



TRINITY
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

Love God. Love People. Love Fort Worth.

Words for Reflection

Corporate worship is designed to give you rest as you consider the unshakable rule, now and forever, of your wise and loving Savior King.

– Paul Tripp

I believe that every particle of dust that dances in the sunbeam does not move an atom more or less than God wishes—that every particle of spray that dashes against the steamboat has its orbit as well as the sun in the heavens—that the chaff from the hand of the winnower is steered as the stars in their courses... There is no half way between a mighty God that worketh all things by the sovereign counsel of his will and no God at all. A God that cannot do as he pleases—a God whose will is frustrated, is not a God, and cannot be a God.

– Charles Spurgeon

A simple definition of sovereignty is the supreme, unencumbered rulership of God.

– Will Wyatt

I was the lion you do not remember who pushed the boat in which you lay, a child near death, so that it came to shore where a man sat, wakeful at midnight, to receive you.

– C. S. Lewis, *The Horse and His Boy*

Order of Worship

The Seventeenth Sunday after Pentecost

— September 15, 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

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens;

praise him in the heights!

Kings of the earth and all peoples,

princes and all rulers of the earth!

Young men and maidens together,

old men and children!

Let them praise the name of the LORD,

for his name alone is exalted;

his majesty is above earth and heaven.

— Psalm 148:1, 11-13 ESV

Hymn of Praise | All Creatures of Our God and King

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.

All creatures of our God and King,
Lift up your voice and with us sing,
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
Thou silver moon with softer gleam,

*Refrain: O praise Him! O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Thou rushing wind that art so strong
Ye clouds that sail in Heaven along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rushing morn in praise rejoice,
Ye lights of evening find a voice
(Refrain)

Let all things their Creator bless,
And worship Him in humbleness.
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son
And praise the Spirit, Three in One
(Refrain)

Public Domain; Words: Saint Francis of Assisi; Music: German Tune

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 rule and reign over all things and that You are worthy to receive glory and honor and power. Yet Lord, we confess how often we fail to trust You as our King. Instead, we grow fearful and look for safety and security where it cannot be found. We pray that You would forgive us through the death and resurrection of Your

Son, and enable us by Your Spirit to trust him and worship him. In his name we pray. Amen.

Silent Confession

Assurance of Forgiveness

But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

—John 1:12-14 ESV

Hymn of Response | We Are Not Overcome

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

Flesh will fail, bones will break
Thieves will steal, the earth will shake
Night will fall, the light will fade
The Lord will give and take away.

Put no trust in the earth
In the sod you stand upon
Flowers fade into dust,
The Lord will make a place for us.

*Because of His great love,
We are not overcome
Because of His great love,
We are not overcome*

Have no fear for your life;
Turn your cheek, turn your cheek
Bear the yoke of love and death;
The Lord will give life and breath.
(Chorus)

Words & Music: Robert Heiskell & Isaac Wardell

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 New Testament Lesson

Revelation 4:1-11

God speaks to us by His Word.

4:1 After this I looked, and behold, a door standing open in heaven! And the first voice, which I had heard speaking to me like a trumpet, said, "Come up here, and I will show you what must take place after this." **2** At once I was in the Spirit, and behold, a throne stood in heaven, with one seated on the throne. **3** And he who sat there had the appearance of jasper and carnelian, and around the throne was a rainbow that had the appearance of an emerald. **4** Around the throne were twenty-four thrones, and seated on the thrones were twenty-four elders, clothed in white garments, with golden crowns on their heads. **5** From the throne came flashes of lightning, and rumblings and peals of thunder, and before the throne were burning seven torches of fire, which are the seven spirits of God, **6** and before the throne there was as it were a sea of glass, like crystal.

And around the throne, on each side of the throne, are four living creatures, full of eyes in front and behind: **7** the first living creature like a lion, the second living creature like an ox, the third living creature with the face of a man, and the fourth living creature like an eagle in flight. **8** And the four living creatures, each of them with six wings, are full of eyes all around and within, and day and night they never cease to say, "Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!" **9** And whenever the living creatures give glory and honor and thanks to him who is seated on the throne, who lives forever and ever, **10** the twenty-four elders fall down before him who is seated on the throne and worship him who lives forever and ever. They cast their crowns before the throne, saying, **11** "Worthy are you, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they existed and were created."

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.

Reformed University Fellowship @ TCU

The Reading of the Word

Ezekiel 1:15-28

God speaks to us by His Word.

1:15 Now as I looked at the living creatures, I saw a wheel on the earth beside the living creatures, one for each of the four of them. **16** As for the appearance of the wheels and their construction: their appearance was like the gleaming of beryl. And the four had the same likeness, their appearance and construction being as it were a wheel within a wheel. **17** When they went, they went in any of their four directions without turning as they went. **18** And their rims were tall and awesome, and the rims of all four were full of eyes all around. **19** And when the living creatures went, the wheels went beside them; and when the living creatures rose from the earth, the wheels rose. **20** Wherever the spirit wanted to go, they went, and the wheels rose along with them, for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels. **21** When those went, these went; and when those stood, these stood; and when those rose from the earth, the wheels rose along with them, for the spirit of the living creatures was in the wheels.

22 Over the heads of the living creatures there was the likeness of an expanse, shining like awe-inspiring crystal, spread out above their heads. 23 And under the expanse their wings were stretched out straight, one toward another. And each creature had two wings covering its body. 24 And when they went, I heard the sound of their wings like the sound of many waters, like the sound of the Almighty, a sound of tumult like the sound of an army. When they stood still, they let down their wings. 25 And there came a voice from above the expanse over their heads. When they stood still, they let down their wings.

26 And above the expanse over their heads there was the likeness of a throne, in appearance like sapphire; and seated above the likeness of a throne was a likeness with a human appearance. 27 And upward from what had the appearance of his waist I saw as it were gleaming metal, like the appearance of fire enclosed all around. And downward from what had the appearance of his waist I saw as it were the appearance of fire, and there was brightness around him. 28 Like the appearance of the bow that is in the cloud on the day of rain, so was the appearance of the brightness all around.

Such was the appearance of the likeness of the glory of the Lord. And when I saw it, I fell on my face, and I heard the voice of one speaking.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

The Preaching of the Word

Rev. Bradford Green

Wheels at Work

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

It Is Finished

Hark, the voice of love and mercy,
Sounds aloud from Calvary!
See, it rends the rocks asunder,
Shakes the earth and veils the sky!
"It is finished, it is finished"
Hear the dying Savior cry.

"It is finished," O what pleasure,
Do these charming words afford.
Heavenly blessings, without measure,
Flow to us from Christ the Lord.
"It is finished, it is finished,"
Saints the dying words record.

Finished all the types and shadows,
Of the ceremonial law;
Finished all that God had promised;
Death and hell no more shall awe.
"It is finished, it is finished,"
Saints from hence your comfort draw.

Tune your harps anew, ye seraphs;
Join to sing the pleasing theme;
Saints on earth and all in heaven,
Join to praise Immanuel's name.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Glory to the bleeding lamb!

Words: Attributed to Jonathan Evans, 1784 & Benjamin Francis, 1787
Music: Jeff Koonce

When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

When I survey the wondrous cross
On which the Prince of glory died,
My richest gain I count but loss,
And pour contempt on all my pride.

Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,
Save in the death of Christ my God;
All the vain things that charm me most,
I sacrifice them to His blood.

See from His head, His hands, His feet,
Sorrow and love flow mingled down;
Did e'er such love and sorrow meet,
Or thorns compose so rich a crown?

Were the whole realm of nature mine,
That were a present far too small:
Love so amazing, so divine,
Demands my soul, my life, my all.

Words: Isaac Watts; Music: Folk Tune

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 | And Can It Be?

We respond in faith and song.

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

And can it be that I should gain
An interest in the Savior's blood?
Died He for me who caused His pain!
For me who Him to death pursued?
Amazing love! How can it be
That thou, my God, should die for me?

*Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me!
Amazing love! How can it be
That Thou, my God, should die for me!*

He left His Father's throne above,
So free, so infinite His grace!
Emptied Himself of all but love,
And bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free,
For O my God, it found out me!
(Chorus)

Long my imprisoned spirit lay,
Fast bound in sin and nature's night;
Thine eye diffused a quickening ray;
I woke, the dungeon flamed with light;
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed Thee.
(Chorus)

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in Him, is mine;
Alive in Him, my living Head,
And clothed in righteousness divine,
Bold I approach the eternal throne,
And claim the crown, through Christ, my own.
(Chorus)

Words: Charles Wesley; Music: Scott Roley

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

Bradford Green

Bradford Green has been the campus minister at TCU since 2019 and with RUF since 2013. Originally from Tennessee (GBO!), he's married to native Texan and TCU RUF alum Cristina. They have three kids: Weldon (10); Rosie (8); and Wilkes (5); and attend Trinity. The Greens met at Young Life's Wilderness Ranch in 2010 and love calling Fort Worth home.

Belize Mission Trip Recap

Join us for Christian Formation at 10am in the Sanctuary on Sunday, September 22 for a Recap of our June 2024 Belize Mission Trip & Preview our 2025 trip. We'll hear from various participants, watch a short slideshow, and discuss details for how you can join us in 2025! Middle School and High School students will be with us for this class.

Women 2 Women Groups

Check out a new opportunity for women to plug into community while applying God's Word to their everyday lives. Women 2 Women offers small group and one-one-one mentors who will foster safe and biblically based conversations. **Check out the groups available on the Church Center app and register soon!**

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.

Wisdom Stories: Burnout, Rest, and Ambition

Men, join us on Thursday, October 3, at 730pm in the Fellowship Hall for a panel and discussion on Over-working & Burnout. We'll discuss Rest on November 7, and Ambition on December 4. Snacks & beverages provided. Come & bring all your tired friends!

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

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 meets in the Fellowship Hall, Thursdays, 9:30am-11am (note new start time). Childcare is provided. The evening study will begin 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 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!

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, \$1,830 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).