



TRINITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth.

Words for Reflection

Imprecatory Psalms don't give Christians an excuse to be mean-spirited, vicious, or vengeful. They're not a warrant to be macho and trash talk. God may destroy ISIS enemies by transforming them into allies. Praying the Psalms, we leave the outcome to him and do what Jesus did: entrust ourselves to the Judge who judges justly (1 Peter 2:23).

- Peter Leithart

But it is important that we be clear about the purpose of enemy language in the psalms. Its purpose is to remind us that the violent and sinful ways of human beings—including our own violent, sinful ways—need to be named so that *God* can step in and do something about it. Praying against one's enemies is most emphatically *not* a license to do violence to others; nor is it an invitation to indulge our irresponsible desires to call anybody we do not like an enemy.

- David Taylor

Prayer for justice is the church's first and fitting answer to God's promises in the midst of a broken, dysfunctional, oft-horror-laden world—the lifting of her eyes to heaven in dependence upon the God from whom her help comes. And such prayer, by which she participates in the unfolding judgments of God, readies her to be an agent of justice in all of life. Before the church may fruitfully take on the work of justice, she must weep for justice in communion with God.

-Trevor Laurence

When we pray in times of injustice, we are protesting to the highest authority in the universe, the perfect arbiter of all justice.

-Eugene Park

Order of Worship

The Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

— July 30, 2023 —

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

Praise the LORD! Praise God in his sanctuary;

praise him in his mighty heavens!

Praise him for his mighty deeds;

praise him according to his excellent greatness!

Let everything that has breath praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD!

—Psalm 150:1-2, 6 ESV

Hymn of Praise | Praise to the Lord, the Almighty

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 to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to His temple draw near;
Join me in glad adoration!

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under His wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
Granted in what He ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!
Surely His goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
Ponder anew what the Almighty will do,
If with His love He befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who with marvelous wisdom hath made thee,
Decked thee with health and with loving hand guided and stayed thee
How oft in grief hath not He brought thee relief,
Spreading His wings to o'er shade thee!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore Him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before Him!
Let the amen sound from His people again;
Gladly fore'er we adore Him.

Words: Joachim Neander; Music: Traditional German Melody

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 by Your great mercy, Your Son suffered for us. Yet, we confess our failure to respond to the injustice in our lives in the way that You call us to. We often revile when we are reviled, and we fail to entrust ourselves to You Who judges justly. Lord, we pray that You would forgive us through the death of the one who bore our sins in his body on the tree, and that by Your Spirit, we would die to sin and live to righteousness. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

He committed no sin, neither was deceit found in his mouth. When he was reviled, he did not revile in return; when he suffered, he did not threaten, but continued entrusting himself to him who judges justly. He himself bore our sins in his body on the tree, that we might die to sin and live to righteousness. By his wounds you have been healed.

—1 Peter 2:22-24 ESV

Hymn of Response | Grace Alone

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

I was an orphan, lost at the fall;
Running away when I'd hear you call,
But Father, you worked your will.

I had no righteousness of my own
I had no right to draw near your throne,
But Father, you loved me still.

And in love, before you laid the world's foundation,
You predestined to adopt me as your own.
You have raised me up so high above my station;
I'm a child of God by grace, and grace alone

You left your home to seek out the lost;
You knew the great and terrible cost
But Jesus, your face was set.
I worked my fingers down to the bone;
But nothing I did could ever atone,
But Jesus, you paid my debt.

By your blood I have redemption and salvation.
Lord you died that I might reap what you have sown,
And you rose that I might be a new creation.
I am born again by grace, and grace alone.

I was in darkness all of my life,
I never knew the day from the night,
But Spirit, you made me see.
I swore I knew the way on my own;
Head full of rocks, a heart made of stone
But Spirit, you moved in me.

And at your touch my sleeping spirit was awakened;
On my darkened heart the light of Christ has shone.
Called into a kingdom that cannot be shaken;
Heaven's citizen by grace, and grace alone.

So I'll stand in faith by grace, and grace alone
I will run the race by grace, and grace alone
I will slay my sin by grace, and grace alone
I will reach the end by grace, and grace alone

Words and Music by Dustin Kensrue

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 LORD Converses with Us

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

The New Testament Lesson

Romans 12:14-21

God speaks to us by His Word.

12:14 Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. **15** Rejoice with those who rejoice, weep with those who weep. **16** Live in harmony with one another. Do not be haughty, but associate with the lowly. Never be wise in your own sight. **17** Repay no one evil for evil, but give thought to do what is honorable in the sight of all. **18** If possible, so far as it depends on you, live peaceably with all. **19** Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave it to the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay, says the Lord." **20** To the contrary, "if your enemy is hungry, feed him; if he is thirsty, give him something to drink; for by so doing you will heap burning coals on his head." **21** Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Welcoming of Communing Members

Chase Houston Barker Thomas Weldon Green
Brody Patrick McNay Ellie Ruth McNay
Magnolia Jane Smith

1. Do you acknowledge yourself to be a sinner in the sight of God, justly deserving His displeasure, and without hope save in His sovereign mercy? **I do.**
2. Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ as the Son of God, and Savior of sinners, and do you receive and rest upon Him alone for salvation as He is offered in the Gospel? **I do.**
3. Do you now resolve and promise, in humble reliance upon the grace of the Holy Spirit, that you will endeavor to live as becomes the followers of Christ? **I do.**
4. Do you promise to support the Church in its worship and work to the best of your ability? **I do.**
5. Do you submit yourself to the government and discipline of the Church, and promise to study its purity and peace? **I do.**

The Offering

In gratitude, we offer our gifts to God.

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

Psalm 35

God speaks to us by His Word.

35:1 Contend, O LORD, with those who contend with me; fight against those who fight against me! **2** Take hold of shield and buckler and rise for my help! **3** Draw the spear and javelin against my pursuers! Say to my soul, "I am your salvation!" **4** Let them be put to shame and dishonor who seek after my life! Let them be turned back and disappointed who devise evil against me! **5** Let them be like chaff before the wind, with the angel of the LORD driving them away! **6** Let their way be dark and slippery, with the angel of the LORD pursuing them! **7** For without cause they hid their net for me; without cause they dug a pit for my life. **8** Let destruction come upon him when he does not know it! And let the net that he hid ensnare him; let him fall into it—to his destruction! **9** Then my soul will rejoice in the LORD, exulting in his salvation. **10** All my bones shall say, "O LORD, who is like you, delivering the poor from him who is too strong for him, the poor and needy from him who robs him?" **11** Malicious witnesses rise up; they ask me of things that I do not know. **12** They repay me evil for good; my soul is bereft. **13** But I, when they were sick— I wore sackcloth; I afflicted myself with fasting; I prayed with head bowed on my chest. **14** I went about as though I grieved for my friend or my brother; as one who laments his mother, I bowed down in mourning. **15** But at my stumbling they rejoiced and gathered; they gathered together against me; wretches whom I did not know tore at me without ceasing; **16** like profane mockers at a feast, they gnash at me with their teeth. **17** How long, O Lord, will you look on? Rescue me from their destruction, my precious life from the lions! **18** I will thank you in the great congregation; in the mighty throng I will praise you. **19** Let not those rejoice over me who are wrongfully my foes, and let not those wink the eye who hate me without cause. **20** For they do not speak peace, but against those who are quiet in the land they devise words of deceit.

21 They open wide their mouths against me; they say, "Aha, Aha! Our eyes have seen it!" 22 You have seen, O LORD; be not silent! O Lord, be not far from me! 23 Awake and rouse yourself for my vindication, for my cause, my God and my Lord! 24 Vindicate me, O LORD, my God, according to your righteousness, and let them not rejoice over me! 25 Let them not say in their hearts, "Aha, our heart's desire!" Let them not say, "We have swallowed him up." 26 Let them be put to shame and disappointed altogether who rejoice at my calamity! Let them be clothed with shame and dishonor who magnify themselves against me! 27 Let those who delight in my righteousness shout for joy and be glad and say evermore, "Great is the LORD, who delights in the welfare of his servant!" 28 Then my tongue shall tell of your righteousness and of your praise all the day long.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Preaching of the Word

Pastor Brian Davis

Praying the Psalms
"Praying for Justice"

Sermon Notes

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

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

In Feast or Fallow

When the fields are dry, and the winter is long
Blessed are the meek, the hungry, the poor
When my soul is downcast, and my voice has no song
For mercy, for comfort, I wait on the Lord

*In the harvest feast or the fallow ground,
My certain hope is in Jesus found
My lot, my cup, my portion sure
Whatever comes, we shall endure
Whatever comes, we shall endure*

On a cross of wood, His blood was outpoured
He rose from the ground, like a bird to the sky
Bringing peace to our violence, and crushing death's door
Our Maker incarnate, our God Who provides.
(Chorus)

When the earth beneath me crumbles and quakes
Not a sparrow falls, nor a hair from my head
Without His hand to guide me, my shield and my strength
In joy or in sorrow, in life or in death
(Chorus)

Words & Music: Sandra McCracken

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 | 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

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

Summer Mom Meet-ups

Moms, join us for come and go play dates this Summer! See the Church Center app for details or reach out to Eryn (817.944.6105).

Hospitality Training

We will have an informational session and hospitality training for our life in the new building! **We will need all hands on deck for this exciting transition, so please save the morning of August 19 in your calendar.**

Congregational Meeting

We'll hold a congregational meeting for communing members only immediately after worship today. The nursery will remain open during the meeting.

Help Needed – Rivertree Back-to-School Event

Rivertree's back-to-school event is August 10 from 5-7pm. We need volunteers to help serve food to children and parents and play with the children while the parents are receiving information about the school year. **The event will take place at 5601 Fletcher Avenue. Please contact Elaine Lambert (lambertelaine1234@gmail.com) or 817.914.1882 to sign up as a volunteer.**

Young Adult Dinners

Trinity Young Adults is a group for post-undergrad, in grad school, career, single, or young marrieds. **Come join us after church on the 1st and 3rd Sundays after worship. Save the date for our fall kick-off cookout on August 11.** Details about dinners and other events are in the Church Center app or contact Rachel (rachelkuchem@gmail.com) or Jeff (jeffrey.bryant14@gmail.com).

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 across from the library 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.

Our New Building

We are so excited and grateful for our new building at 207 W. Broadway in the Near Southside! We are in process of renovating and hope to move in during 2023. We will continue to worship at 4pm at Connell until then. Please continue to pray for all of the work being done! Check Church Center for periodic updates and photos.

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.

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.

Community Groups

Our Community Groups are essential to our life at Trinity. Jesus never intended for the Christian life to be lived alone. Community Groups meet weekly in homes throughout the city on various nights. If you'd like more information or you'd like to visit a group, please contact Andy (andy@trinitypresfw.org).

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

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