



TRINITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Trinity Presbyterian Church

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth.

Words for Reflection

If you want to know who God is, look to Jesus. If you want to know what it means to be human, look to Jesus. If you want to know what love is, look at Jesus. If you want to know what grief is, look at Jesus. And go on looking until you're not just a spectator, but you're actually part of the drama, which has him as its central character.

- N. T. Wright

When we see Jesus as he is, we must turn away or else shamelessly adore him.

- Dallas Willard

The tune of Jesus is still beautiful even if Christians have sung out of tune.

- John Dickson

Now, as a literary historian, I am perfectly convinced that whatever else the Gospels are, they are not legends. I have read a great deal of legend and I am quite clear that they are not the same sort of thing. They are not artistic enough to be legends.

- C. S. Lewis

You do not need to be afraid that your faith will crumble away if you ask hard questions. Asking questions is often the best way to learn, and Jesus is much more clever than we are. So we do not need to worry that we might outthink him! In fact, he calls us to love God with all our heart and soul and mind and strength.

- Rebecca McLaughlin

Order of Worship

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

— September 10, 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

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!
— Psalm 96:1-3 ESV

Hymn of Praise | Oh How Good to Be Together

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.

Oh how good to be together
In this weary world we trod
What a gift, what a treasure
Kindred in the house of God

On this day the Lord has fashioned
Come rejoice with all your might
Raise a banner of salvation
He has led us through the night

*Oh the joy, oh the sweetness
To be gathered in the name of the Lord
Evermore, he will keep us
From the valley to the golden shore*

When it looked like evil conquered
When we felt the darkest hour
In despair we sought the Father
And he has proved his mighty power
(Chorus)

Tell the theme of his provision
How he met our every need
He has been our firm foundation
And he will ever, always be
(Chorus)

Words: Kirk Sauers; Music: Paul Ranheim

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 You give us every reason to place our trust in Your Son Jesus as our Risen King. Yet Lord we confess our tendency to doubt You and turn away from You many times each day. Forgive us for our hardness of heart. Forgive us for believing that our sin is so much greater than Your love and grace. Have mercy on our unbelief and cleanse us through the blood of the one who lived, died, and was raised for us. In his name we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me."

—John 14:6 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 | The Nicene Creed

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

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of his Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified for us under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered and was buried;
and the third day he rose again, according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of
the Father;
and he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the living and
the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;
we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The LORD Converses with Us

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

The New Testament Lesson

1 Corinthians 15:1-11

God speaks to us by His Word.

15:1 Now I would remind you, brothers, of the gospel I preached to you, which you received, in which you stand, **2** and by which you are being saved, if you hold fast to the word I preached to you—unless you believed in vain.

3 For I delivered to you as of first importance what I also received: that Christ died for our sins in accordance with the Scriptures, **4** that he was buried, that he was raised on the third day in accordance with the Scriptures, **5** and that he appeared to Cephas, then to the twelve. **6** Then he appeared to more than five hundred brothers at one time, most of whom are still alive, though some have fallen asleep. **7** Then he appeared to James, then to all the apostles. **8** Last of all, as to one untimely born, he appeared also to me. **9** For I am the least of the apostles, unworthy to be called an apostle, because I persecuted the church of God. **10** But by the grace of God I am what I am, and his grace toward me was not in vain. On the contrary, I worked harder than any of them, though it was not I, but the grace of God that is with me. **11** Whether then it was I or they, so we preach and so you believed.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Baptism | Robert Pearson Ainsworth

To the Parents (Abby & John Ainsworth):

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 his behalf, and do you look in faith to the Lord Jesus Christ for his 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 him a godly example, that you will pray with and for him, that you will teach him the doctrines of our holy religion, and that you will strive, by all the means of God's appointment, to bring him 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 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

Luke 1:1-4

God speaks to us by His Word.

1:1 Inasmuch as many have undertaken to compile a narrative of the things that have been accomplished among us, **2** just as those who from the beginning were eyewitnesses and ministers of the word have delivered them to us, **3** it seemed good to me also, having followed all things closely for some time past, to write an orderly account for you, most excellent Theophilus, **4** that you may have certainty concerning the things you have been taught.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Preaching of the Word

Pastor Brian Davis

Good News for Everyone: The Gospel According to Luke
“A Certain Faith”

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

Pensive, 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

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

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 | To Christ the Lord

We respond in faith and song.

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

To Christ the Lord let every tongue,
Its noblest tribute bring.
When He's the subject of the song
Who can refuse to sing?
Survey the beauties of His face,
And on His glories dwell,
Think of the wonder of His grace
And all His triumphs tell.

Majestic sweetness sits enthroned,
Upon His awful brow.
His head with radiant glories crowned,
His lips with grace overflow;
No mortal man can with Him compare,
Among the sons of men,
Fairer He is than all the fair
That fill the Heavenly train.

He saw me plunged in deep distress,
He fled to my relief.
For me He bore the shameful cross,
And carried all my grief;
His hand a thousand blessings pours,
Upon my guilty head,
His presence gilds my darkest hours
And guards my sleeping bed.

Since from His bounty I receive
Such proofs of love divine,
Had I a thousand hearts to give
Lord, they would all be Thine;
A thousand men could not compose
A worthy song to bring,
Yet Your love is a melody
Our hearts can't help but sing!

A thousand men could not compose
A worthy song to bring,
Yet Your love is a melody
Our hearts can't help but sing!

Words: Laura Taylor, Samuel Stennett; Music: Laura Taylor

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

Sunday School & Youth Group

We will have our meetings for Adult Sunday School, Youth Group (HS and MS), Five Six (5th and 6th graders), and Sunday School (0-3 Nursery and classes for ages 4-4th grade) today after worship until 630pm. Pizza provided for youth and kids.

Trinity Membership Seminar

If you are interested in becoming a member at Trinity or just want to learn more about who we are as a church, please attend our membership seminar. **We will meet at the home of Jeanette and Pastor Brian (1500 College Ave, 76104) with light refreshments and coffee on Saturday, September 16, from 9am-1230pm.** There will not be childcare provided. Registration is open in the Church Center app.

Homelessness 101

Please join us Thursday, September 21, 7-8:30pm at Connell. We will hear from Tara Perez, the City of Fort Worth Directions Home Manager, and Lauren King, Executive Director, Tarrant County Homeless Coalition. Come learn about the scope of homelessness in Fort Worth, how the city and partner organizations respond, and how Trinity can help.

Academy 4

Have you wanted to volunteer locally but always feel short on time? Our church's newest local ministry partner may be a great fit. **For just 90 minutes one Friday a month, you can provide something sorely lacking in many children's lives today, a positive and dependable adult voice during a formative time in their lives. It's all done for you - through a step-by-step, organized process, you'll guide a 4th grade student through a research-based leadership curriculum, then enjoy games, crafts, and other activities.** It's the perfect time for these kids to

develop important skills, plus 4th graders are a lot of fun! If this sounds interesting, talk to Melinda Dumas or, better yet, just sign up by scanning the QR code below! Volunteers are needed to help in other ways as well, so be sure to ask how else you can get involved with Academy 4. For more information, please email (melinda.dumas@academy4.org) or call Melinda Dumas at (940) 390-8028.



TCU RUF 25th Anniversary

We will soon celebrate TCU RUF's 25th anniversary! Click the QR code below for more details and to sign up; we'd love to see you at this special reunion night full of food (from Joe T. Garcia's!), drink, friendship, and reminiscing, on Sep 22nd in Fort Worth. Ryan Anderson, Rob Hamby, and Leigh Anne Salter will all be there, along with other current and former staff, students, and friends of the ministry.



Stand With DASH

Celebrate God's faithfulness at the annual DASH benefit for the asylum seeker in Fort Worth. **September 28, 6-8pm at Heritage Church of Christ. Details and registration here: dashnetwork.net/events.**

Women's Fall Bible Study

Our fall study is, "Strange Times, Strange Salvation: A Study on the Book of Judges." The morning study meets on Thursday mornings 9:30-10:50 (coffee at 9:15) at Connell in the Fellowship Hall. Childcare is provided. The evening study meets at Becky Burt's house (address will be provided once you register) on Wednesday nights 7-8:30. Contact Susan Tyner (susan@trinitypresfw.org) for more information.

Men's Fall Bible Study

Men, join us as we study the book of Judges this fall! Register in the app for one of our two options; morning or lunch. The study has two meeting options available. You can either come to the **Wednesday morning study (630am - 730am) located at the church office (3750 S. University Dr, Suite 101)** or the **Thursday lunch study (12 - 1pm) located at Walt Jones's office (Chase Bank Building, 420 Throckmorton Street, Suite 1150 [11th Floor] 76102)**. We will complete our study on November 8/9.

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.** 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

Meeting Address: 4736 Bryce Avenue, Fort Worth, TX 76107

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100754, Fort Worth, TX 76185

Church Office Address: 3750 S. University, Suite 101, Fort Worth, TX 76109

Web: www.trinitypresfw.org

682.703.2120

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