



TRINITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth.

Words for Reflection

Christ's ascension means that in heaven there is one who, knowing firsthand the experience of suffering and temptation, prays for us and perfects our prayers. The ascension is a witness and guarantee of our own bodily resurrection, as well as an invitation for us to set our hearts and minds "on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God" (Col. 3:1-2) to rule over all things in heaven and throughout the universe (Eph. 1:10, 20-23).

- The Worship Sourcebook

There is now a man, a real man with our flesh and blood, our experiences of the world, our humanity, in heaven. For all Christ's heavenly majesty, seated on the throne, he is not now aloof from believers and unconcerned. He knows, and loves, and intercedes for his own.

- Michael Reeves

He descended in order to heal you; he ascended in order to lift you up.

- St. Augustine

Nobody believed he was real...That was his power. The greatest trick the devil ever pulled was convincing the world he didn't exist.

- Keyser Soze in *The Usual Suspects*

Order of Worship

The Sunday after Ascension Day

— May 12, 2024 —

The LORD Calls Us

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

The Call to Worship

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

God has gone up with a shout,

the LORD with the sound of a trumpet.

Sing praises to God, sing praises!

Sing praises to our King, sing praises!

For God is the King of all the earth;

sing praises with a psalm!

Alleluia! Christ is risen.

He is risen indeed. Alleluia!

—Psalm 47:5-7 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 forever,
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, 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.

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

Almighty God,

You have raised Jesus from death to life and crowned him Lord of all. Yet, we confess that we have not bowed before him or acknowledged his rule in our lives. We have gone along with the ways of the world and failed to give him glory. Forgive us and deliver us from our sins. By Your Spirit, make us a people who bear witness to Your Son and his redemptive work to the ends of the earth. We pray this through our Lord Jesus Christ, who rules the world and is head of the church. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

Since therefore the children share in flesh and blood, he himself likewise partook of the same things, that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and deliver all those who through fear of death were subject to lifelong slavery. Therefore he had to be made like his brothers in every respect, so that he might become a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make propitiation for the sins of the people.

—Hebrews 2:14-15, 17 ESV

Hymn of Response | Before the Throne of God Above

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

Before the throne of God above
I have a strong and perfect plea.
A great High Priest whose Name is Love
Who ever lives and pleads for me.
My name is graven on His hands,
My name is written on His heart.
I know that while in Heaven He stands
No tongue can bid me thence depart.

When Satan tempts me to despair
And tells me of the guilt within,
Upward I look and see Him there
Who made an end of all my sin.
Because the sinless Savior died
My sinful soul is counted free.
For God the just is satisfied
To look on Him and pardon me.

Behold Him there the risen Lamb,
My perfect spotless righteousness,
The great unchangeable I AM,
The King of glory and of grace,
One with Himself I cannot die.
My soul is purchased by His blood,
My life is hid with Christ on high,
With Christ my Savior and my God!

Words: Charitie Bancroft; Music: Vicki Cook

Confession of Faith | The Heidelberg Catechism #49

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

Q. How does Christ's ascension to heaven benefit us?

A. First, he is our advocate in heaven in the presence of his Father. Second, we have our own flesh in heaven as a sure pledge that Christ our head will also take us, his members, up to himself. Third, he sends his Spirit to us on earth as a corresponding pledge. By the Spirit's power we seek not earthly things but the things above, where Christ is, sitting at God's right hand.

The LORD Converses with Us

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

The New Testament Lesson

Acts 1:1-12

God speaks to us by His Word.

1:1 In the first book, O Theophilus, I have dealt with all that Jesus began to do and teach, **2** until the day when he was taken up, after he had given commands through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. **3** He presented himself alive to them after his suffering by many proofs, appearing to them during forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God.

4 And while staying with them he ordered them not to depart from Jerusalem, but to wait for the promise of the Father, which, he said, "you heard from me; **5** for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now."

6 So when they had come together, they asked him, "Lord, will you at this time restore the kingdom to Israel?" **7** He said to them, "It is not for you to know times or seasons that the Father has fixed by his own authority. **8** But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you, and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem and in all Judea and Samaria, and to the end of the earth." **9** And when he had said these things, as they were looking on, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. **10** And while they were gazing into heaven as he went, behold, two men stood by them in white robes, **11** and said, "Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking into heaven? This Jesus, who was taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven."

12 Then they returned to Jerusalem from the mount called Olivet, which is near Jerusalem, a Sabbath day's journey away.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Sacrament of Baptism

Annabelle Sutter Goff (8:30am)

Sofia Marie Hickman (11am)

To the Parents (Averi & Christopher Goff and Gina & Clifton Hickman):

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 Offering

In gratitude, we offer our gifts to God.

Children are now dismissed for TrinityKids (4 years old - 2nd Grade). After the sermon, their teachers will return them to worship where they will come to you or you may meet them in the Galveston foyer.

The Prayers of the People

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

Vocational Prayer Focus: Healthcare

Church Prayer Focus: Central Bible Church

Mission Prayer Focus: Pregnancy Lifeline

The Reading of the Word

Luke 8:26-39

God speaks to us by His Word.

8:26 Then they sailed to the country of the Gerasenes, which is opposite Galilee. **27** When Jesus had stepped out on land, there met him a man from the city who had demons. For a long time he had worn no clothes, and he had not lived in a house but among the tombs. **28** When he saw Jesus, he cried out and fell down before him and said with a loud voice, "What have you to do with me, Jesus, Son of the Most High God? I beg you, do not torment me." **29** For he had commanded the unclean spirit to come out of the man. (For many a time it had seized him. He was kept under guard and bound with chains and shackles, but he would break the bonds and be driven by the demon into the desert.) **30** Jesus then asked him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Legion," for many demons had entered him. **31** And they begged him not to command them to depart into the abyss. **32** Now a large herd of pigs was feeding there on the hillside, and they begged him to let them enter these. So he gave them permission. **33** Then the demons came out of the man and entered the

pigs, and the herd rushed down the steep bank into the lake and drowned.

34 When the herdsmen saw what had happened, they fled and told it in the city and in the country. **35** Then people went out to see what had happened, and they came to Jesus and found the man from whom the demons had gone, sitting at the feet of Jesus, clothed and in his right mind, and they were afraid. **36** And those who had seen it told them how the demon-possessed man had been healed. **37** Then all the people of the surrounding country of the Gerasenes asked him to depart from them, for they were seized with great fear. So he got into the boat and returned. **38** The man from whom the demons had gone begged that he might be with him, but Jesus sent him away, saying, **39** "Return to your home, and declare how much God has done for you." And he went away, proclaiming throughout the whole city how much Jesus had done for him.

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
"Set Free"

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

Come Then, Lord Jesus

The Church has waited long, her absent Lord to see,
And still in loneliness she waits, a friendless stranger she.
Age after age has gone, sun after sun has set,
And still, in weeds of widowhood, she weeps a mourner yet.

Come then, Lord Jesus, come

Come then, Lord Jesus

Come then, Lord Jesus, come, come, come.

We long to hear Thy voice, to see Thee face to face,
To share Thy crown and glory then, as now we share Thy grace.
Should not the loving bride, the absent Bridegroom mourn?
Should she not wear the weeds of grief, until her Lord return?
(Chorus)

The whole creation groans, and waits to hear that voice
That shall restore her comeliness, and make her wastes rejoice.
Come, Lord, and wipe away, the curse, the sin, the stain,
And make this blighted world of ours, Thine own fair world again.
(Chorus)

Words: Horatius Bonar, Katy Bowser, Kenny Hutson; Music: Katy Bowser & Kenny Hutson

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.

(Chorus)

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.

(Chorus)

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

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

Men's Book Discussion

Join us as we finish out our book discussion series on *The Worry-Free Parent* by Sissy Goff. **We will meet to discuss Section 3 on May 14 at 7:30pm at the Munsons' home (7409 Foxgrass Place, 76123).**

Women's Summer Study

Join us on **Wednesday nights in June at 7pm** as we look at chapters from *Behold and Believe* by Courtney Doctor. This is a great time to meet other women as we also meet Jesus in His Word. Since we are meeting in our new church space, we have the flexibility to introduce some fun new options. Stay tuned for more details coming soon! If you have any questions or would like to help, contact Abby Ware at (abby.m.ware@gmail.com) or Susan Tyner (susan@trinitypresfw.org).

Housewarming Shower

You're invited to our "online" housewarming shower to help stock the kitchen as we set up housekeeping in our new building. Visit our Information Table in the Fellowship Hall to view some of our registry items. Links to participate are in the Church Center app.

Young Adult Lunches

Trinity Young Adults is a group for post-undergrad, in grad school, career, single, or young marrieds. **Come join us weekly after the second service for lunch. We gather as a group by the coffee bar area downstairs around 12:30pm and decide together where to go to lunch.** Details about other ongoing young adult events are in the church center app or contact: Jack (jacksonkassing@gmail.com) or Rachel (rachelkuchem@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 off of the Fellowship Hall (basement level) if you need to nurse or change a diaper! All nursery volunteers have been through both background checks and Ministry Safe training. Parents often check their children out of the nursery and/or TrinityKids prior to Communion so that they can help lead us in our departing hymn.

The Liturgy

Our order of worship may be new to you. Every worship service in every church has a structure. We want to be intentional about ours as it is a real back-and-forth conversation between us and God. He calls us to worship, and then we respond and move through the different elements of the service. We have both spontaneous, personal prayers as well as ancient, printed prayers. Please look over the service beforehand to see what we will hear and say along the way.

Welcome Notepads

At some point during service, a welcome pad will be passed down your row. We would love for you to fill it out and pass it to the person on your right, so that we will have record of your visit. We promise we won't spam you.

Lost and Found

If you have misplaced something, please check our Lost & Found. It is located in a cabinet behind the Information Desk in the Fellowship Hall.

Online Giving

If you'd prefer to give online as either a one-time gift or as a recurring gift, you may do so through our website:

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

Church Office Hours

Our office is closed on Mondays and open Tuesday through Friday 9am – 4pm.

Christian Formation Classes/Rooms:

- 4s – Room 116
- 5s/Kindergarten – Room 214
- 1st/2nd Grades – Room 215
- 3rd/4th Grades – Room 217
- 5th/6th Grades – Room 219
- Middle School – Room 220
- High School – Room 221
- Adult – Chapel (Room 104)

Church Contact Information

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Trinity Presbyterian Church

Our Mission

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

Our Core Commitments

Trinity is a gospel-centered church committed to following Jesus by...

- Worshipping God together through historic liturgy that is rich, accessible, and emotionally honest
- Striving to know and be known in our life together
- Engaging in formative spiritual practices
- Extending the welcome of the gospel in word and deed
- Serving our city

Meeting Address: 207 West Broadway, Fort Worth, TX 76104

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Web: www.trinitypresfw.org

682.703.2120

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