



TRINITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth.

Words for Reflection

“Of this, I am actually certain. After collecting thousands of stories, I’m willing to call this a fact: A deep sense of love and belonging is an irreducible need of all women, men, and children. We are biologically, cognitively, physically, and spiritually wired to love, to be loved, and to belong. When those needs are not met, we don’t function as we were meant to. We break. We fall apart. We numb. We ache. We hurt others. We get sick.”

— Brené Brown

“Fitting in is about assessing a situation and becoming who you need to be to be accepted. Belonging, on the other hand, doesn’t require us to change who we are; it requires us to be who we are.”

— Brené Brown

Order of Worship

The First Sunday of Christmas

— December 31, 2017 —

The Call to Worship

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

Praise the LORD, all nations!

Extol him, all peoples!

For great is his steadfast love toward us,

and the faithfulness of the LORD endures forever.

Praise the LORD!

—Psalm 117:1-5 ESV

Hymn of Praise | Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven

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.

Praise, my soul, the King of heaven,

To His feet Thy tribute bring;

Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven,

Who, like me, His praise should sing?

Come and worship, come and worship

Praise the Everlasting King.

Praise Him for His grace and favor

To our fathers in distress;

Praise Him, still the same for ever,

Slow to chide, and swift to bless;

Come and worship, come and worship

Glorious in His faithfulness.

Father-like, He tends and spares us;
Well our feeble frame He knows;
In His hands He gently bears us,
Rescues us from all our foes.
Come and worship, come and worship
Widely as His mercy goes.

Angels, help us to adore Him:
Ye behold Him face to face;
Sun and moon, bow down before Him,
Dwellers all in time and space,
Come and worship, come and worship
Praise with us the God of grace.

Words: Henry Lyte, 1843, Based on Ps 103; Nathan Partain, 2000, alt.
Music: Nathan Partain

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.

Confession of Sin

We fight the temptation to hide our sin and instead acknowledge it openly to God, but we do so in light of the grace offered in Jesus.

Gracious Father, You have blessed us richly through the work of Jesus on our behalf. And you have made amazing promises to us for our future. Yet, we confess that there are times we have not trusted you as we wait to experience these promises in their fullness. In our discontent we have sought to find comfort and belonging in places where we should not. Forgive us for our unbelief. Cleanse us by the all-sufficient work of Christ. Enable us by Your promised Holy Spirit to hope and rest in You alone. In the name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

God reminds our forgetful hearts of the grace that is ours in Jesus.

See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are.

— 1John 3:1 ESV

Hymn of Response | In Christ Alone

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

In Christ alone my hope is found,
He is my light, my strength, my song;
This Cornerstone, this solid Ground,
Firm through the fiercest drought and storm.
What heights of love, what depths of peace,
When fears are stilled, when strivings cease!
My Comforter, my All in All,
Here in the love of Christ I stand.

In Christ alone! - who took on flesh,
Fullness of God in helpless babe.
This gift of love and righteousness,
Scorned by the ones He came to save:
Till on that cross as Jesus died,
The wrath of God was satisfied -
For every sin on Him was laid;
Here in the death of Christ I live.

There in the ground His body lay,
Light of the world by darkness slain:
Then bursting forth in glorious day
Up from the grave He rose again!
And as He stands in victory
Sin's curse has lost its grip on me,
For I am His and He is mine
Bought with the precious blood of Christ.

No guilt in life, no fear in death,
This is the power of Christ in me;
From life's first cry to final breath,
Jesus commands my destiny.
No power of hell, no scheme of man,
Can ever pluck me from His hand:
Till He returns or calls me home,
Here in the power of Christ I'll stand.

Words & Music: Stuart Townend & Keith Getty

Confession of Faith | The Heidelberg Catechism #1

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

Q. What is your only comfort in life and in death?

A. That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven; in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

The Offering

In gratitude, we offer our gifts to God.

Children are invited to remain in the service today, because there will be no TrinityKids.

The Prayers of the People

We lift up our requests to God knowing that He hears us when we pray.

The Reading of the Word

John 14:1-14

God speaks to us through His Word.

1 "Let not your hearts be troubled. Believe in God; believe also in me. **2** In my Father's house are many rooms. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? **3** And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, that where I am you may be also. **4** And you know the way to where I am going." **5** Thomas said to him, "Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?" **6** Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. **7** If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him." **8** Philip said to him, "Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us." **9** Jesus said to him, "Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, 'Show us the Father'?" **10** Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own authority, but the Father who dwells in me does his works. **11** Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me, or else believe on account of the works themselves. **12** "Truly, truly, I say to you, whoever believes in me will also do the works that I do; and greater works than these will he do, because I am going to the Father. **13** Whatever you ask in my name, this I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son. **14** If you ask me anything in my name, I will do it.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Preaching of the Word

Pastor Steve Percifield

That You May Have Life: The Gospel According to John

"By Preparing a Place for Us"

Sermon Notes

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: The red inner cups in each tray contain non-alcoholic grape juice. The clear outer cups and the common cup contain wine.*

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

Doubting Fearful Heart

Pensive, doubting, fearful heart,
Hear what Christ the Savior says;
Every word should joy impart,
Change thy mourning into praise:
Yes, he speaks, and speaks to thee,
May he help thee to believe!
Then thou presently wilt see,
Thou hast little cause to grieve.

Fear thou not, nor be ashamed,
All thy sorrows soon shall end
I who heav'n and earth have framed,
Am thy husband and thy friend
I the High and Holy One,
Israel's GOD by all adored;
As thy Savior will be known,
Thy Redeemer and thy Lord.

For a moment I withdrew,
And thy heart was filled with pain;
But my mercies I'll renew,
Thou shalt soon rejoice again:
Though I seem to hide my face,
Very soon my wrath shall cease;
'Tis but for a moment's space,
Ending in eternal peace.

Though afflicted, tempest-tossed,
Comfortless awhile thou art,
Do not think thou canst be lost,
Thou art graven on my heart
All thy wastes I will repair,
Thou shalt be rebuilt anew;
And in thee it shall appear,
What a God of love can do.

Words: John Newton; Music: Wendell Kimbrough

Jesus Whispers

Lamb of God, we fall before Thee,
Humbly trusting in Thy cross;
That alone be all our glory;
All things else are vain and loss.

Thee we own a perfect Savior,
Only source of all that's good:
Every grace and every favor
Comes to us through Jesus' blood.

*Jesus whispers this sweet sentence,
"Son, thy sins are all forgiven."
Faith He gives us to believe,
Hearing ears and seeing eyes.*

When we live on Jesus' merit,
Then we worship God aright,
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Then we savingly unite.

*Jesus whispers this sweet sentence,
"Son, thy sins are all forgiven."
Faith He gives us to believe,
Hearing ears and seeing eyes.*

Hear the whole conclusion of it;
Great or good, whate'er we call,
God, or King, or Priest, or Prophet,
Jesus Christ is All in All.

*Jesus whispers this sweet sentence,
"Son, thy sins are all forgiven."
Faith He gives us to believe,
Hearing ears and seeing eyes.*

Words: Joseph Hart
Music: Clint Wells & Brian T. Murphy

Life at Trinity

Departing Hymn | All Must Be Well

We respond in faith and song.

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

Through the love of God our Savior, all will be well;
Free and changeless is His favor, all is well;
Precious is the blood that healed us,
Perfect is the grace that sealed us,
Strong the hand stretched forth to shield us,
All must be well.

Though we pass through tribulation, all will be well;
Ours is such a full salvation, all is well;
Happy still in God confiding,
Fruitful if in Christ abiding,
Steadfast through the Spirit's guiding,
All must be well.

We expect a bright tomorrow, all will be well;
Faith can sing through days of sorrow, all is well;
On our Father's love relying,
Jesus every need supplying,
Yes in living or in dying,
All must be well.

Words: Mary Bowley Peters, Matthew S. Smith

Music: Matthew S. Smith

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

Last Day to Sign up for Women's Spring Bible Study

This Sunday, December 31st is the deadline to sign up for Trinity's Spring Women's Bible Study. The 10 week study of Hosea begins Friday, Jan. 12 with a 930-11am morning group with childcare at Connell. The evening home group meets Wednesdays 7-8:30pm in the TCU area beginning Jan. 17. Register and pay \$10 for your study materials online by Dec 31 at www.trinitypresfw.org. Questions? Contact Kitty Wooten (kawooten@sbcglobal.net).

Men's Spring Bible Study

Our Men's Bible Study will also study Hosea. The **Wednesday Breakfast group** will meet from 630-745am at La Madeleine (4626 SW Loop 820). The **Thursday Lunch group** will meet from 1145am - 100pm at Titus Oil & Gas (100 Throckmorton, Ste. 1630). **Start date TBD**. Contact Steve (steve@trinitypresfw.org) for more information.

Trinity Winter Seminar

Join us for **3 Mondays in January (1/15, 1/22, 1/29) from 630pm to 730pm** at Connell for our Winter Seminar. Winter Seminars are an opportunity for some focused teaching on a particular topic. This January, Steve will be teaching on the topic of outreach to our friends and neighbors. More details TBA. Contact Steve (steve@trinitypresfw.org) for more information.

Online Church Directory

Our church directory app is available by searching in your app store for "Instant Church Directory." After downloading, enter your email address, and you'll be sent a password. **Please submit a recent photo** (full family, if applicable) **to Abbie** (admin@trinitypresfw.org). **If you see corrections or additions to be made, contact Abbie.**

Information

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. All nursery volunteers have been through both background checks and Ministry Safe training.

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.

4pm

We plan on meeting at 4pm for the foreseeable future. We hope you will enjoy a Sunday morning to sleep in, spend time with your non-church going friends and neighbors or relax with your family and friends.

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.

Youth Group @ FWPC

The youth group (grades 6-12) at our sending church meets on Sunday evenings at FWPC (6251 Oakmont Trail) at 530pm. All youth volunteers have been through both background checks and Ministry Safe training. If you're interested in joining the carpool of Trinity students attending, please contact Wade Jewett (jewettwade@gmail.com).

Interested in Helping with Music?

We are always looking to add to our great team of musicians. If you're interested in learning more, please contact Wade Jewett (jewettwade@gmail.com).

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

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth.

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

We are a church plant of Fort Worth Presbyterian Church and a part of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).