



TRINITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth.

Words for Reflection

Spiritual formation is the process through which those who love and trust Jesus Christ effectively take on his character. When this process is what it should be, they increasingly live their lives as he would if he were in their place.

– Dallas Willard

The kind of spiritual life and disciplines needed to sustain the Christian life are quiet, repetitive, and ordinary. I often want to skip the boring, daily stuff to get to the thrill of an edgy faith. But it's in the dailiness of the Christian faith—the making the bed, the doing the dishes, the praying for our enemies, the reading the Bible, the quiet, the small—that God's transformation takes root and grows.

– Tish Harrison Warren

Union with Christ is the secret to communion with God. You are drawing near to the one who is already near, singing praises to him who is already singing over you (Zeph. 3:17). You are blowing on the embers of God's white-hot love for you so that the truth of it might catch fire that day. But most of all, you are consoled that even when you don't feel its warmth or see its light, the fire is still burning, inextinguishable (Luke 3:16; John 1:5). Union with Christ makes the art of abiding a duty of delight.

– Rankin Wilbourne

Abide in Me, cling to Me, stick fast to Me, live the life of close and intimate communion with Me, get nearer and nearer to Me, roll every burden on Me, cast your whole weight on Me, never let go your hold on Me for a moment.

– J. C. Ryle

Order of Worship

The Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

— September 8, 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

O God, you are my God; earnestly I seek you;
my soul thirsts for you;
my flesh faints for you,
as in a dry and weary land where there is no water.
So I have looked upon you in the sanctuary,
beholding your power and glory.
Because your steadfast love is better than life,
my lips will praise you.
—Psalm 63:1-3 ESV

Hymn of Praise | Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing

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.

Come, Thou Fount of every blessing
Tune my heart to sing Thy grace;
Streams of mercy, never ceasing,
Call for songs of loudest praise
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
Sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount! I'm fixed upon it,
Mount of God's unchanging love.

Here I raise my Ebenezer;
Hither by Thy help I'm come;
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure,
Safely to arrive at home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
Wandering from the fold of God;
He, to rescue me from danger,
Interposed His precious blood.

O to grace how great a debtor
Daily I'm constrained to be!
Let that grace now like a fetter,
Bind my wandering heart to Thee.
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it,
Prone to leave the God I love;
Here's my heart, O take and seal it,
Seal it for Thy courts above.

Words: Robert Robinson; Tune: Folk Song

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 for the life and salvation that we have in Your Son who is the True Vine. Thank You that he has made us clean by the word he has spoken to us. Yet Lord, we confess our struggle to abide in him. We acknowledge how tempted we are to pursue life apart from him. We long to know him more, but we are so easily entangled and discouraged by our sin. We pray You would forgive us through his death and resurrection and that by Your Spirit, we would abide in his love. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Abide in my love. Greater love has no one than this, that someone lay down his life for his friends.

—John 15:9, 13 ESV

Hymn of Response | I Asked the Lord

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

I asked the Lord that I might grow
In faith and love and every grace;
Might more of His salvation know,
And seek more earnestly His face.

'Twas He who taught me thus to pray,
And He I trust has answered prayer,
But it has been in such a way
As almost drove me to despair.

I hoped that in some favored hour
At once He'd answer my request,
And by His love's constraining power
Subdue my sins and give me rest.

Instead of this He made me feel
The hidden evils of my heart,
And let the angry powers of Hell
Assault my soul in every part.

Yea more with His own hand He seemed
Intent to aggravate my woe;
Crossed all the fair designs I schemed,
Cast out my feelings, laid me low.

Lord why is this, I trembling cried,
Wilt Thou pursue thy worm to death?
"Tis in this way" The Lord replied,
"I answer prayer for grace and faith."

"These inward trials I employ
From self and pride to set thee free,
And break thy schemes of earthly joy
That thou mayest seek thy all in me,
That thou mayest seek thy all in me."

Words: John Newton & Laura Taylor; Music: Laura Taylor

Confession of Faith | The Apostles' Creed

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

I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended into hell.*
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father Almighty.
From there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic** church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

**While Jesus didn't literally descend to hell, he did endure the torment of hell on the cross and remained under the power of death until his resurrection.*

***universal*

The LORD Converses with Us

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

The Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 5:1-7

God speaks to us by His Word.

5:1 Let me sing for my beloved my love song concerning his vineyard: My beloved had a vineyard on a very fertile hill. **2** He dug it and cleared it of stones, and planted it with choice vines; he built a watchtower in the midst of it, and hewed out a wine vat in it; and he looked for it to yield grapes, but it yielded wild grapes. **3** And now, O inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, judge between me and my vineyard. **4** What more was there to do for my vineyard, that I have not done in it? When I looked for it to yield grapes, why did it yield wild grapes? **5** And now I will tell you what I will do to my vineyard. I will remove its hedge, and it shall be devoured; I will break down its wall, and it shall be trampled down. **6** I will make it a waste; it shall not be pruned or hoed, and briars and thorns shall grow up; I will also command the clouds that they rain no rain upon it. **7** For the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the house of Israel, and the men of Judah are his pleasant planting; and he looked for justice, but behold, bloodshed; for righteousness, but behold, an outcry!

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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: Education – Teachers, Students, Staff & Administrators

Church Prayer Focus: Grace Community Presbyterian Church

Mission Prayer Focus: Academy 4 – Clarke Elementary

The Reading of the Word

John 15:1-5

God speaks to us by His Word.

15:1 “I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. **2** Every branch in me that does not bear fruit he takes away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes, that it may bear more fruit. **3** Already you are clean because of the word that I have spoken to you. **4** Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit by itself, unless it abides in the vine, neither can you, unless you abide in me. **5** I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in me and I in him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from me you can do nothing.”

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

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

We Abide, We Abide in You

We are the vineyard You have planted

Tend our leaves and wild branches:

We abide, we abide in You.

We abide, we abide in You.

Fruit growing from our strength and labor,

Rain on us with grace and favor:

We abide, we abide in You.

We abide, we abide in You.

Where can my soul find living water?

Apart from You we bear no fruit!

O plant my feet down by the river:

We abide, we abide in You.

Words & Music: Sandra McCracken

How Deep the Father's Love

How deep the Father's love for us,

How vast beyond all measure,

That He should give his only Son

To make a wretch His treasure.

How great the pain of searing loss;

The Father turns His face away,

As wounds which mar the Chosen One

Bring many sons to glory.

Behold the Man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders;
Ashamed, I hear my mocking voice
Call out among the scoffers.
It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished;
His dying breath has brought me life.
I know that it is finished.

I will not boast in anything,
No gifts, no pow'r, no wisdom;
But I will boast in Jesus Christ,
His death and resurrection.
Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer.
But this I know with all my heart.
His wounds have paid my ransom.

Words & Music: Stuart Townend

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 | Satisfied

We respond in faith and song.

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

All my life long I had panted for a drink from some cool spring
That I hoped would quench the burning of the thirst I felt within

Feeding on the filth around me, 'til my strength was almost gone
Longed my soul for something better, only still to hunger on

*Hallelujah! He has found me, the One my soul so long has craved!
Jesus satisfies all my longings, through his blood I now am saved*

Poor I was and sought for riches, something that would satisfy
But the dust I gathered 'round me only mocked my soul's sad cry

*Hallelujah! He has found me, the One my soul so long has craved!
Jesus satisfies all my longings, through his blood I now am saved*

Well of water ever springing, Bread of Life so rich and free
Untold wealth that never faileth, my Redeemer is to me

*Hallelujah! He has found me, the One my soul so long has craved!
Jesus satisfies all my longings, through his blood I now am saved*

Words: Clara T. Williams, 1875; Music: Karl Digerness, 1997

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

Women's Luncheon

Ladies, join us for lunch on **TODAY** to hear about opportunities for Trinity women to connect to each other and to God's Word this year. Lunch will be served immediately after the 11am service (12:30pm) in the Fellowship Hall.

DASH Dinner

Join us **September 10 at the Social Space from 6 – 8pm** for a joyful, **informative fundraising event**. DASH will provide you with a free delicious Mediterranean dinner, live music, and the screening of a testimony highlighting the story of a beloved DASH graduate who is now serving as a trauma nurse in DFW. Registration is free but space is limited. The link to register is in the Church Center app under "Events". We look forward to seeing you there!

Softball Game

Please join us on September 29 at 3pm for some family fun at the Gateway Park Complex, Field 3! Trinity will face off against our friends at Fort Worth Pres. We will have a kids kickball game first, followed by an adult softball game. Bring your own drinks and snacks. If you are an experienced softball player, reach out to Jerry Bolz (817.808.8997) if you want to play.

Fall Youth Retreat

7th-12th grade students, please join us for our annual fall retreat, Roctober on October 18 – 19. Churches from all over our presbytery will gather for a weekend of worship and fellowship in Denton, Texas! The cost is \$90/student. More details and registration can be found 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 at the back of the sanctuary 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 Rebecca (rebecca.boswell17@gmail.com).

Women's Fall Bible Study

Women's Bible study registration is open! This fall we will continue our journey through the Old Testament by using *What's SHE Doing Here? The Messy Women in Jesus's Genealogy*. **The morning study will meet in the Fellowship Hall beginning on September 12, 9:30am-11am (note new start time). Childcare is provided. The evening study will begin the following Wednesday, September 18, at Becky Burt's home, 7pm-8:30pm.** Our book cost is \$15. You may purchase this book when you register on the Church Center app. Questions? Contact Susan Tyner (susan@trinitypresfw.org).

Men's Bible Study

Join us starting September 4 & 5 for our Men's Bible study through the book of Proverbs. **There are two options: a Wednesday lunch study from 12 – 1pm in the Fellowship Hall (lunch provided) and a Thursday study from 6:30 - 7:30am in the Fellowship Hall (coffee provided).** Our hope is to learn "skill in the art of godly living" by looking at the Scriptures and hearing Wisdom Stories. Register on the Church Center app!

Christian Formation Classes

Pastor Brian is teaching "The Rhythms of Grace: The Practices of Abiding in Jesus" in the Sanctuary and Pastor Andy is teaching "How to

Read the Bible for All It's Worth" in the Chapel. All of the classrooms are listed on page 22.

Serve at Trinity

Trinity has many ministry areas that require volunteers. Now is a great time to check out the list of needs and see where you can get plugged in! **Visit Church Center Home page and click on the box that says "Serve" at the bottom to get involved!**

Morning Prayer

Join us in the chapel on Friday mornings at 8am for prayer. Anyone is welcome!

Our Building

Please visit our Building Updates and Prayer page on Church Center to see the ongoing list of needs and ways to contribute toward them. So far we have received \$47,724 toward the playground area, \$1,205 for misc/ffe, and \$6,410 for our landscaping needs. At the link below, you can see more details of our specific needs as well as give to them. Also, the page includes a way to let us know if you see any issues in the building that need addressing. Thanks for your help!



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 (Pastor Brian) – Sanctuary
“The Rhythms of Grace: The Practices of Abiding in Jesus”
- Adult (Pastor Andy) – Chapel (Room 104)
“How to Read the Bible for All It's Worth”

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).