

CHRIST

THE
Redeemer



Fourth Sunday in Advent

December 22, 2019

Visiting with us today?

We are glad you are here! We would love to reach out to you (not in a nagging way) this week. Please fill out a card in the seat pockets and place in the offering basket or hand to an usher or pastor, or text your name to: **314-384-2444**.

We are happy your little ones are here too. They are welcome throughout the worship service, but if you prefer we offer:

- Nursery care for children 6 weeks through pre-school age.
- Children's Church gathers in the 1st & 2nd gr. classroom (room 111) during the offering for ages 4yrs through 2nd grade (and stays there for the remainder of the service).
- The worship service is streamed to the Fireplace Room for nursing moms.

If you are not able to find seats in the sanctuary, overflow is set up in the Youth Room.

www.trinitychurchkirkwood.org • 314.821.7311

WORSHIPING THE GOD WHO REDEEMS US

Liturgist: Rev. Chris Polski

Pastoral Prayer: Ruling Elder, Michael Jorgensen

Scripture Reader: Kathy O'Neal

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Quotes and Reflections

"The heart of the gospel is redemption, and the essence of redemption is the substitutionary sacrifice of Christ." — C.H. Spurgeon

"Redeemed how I love to proclaim it! Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb; Redeemed through His infinite mercy, His child, and forever, I am."
— Franny Cosby

WE READY OURSELVES TO WORSHIP

Reflect quietly and prayerfully on these words as we prepare to enter into worship.

Wayne Grudem, in his Systematic Theology, asks a question that all of us have pondered at some time in our life: “Was there any other way for God to save (redeem) human beings than by sending his Son to die in our place?” His answer is helpful in that it points us to five critical scripture texts for help in forming a biblically informed answer.

First, he points to 2 Peter 2:4 to remind us that there is a sense in which God didn’t have to save anybody because he didn’t spare the fallen angels. *“For if God did not spare angels when they sinned, but cast them into hell and committed them to chains of gloomy darkness to be kept until the judgment.”*

But once God determined that he desired to save fallen humanity there was only one way to do so. Matthew 26:39 indicates that it would require the substitutionary death of his son, Jesus. *“And going a little farther he (Jesus) fell on his face and prayed, saying, ‘My Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me; nevertheless, not as I will, but as you will.’”*

In Luke 24:25-26, after his resurrection, we see that Jesus understood that his death and resurrection was a part of God’s necessary plan to save. *“And he said to them, ‘O foolish ones, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken! Was it not necessary that the Christ should suffer these things and enter into his glory?’”*

Paul, in Romans 3:26, shows that when the Father and the Son covenanted together to accomplish redemption, they did so to uphold both God’s perfect justice and his perfect love. *“It was to show his righteousness at the present time, so that he might be just and the justifier of the one who has faith in Jesus.”*

And finally, in Hebrew 9:23-26 we see that God was always pointing forward to a time when the sacrificial system would come to a culmination in the once and forever sacrifice to end sin. *“Thus it was necessary for the copies of the heavenly things to be purified with these rites, but the heavenly things themselves with better sacrifices than these. For Christ has entered, not into holy places made with hands, which are copies of the true things, but into heaven itself, now to appear in the presence of God on our behalf. Nor was it to offer himself repeatedly, as the high priest enters the holy places every year with blood not his own, for then he would have had to suffer repeatedly since the foundation of the world. But as it is, he has appeared once for all at the end of the ages to put away sin by the sacrifice of himself.”*

Song of Preparation

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Trinity Hymnal #193

God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth. — John 4:24

***Call to Worship—Psalm 80:1-3**

Leader: Give ear, O Shepherd of Israel, you who lead Joseph like a flock.

People: You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, shine forth.

Leader: Before Ephraim and Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your might and come to save us!

All: Restore us, O God; let your face shine, that we may be saved!

WE DECLARE THE ETERNAL WORTHINESS OF GOD

***Songs of Adoration**

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

Trinity Hymnal #203

I Will Sing of My Redeemer

Trinity Hymnal #650

***Prayer of Adoration**

WE HEAR FROM GOD'S WORD

Old Testament Reading—Isaiah 7:10-16

The sign of Emmanuel

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz: "Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test." And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted."

Reader: The grass withers and the flowers fall, but the word of the Lord stands forever!

People: Amen!

WE CONFESS OUR UTTER UNWORTHINESS BEFORE GOD

Call to Confession—2 Samuel 7:18-19

Then King David went in and sat before the Lord and said, "Who am I, O Lord God, and what is my house, that you have brought me thus far? And yet this was a small thing in your eyes, O Lord God. You have spoken also of your servant's house for a great while to come, and this is instruction for mankind, O Lord God!"

Silent Confession and Lament

WE ENCOUNTER AND REJOICE IN THE AMAZING GRACE OF GOD

"As we pour out our bitterness, God pours in His peace." — F.B. Meyer

Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace—Galatians 4:4-7

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

Leader: People of God, give thanks to God for His adopting love!

People: Thanks be to God!

Leader: Now may the peace of Christ be with you all!

People: And also with you!

***Song of Rejoicing**

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

Trinity Hymnal #224

Children's Sermon

Song of Response

There Is a Fountain Filled with Blood

Trinity Hymnal #253

WE HUMBLE OURSELVES BEFORE THE LORD

Pastoral Prayer

Tithes and Offerings

(Children ages 4yr to 2nd grade may be excused for Children's Church in the 1st/2nd grade classroom.)

Offertory Song (Ensemble)

Noel

Arr. by Heather Sorenson. Words by Matt Redman, Chris Tomlin, and Ed Cash

Sermon

"Christ the Redeemer"

John 1:11-13

Rev. Chris Polski

*Song of Response

This Is Jesus

Darren Mulligan, Kyle Williams, Drake Kennedy, and Tony Wood. Arr. by Dustin Loehrs and Grant Wall

♩ = 78
C **F** **C** **Am** **G** **C**
 Cunis *Sus. Cym.*
Ethereal Synth *Piano lead (cues), Synth out* *Ac. Gtr. finger-picking*
 1. Night of
 (2. O the)

1 Verse *mf-mz*
 1X - Pad and Ac. Gtr. diamonds
 2X - Light groove, Bass out
C **G** **F** **C**
 1X - play ()
 6 won - der still and si - lent heav - en's bril - liance from a - bove. Light of
 mys - t'ry, who could fath - om? God would leave his Ho - ly throne for a
 1X - Solo; 2X - harm.

G **F** **C**
 10 glo - ry, pierced the dark - ness mer - cy pierced all my heart with love. This is
 man - ger, for a sin - ner, for us all to be His own.

2 Chorus *1x - add cello*
2x - Band in full
Am **G** **F** **C** **Am** **G** **F**
 14 Je - sus, King of glo - ry, here to res - cue from the fall. Son of
 18 God Who comes to save us, Prince of Peace and Lord of all.

C **F** **C** **Am** **G** **C** **C**
 1X - add Band (lite groove), Piano cues
 22 Ooh. Ooh. 2. O the Octaves Re -

6 Verse *sub. ♩* *Piano & Cello*
F2 **C** **G** **F**
 47 all. Solo 3. For the hearts so prone to wan - der for these feet so quick to
 51 flee, God is here and love is reach - ing for the lost and least of these.

*Benediction

These are just announcement highlights. If you'd like to know more about Trinity, connect with us in one of the following ways...

• 314/821-7311 • www.trinitychurchkirkwood.org • Facebook: Trinity Church Kirkwood

Worship and General Church Information

- **No Sunday school today.** Classes for all ages will resume in the new year.
- **Join us tonight for our annual Christmas Concert.** This will be a beautiful concert telling the story of God's plan for humanity through narration, song, and art. Come early for seats! **Doors open at 6pm.** Concert is at 6:30.
- **Volunteers next week:** Nursery: Schlitt, Mitchell, Johler, Roberts, Younger. Ushers: Hendricks, Oehlerking, Garner, Moen, Smith.
- **No Men's Bible Study this Friday.** Studies will resume on Jan. 10.
- **No Women's Bible Study** this week. The Wed. morning group will begin on Jan. 15th. Sign up and pick up the Galatians study on the hall table.
- **Ladies, you are all invited to a baby shower** for Addie Akin (and baby girl Akin) on Sat., Jan. 11th at the Polski's home from 10am to noon. Please RSVP to Amy Mitchell.
- **Nursery workers are needed** for our **second Christmas Eve service at 5:30pm.** Please see Hallie Van Duren if you are able to help.
- Did you know you can use the **Church Center app** for online giving, to sign up for events, connect with your small groups, bible studies, etc? Contact the church office if you need help setting it up.
- This year we will offer **two services on Christmas Eve: 4pm and 5:30pm.** Both services will be the same with the exception that the 4pm service will include a children's sermon.
- Our annual **giving tree** is in the entrance to the sanctuary. If you would like to donate to one of the ministries on the tree, you may drop off your contribution in the basket near the tree or donate on the Church Center app. Thank you for your generosity. More information regarding the ministries can be found on the flyer on the table in the hallway.
- **No Ladies Connect** in December.
- The **deadline to sign up for the UK mission trip is extended** to Jan. 19, 2020. Please see Pastor Nate if you have any questions.

Year End Giving

As you prayerfully consider your year-end giving to Trinity, you might want to explore a donation of marketable stock. With the prolonged rise in the stock markets, a gift of appreciated stock might not only benefit Trinity but also give you a favorable tax treatment. Stock gifts can be directed to the Capital Campaign, the General Fund or both.

If you have any questions about this type of giving or are ready to start the process of gifting stock, please contact Bill Kling or Duncan Highmark. They will be happy to assist you in this simple process. May God richly bless you as contribute your tithes and offerings to His church.

Trinity's ministries are organized around the core values in our purpose statement which reads: Trinity Church exists to **exalt** God's name, **establish** God's people, **equip** God's church and **engage** God's world, in the power of the Holy Spirit and for the sake of the Risen King, Jesus Christ.

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