

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.

Keith & Debbie Kanavel

MTW Burkina Faso

Vocational Prayer Focus: Homemakers

Church Prayer Focus: Christ the Redeemer Anglican

Mission Prayer Focus: Graham & Sarah Purcell – MTW Russia

The Reading of the Word

Luke 12:49-59

God speaks to us by His Word.

12:49 "I came to cast fire on the earth, and would that it were already kindled! **50** I have a baptism to be baptized with, and how great is my distress until it is accomplished! **51** Do you think that I have come to give peace on earth? No, I tell you, but rather division. **52** For from now on in one house there will be five divided, three against two and two against three. **53** They will be divided, father against son and son against father, mother against daughter and daughter against mother, mother-in-law against her daughter-in-law and daughter-in-law against mother-in-law."

54 He also said to the crowds, "When you see a cloud rising in the west, you say at once, 'A shower is coming.' And so it happens. **55** And when you see the south wind blowing, you say, 'There will be scorching heat,' and it happens. **56** You hypocrites! You know how to interpret the appearance of earth and sky, but why do you not know how to interpret the present time?

57 "And why do you not judge for yourselves what is right? **58** As you go with your accuser before the magistrate, make an effort to settle with him on the way, lest he drag you to the judge, and the judge hand you over to the officer, and the officer put you in prison. **59** I tell you, you will never get out until you have paid the very last penny."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Preaching of the Word

Reverend Bradford Green

Good News for Everyone: The Gospel According to Luke

"Jesus the Loving Divider"

[illegible]

[illegible]

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

My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less

My hope is built on nothing less
Than Jesus' blood and righteousness
I dare not trust the sweetest frame
But wholly lean on Jesus' name

*On Christ the solid rock I stand
All other ground is sinking sand
All other ground is sinking sand*

When darkness hides His lovely face
I rest on His unchanging grace
In every high and stormy gale
My anchor holds within the veil

His oath, His covenant, His blood
Support me in the whelming flood
When all around my soul gives way
He then is all my hope and stay (*Chorus*)

When He shall come with trumpet sound
Oh, may I then in Him be found
Dressed in His righteousness alone
Faultless to stand before the throne (*Chorus*)

Words: Edward Mote; Music: William Batchelder Bradbury

The Love of Christ Is Rich and Free

The love of Christ is rich and free;
Fixed on His own eternally;
Nor earth, nor hell, can it remove;
Long as He lives, His own He'll love.

His loving heart engaged to be
Their everlasting Surety;
Twas love that took their cause in hand,
And love maintains it to the end.

*Love cannot from its post withdraw;
Nor death, nor hell, nor sin, nor law,
Can turn the Surety's heart away;
He'll love His own to endless day.*

Love has redeemed His sheep with blood;
And love will bring them safe to God;
Love calls them all from death to life;
And love will finish all their strife.

He loves through every changing scene,
Nor aught from Him can Zion wean;
Not all the wanderings of her heart
Can make His love for her depart. (*Chorus*)

At death, beyond the grave, He'll love;
In endless bliss, His own shall prove
The blazing glory of that love
Which never could from them remove.
Which never could from them remove.

Words: William Gadsby; Music: Sandra McCracken

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 | Father, Long Before Creation

We respond in faith and song.

*Children are invited to come to the front to lead & sing. Parents are also welcome.

Father, long before creation
Thou hast chosen us in love,
And that love so deep, so moving,
Draws us close to Christ above.
Still it keeps us, still it keeps us.
Firmly fixed in Christ alone.

Though the world may change its fashion,
Yet our God is e'er the same;
His compassion and His covenant
Through all ages will remain.
God's own children, God's own children
Must forever praise His name.

God's compassion is my story,
Is my boasting all the day;
Mercy free and never failing
Moves my will, directs my way.
God so loved us, God so loved us
That His only Son He gave.

Loving Father now before Thee
We will ever praise Thy love,
And our songs will sound unceasing
'Til we reach our home above,
Giving glory, giving glory
To our God and to the Lamb;
Giving glory, giving glory
To our God and to the Lamb.

Words: Francis Johnson; Music: Andrew Osenga

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

Graduating Seniors

Parents of graduating seniors in the class of 2025, please mark your calendars for our **graduating senior acknowledgment during worship (11am service) and a celebratory lunch following the 11am service on Sunday, May 18**. John Porter will follow up with more details in the coming weeks. Questions? Email (john@trinitypresfw.org).

Christian Formation

Next Sunday Pastor Brian will begin a series on the Sacraments during Christian Formation.

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:

www.trinitypresfw.org/give. Giving is seen only by the Deacon & the team in charge of counting the offering for that particular day, our Director of Operations, and 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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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

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682.703.2120

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