



TRINITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth

Words for Reflection

The cry "How long?" is in the Psalms because, in this life, we experience sustained, unresolved, long-standing anguish. But we can take it to the Lord again and again. He isn't rolling his eyes, saying, "Get over it."

– Ray Ortlund

Abraham complains out of his faith, not his unbelief. It takes spiritual energy of faith to complain in contrast to despairing in silence.

– Bruce Waltke

You can trust a God who not only is sovereign but bleeds for you.

– D. A. Carson

Order of Worship

The Twenty-Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

— November 4, 2018 —

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.

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and all that is within me,
bless his holy name!

Bless the LORD, O my soul,
and forget not all his benefits,
who forgives all your iniquity,
who heals all your diseases,
who redeems your life from the pit,
who crowns you with steadfast love and mercy,
who satisfies you with good
so that your youth is renewed like the eagle's.

—Psalm 103:1-5 ESV

Song of Praise | 10,000 Reasons

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.

*Bless the Lord, O my soul
O my soul
Worship His holy name
Sing like never before
O my soul
I worship Your holy name*

The sun comes up; it's a new day dawning
It's time to sing Your song again
Whatever may pass and whatever lies before me
Let me be singing when the evening comes (*Chorus*)

You're rich in love and You're slow to anger
Your name is great and Your heart is kind
For all your goodness I will keep on singing
Ten thousand reasons for my heart to find (*Chorus*)

And on that day when my strength is failing
The end draws near and my time has come
Still my soul will sing Your praise unending
Ten thousand years and then forever more (*Chorus*)

Words & Music: Matt Redmond

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.

Most Merciful Father,

We praise You that You are a sovereign, covenant-keeping God, and that nothing will keep You from accomplishing Your purposes in Your people and Your world. But, Lord, we confess that our hearts often struggle to believe and rest in Your promises to us. Forgive us for our tendency to turn away from You rather than toward You with our struggles. We thank You that Your grace and promises are steadfast and certain in Christ. Thank You for his atoning work on the cross that guarantees our forgiveness. We pray that by Your Spirit, You would reassure our doubting hearts of that truth. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

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

For what does the Scripture say? “Abraham believed God, and it was counted to him as righteousness.” Now to the one who works, his wages are not counted as a gift but as his due. And to the one who does not work but believes in him who justifies the ungodly, his faith is counted as righteousness.

—Romans 4:3-5 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 | 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 now dismissed for TrinityKids (4 years old -2nd Grade). After the sermon, their teachers will return them to worship where they may come directly to you, or you may meet them in the back of the sanctuary.

Baptism | Phoebe Jean Snyder

To the Parents (Courtney & Chad Snyder):

1. Do you acknowledge your child's need of the cleansing blood of Jesus Christ, and the renewing grace of the Holy Spirit? **We do.**
2. Do you claim God's covenant promises in her behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for her salvation, as you do for your own? **We do.**
3. Do you now unreservedly dedicate your child to God, and promise, in humble reliance upon divine grace, that you will endeavor to set before her a godly example, that you will pray with and for her, that you will teach her the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring her up in the nurture and admonition of the Lord? **We do.**

To the Congregation:

Pastor: Do you as a congregation undertake the responsibility of assisting these parents in the Christian nurture of this child?

People: We do.

"For you Jesus came into the world; for you he lived his life; for you he was crucified; for you he was raised from the dead; and for you he is coming again. You may not know this story now, but we, your church, promise to tell you this story until you make it your own."

(based on French Reformed Baptismal Liturgy)

The Prayers of the People

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

Timm Sasser & David Kaya

Empower One

The Reading of the Word

Genesis 15:1-21

God speaks to us through His Word.

15:1 After these things the word of the LORD came to Abram in a vision: "Fear not, Abram, I am your shield; your reward shall be very great." 2 But Abram said, "O Lord GOD, what will you give me, for I continue childless, and the heir of my house is Eliezer of Damascus?" 3 And Abram said, "Behold, you have given me no offspring, and a member of my household will be my heir." 4 And behold, the word of the LORD came to him: "This man shall not be your heir; your very own son shall be your heir." 5 And he brought him outside and said, "Look toward heaven, and number the stars, if you are able to number them." Then he said to him, "So shall your offspring be." 6 And he believed the LORD, and he counted it to him as righteousness.

7 And he said to him, "I am the LORD who brought you out from Ur of the Chaldeans to give you this land to possess." 8 But he said, "O Lord GOD, how am I to know that I shall possess it?" 9 He said to him, "Bring me a heifer three years old, a female goat three years old, a ram three years old, a turtledove, and a young pigeon." 10 And he brought him all these, cut them in half, and laid each half over against the other. But he did not cut the birds in half. 11 And when birds of prey came down on the carcasses, Abram drove them away.

12 As the sun was going down, a deep sleep fell on Abram. And behold, dreadful and great darkness fell upon him. 13 Then

the LORD said to Abram, "Know for certain that your offspring will be sojourners in a land that is not theirs and will be servants there, and they will be afflicted for four hundred years. **14** But I will bring judgment on the nation that they serve, and afterward they shall come out with great possessions. **15** As for you, you shall go to your fathers in peace; you shall be buried in a good old age. **16** And they shall come back here in the fourth generation, for the iniquity of the Amorites is not yet complete."

17 When the sun had gone down and it was dark, behold, a smoking fire pot and a flaming torch passed between these pieces. **18** On that day the LORD made a covenant with Abram, saying, "To your offspring I give this land, from the river of Egypt to the great river, the river Euphrates, **19** the land of the Kenites, the Kenizzites, the Kadmonites, **20** the Hittites, the Perizzites, the Rephaim, **21** the Amorites, the Canaanites, the Girgashites and the Jebusites."

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Preaching of the Word

Pastor Brian Davis

The God of Promise: A Study of Genesis 12-17

"Struggling to Believe God's Promises"

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

Laden With Guilt and Full of Fears

Laden with guilt and full of fears
I fly to Thee, my Lord,
And not a glimpse of hope appears,
But in Thy written Word
The volumes of my Father's grace
Does all my griefs assuage
Here I behold my Savior's face
In every page.

This is the field where, hidden, lies
The pearl of price unknown
That merchant is divinely wise
Who makes the pearl his own
Here consecrated water flows
To quench my thirst of sin
Here the fair tree of knowledge grows,
No danger dwells within.

This is the judge that ends the strife,
Where wit and reason fail
My guide to everlasting life
Through all this gloomy vale
Oh may Thy counsels, mighty God,
My roving feet command,
Nor I forsake the happy road
That leads to Thy right hand.

Words: Isaac Watts; Music: Sandra McCracken

Be Still (Psalm 46)

God is our refuge, our strength and our shield;
An ever present help
We will not fear, though the earth give way,
And the mountains crash into the sea

*There is a river whose streams will make glad;
the city of our Most High King
God is within her and she will not fail;
He helps her at break of the day*

Nations in uproar, men's kingdoms they fall.
He speaks and the Earth melts away.
The worst we imagine, the strongest of storms,
Our fortress, it will remain.

*There is a river whose streams will make glad;
the city of our Most High King
God is within her and she will not fail;
Listen to hear the Lord say:*

Be still and know that I am God

Come, let us see what the Lord has done,
the ruins He brings to the Earth.
He makes wars to cease at the end of the Earth
He shatters the bow and the spear.

*There is a river whose streams will make glad;
the city of our Most High King
God is within her and she will not fail;
Listen to hear the Lord say:*

Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am God

Words & Music: Mike Crawford (alt. by Isaac Wardell)

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.

Now to him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you blameless before the presence of his glory with great joy, to the only God, our Savior, through Jesus Christ our Lord, be glory, majesty, dominion, and authority, before all time and now and forever. Amen.

—Jude 24-25 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

Invitation-Pregnancy Lifeline Coffee Nov 12

Pregnancy Lifeline is hosting an informal coffee Monday, Nov 12 9-1030 for guests to learn about the ministry's work and tour its new family education wing and state-of-the-art sonography rooms. 4747 S. Hulen across from Hulen Mall. Questions? Contact Sherry (sherrydenton@me.com).

Women's Fall Bible Study

Our women's Fall Bible Study is underway Friday mornings at Connell 930-11, through Nov 30 with childcare, and Wednesday evenings 7-830, through Dec 5 at Emily Pybus's home (4241 Selkirk Drive West). If you'd like to jump in, contact Kitty (kawooten@sbcglobal.net).

Men's Fall Study

Our Men's Study meets on Wednesdays from 630-730am at La Madeleine (4626 SW Loop 820). We are reading and discussing *The True Story of the Whole World*. Books are available at the book table in the foyer (\$16). Questions? Contact Steve (steve@trinitypresfw.org).

Fort Worth Presbyterian's 25th Anniversary Celebration

Fort Worth Presbyterian Church will be celebrating 25 years of God's faithfulness and goodness on Friday, Nov 16 at 7pm. Friday night will kick off a weekend of various events. For more information go to www.fortworthpca.org.

Advent and Christmas at Trinity

Save the dates for these upcoming seasonal events!

Advent Party November 25

Join us after worship for pizza and fun as we enjoy a craft which will help us prepare for Advent on Sunday, November 25.

The Fort High School Christmas Party Dec 8

High schoolers are welcome to the Maxwells' home for a Christmas party Saturday, Dec 8. Time to be determined.

The Fort Middle School Ice Skating Dec 9

Middle Schoolers are welcome to join The Fort for ice skating on Sunday, Dec 9. More details to come.

Children's Christmas Party Dec 9

We will have the children's Christmas party on Sunday, Dec 9 following worship. (Volunteers needed!) More details to come.

Trinity Christmas Party Dec 13

We will have a great time of fellowship and food at the home of Mary Bates on Thursday, Dec 13. Adults only! More details to come.

Christmas Eve Service Dec 24

Join us at 3pm on Dec. 24 for our family- & kid-friendly Trinity Christmas Eve Service! While there will be no nursery available, the entire service will involve children. Please invite your friends and neighbors!

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. 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.

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 7-12) 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. 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 Contact Information

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Deacon of the Day

Ryan Opgenorth

Trinity Presbyterian Church

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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 congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA).