

THE BEAUTY OF CORPORATE WORSHIP

PIPER ON THE IMPORTANCE OF CORPORATE WORSHIP AS SEEN IN PSALM 42

O how much could be said here about the importance of corporate worship in our lives. Don't take these times together lightly. What we do here is a real transaction with the living God. God means for these encounters with Him in corporate worship to preserve your faith now and in the way you remember them later. If corporate worship were not a real supernatural work of God, it would be pure sentimentalism for the psalmist to remember his experiences. He is not engaging in nostalgia. He is confirming his faith in the midst of turmoil and discouragement by remembering how real God was in corporate worship.



LLOYD-JONES ON PREACHING TO YOURSELF

Have you realized that most of your unhappiness in life is due to the fact that you are listening to yourself instead of talking to yourself? Take those thoughts that come to you the moment you wake up in the morning. You have not originated them, but they are talking to you, they bring back the problems of yesterday, etc. Somebody is talking. Who is talking to you? Your self is talking to you. Now this man's treatment [in Psalm 42] was this: instead of allowing this self to talk to him, he starts talking to himself. "Why art thou cast down, O my soul?" he asks. His soul had been depressing him, crushing him. So he stands up and says: "Self, listen for a moment, I will speak to you." (*Spiritual Depression*, 20–21)

The Lord's Day in Worship

TRINITY PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

MONTGOMERY, ALABAMA

MAY 17, 2020

MORNING WORSHIP

THE SILENT MEDITATION UPON ENTERING THE SANCTUARY

*How long wilt Thou conceal Thy face?
My God, how long delay?
When shall I feel those heav'nly rays
That chase my fears away?
How long shall my poor laboring soul
Wrestle and toil in vain?
Thy word can all my foes control
And ease my raging pain.*

— ISAAC WATTS



We Enter Into God's Presence

The Prelude

Two settings of "This Joyful Eastertide"
Gammal fäbodpsalm

Bender/Wagner
Oskar Lindberg

For those of you who are not present physically, you will be invited to stand when able, and to be seated when necessary. Worship is participative and not passive. God has designed us to be physical creatures and sometimes our hearts and minds will follow our posture.

The Striking of the Hour

† The Call to Worship

Mr. Howell

Minister: God is the gladness of our joy; the gladness of our rejoicing.

All: We worship in spirit and in truth.

Minister: The chief end of man is to glorify God and enjoy Him forever!

All: We were made to enjoy God with overflowing praise!

Minister: Draw near to God, and He will draw near to you.

All: All You have made will praise You, O LORD; Your saints will extol You.

O worship the King all-glorious above,
O gratefully sing His pow'r and His love;
Our shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days,
Pavilioned in splendor and girded with praise.

O tell of His might, O sing of His grace,
Whose robe is the light, Whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form,
And dark is His path on the wings of the storm.

Frail children of dust, and feeble as frail,
In You do we trust, nor find you to fail;
Your mercies how tender, how firm to the end,
Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer, and Friend!

† The Confession of Our Faith

The Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth;
and in Jesus Christ His only Son our Lord; Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost;
born of the Virgin Mary; suffered under Pontius Pilate; was crucified, dead, and
buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead;
He ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints;
the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

† The Prayer of Adoration and Invocation

† The Lord's Prayer

**Our Father which art in heaven, hallowed be Thy name.
Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in 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, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen.**

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

We Receive Cleansing in Christ

The Morning Prayers

The Call to Confession

For I know that nothing good dwells in me, that is, in my flesh. For I have the desire to do what is right, but not the ability to carry it out. For I do not do the good I want, but the evil I do not want is what I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want, it is no longer I who do it, but sin that dwells within me. Wretched man that I am! Who will deliver me from this body of death? [Romans 7:18-20, 24]

The Silent, Personal, Prayer of Confession

The Corporate Prayer of Confession

Almighty and everlasting God and Father, we confess that too often when we examine our hearts, we find spiritual dryness. Our spiritual dryness reveals excessive loves, false hopes, and disproportionate amusements. We are, in fact, amusing ourselves to death. Lord have mercy; Christ have mercy. Teach me the truism that we are more wicked, sinful, and flawed than we ever dared believe and yet, at the same time, we are more loved and accepted in Jesus Christ than we ever dared hope. Remove from us that wickedness as far as the east is from the west, and accept us now in the Beloved; for it is in His Holy Name we pray, Amen.

The Assurance of God's Pardon

Child of God, give thanks to the Lord, for He is good. His steadfast love for you endures forever.

The Pastoral Prayer

† A Beloved Hymn of the Trinity Family #28

No. 170

Fairest Lord Jesus

CRUSADER'S HYMN

In 2020, we are counting down our top requested hymns from our "favorite hymn survey."

Fairest Lord Jesus, Ruler of all nature, Son of God and Son of Man!
Thee will I cherish, Thee will I honor, Thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.

Fair are the meadows, fair are the woodlands, robed in the blooming garb of spring:
Jesus is fairer, Jesus is purer, Who makes the woeful heart to sing.

Beautiful Savior! Lord of the nations! Son of God and Son of Man!
Glory and honor, praise, adoration, now and for evermore be Thine.

The Christian Greeting and Announcements

We Receive God's Word

† The Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 42

As a deer pants for flowing streams, so pants my soul for You, O God. 2 My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When shall I come and appear before God? 3 My tears have been my food day and night, while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?" 4 These things I remember, as I pour out my soul: how I would go with the throng and lead them in procession to the house of God with glad shouts and songs of praise, a multitude keeping festival. 5 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him, my salvation and my God. My soul is cast down within me; therefore I remember You from the land of Jordan and of Hermon, from Mount Mizar. 7 Deep calls to deep at the roar of Your waterfalls; all Your breakers and Your waves have gone over me. 8 By day the Lord commands His steadfast love, and at night His song is with me, a prayer to the God of my life. 9 I say to God, my rock: "Why have You forgotten me? Why do I go mourning because of the oppression of the enemy?" 10 As with a deadly wound in my bones, my adversaries taunt me, while they say to me all the day long, "Where is your God?" 11 Why are you cast down, O my soul, and why are you in turmoil within me? Hope in God; for I shall again praise Him, my salvation and my God.

HOPE IN GOD!!

Draw Near to God, and He Will Draw Near to You

Psalms 42 and 43

OPENING COMMENTS

INTRODUCTION

Thanks to J.M. Boice (outline+) who gleaned much from D. Martyn Lloyd-Jones' expositions on Psalms 42-43, *Spiritual Depression: It's Causes and Cure* (see front cover).

I. CAUSES OF SPIRITUAL DEPRESSION ~ PSALM 42

- A. Forced absence from the temple of God, where God was worshipped ~ 42:1-2
- B. The taunts of unbelievers ~ 42:3, 10
- C. Memories of Better Days ~ 42:4
- D. The overwhelming trials of life ~ 42:7
- E. Failure of God to act quickly on our behalf ~ 42:9
- F. Attacks from ungodly, deceitful, and wicked men ~ 43:1

II. THE CURE FOR SPIRITUAL DEPRESSION ~ 42:5, 11; 43:5

- A. Take yourself in hand.
- B. Act upon that which you have preached to yourself.
- C. Trust. Trust in a great certainty. Trust in a great God ~ Who does not change.

CONCLUSION

For Further Study: Psalm 18:30; 81:1-2; 119:131; Jeremiah 2:13; 17:13; Mark 9:24; John 11:33; 12:27; 13:21; 14:9; Romans 7:19; II Corinthians 4:4

The Closing Prayer

We Go in Thanksgiving to Serve

† The Hymn *Before the Throne of God Above* (see page 8)

† The Sending

Go in peace. Your Prophet, Priest and King goes before you. Hope in God; for you shall again praise Him, your Salvation and your God; your Everything

† The Benediction of God's Grace and the Congregation's AMEN

Minister: Now to Him Who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to Him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever.

People: AMEN.

† The Postlude *Symphony No. 2 – VI. Finale* C.M. Widor



The Sanctuary Flowers

**THE SANCTUARY FLOWERS THIS LORD'S DAY ARE GIVEN
TO THE GLORY OF GOD AND IN LOVING MEMORY OF**

Stephanie Holt Harmon

1/25/85 - 5/15/05

Cathy Lowe

5/19/28 - 5/13/75

B. R. Lowe, Jr.

5/30/24 - 5/17/11

BY THEIR FAMILY.

Before The Throne Of God Above



1. Be - fore the throne of God a - bove I have a
2. When Sa - tan tempts me to des - pair And tells me
3. Be - hold Him there the ris - en Lamb, My per - fect



strong and per - fect plea. A great high Priest whose Name is
of the guilt with - in, Up - ward I look and see Him
spot - less righteous - ness, The great un - change - a - ble I



Love Who ev - er lives and pleads for me. My name is
there Who made an end of all my sin. Be - cause the
AM, The King of glo - ry and of grace, One with Him -



grav - en on His hands, My name is writ - ten on His
sin - less Sav - ior died My sin - ful soul is count - ed
self I can - not die. My soul is pur - chased by His



heart. I know that while in heav'n He stands No tongue can
free. For God the just is sat - is - fied To look on
blood, My life is hid with Christ on high, With Christ my



bid me thence de - part. No tongue can bid me thence de - part.
Him and par - don me. To look on Him and par - don me.
Sav - ior and my God! With Christ my Sav - ior and my God!

PHASE 1 REOPENING PLAN
Congregational Communication

Dear Trinity Member,

This Sunday, May 17, our church building will be open for worshippers to attend in person per the guidelines from our State and local authorities. We ask everyone to review this communication thoroughly before deciding about attending worship in person. The church has been cleaned per the CDC guidelines and the staff and volunteers have been screened. If you do attend in person, please help us maintain an orderly, safe, and worshipful environment by following these instructions. Our collective cooperation and self-discipline are two of the most important components to help us moving forward.

We encourage you to make the decision that is best for you and your family

- While we are permitted to gather for worship now, we are not encouraging nor suggesting everyone needs to do so. We sincerely urge each person to take the best precautions you can for your own health and safety. This is especially true if you are in the high-risk category.
- If you are medically at risk or concerned about other family members that could be affected, we recommend caution and perhaps waiting a bit longer before returning.
- If you do decide to attend, please self-check temperature and ascertain that no one's temperature is above 99 degrees before choosing to come.
- Livestream broadcast and radio will still be provided for those remaining at home.

CDC Guidelines for Personal Safety are still in effect

Please remember that these CDC guidelines are still in effect for each of us when we go out.

They recommend the following:

- Always wear a face covering.
- Wash your hands often and for at least 20 seconds.
- Disinfect things you touch, and do not touch what you do not have to.
- Avoid touching your face.
- Practice good etiquette when coughing/sneezing.
- Stay at least 6 feet away from others.
- Avoid large groups.

Given these guidelines and those from our Governor, what will the worship service be like?

- We will have one worship service only at 11:00.
- There will be no Sunday School or Small Groups on-campus. Sunday School classes are encouraged to make plans that best suits their members. There is no set time for classes to meet.
- No Nursery or Children's Church
- No Choir
- No Coffee or food
- No Evening Worship
- No Midweek activities
- No Prayer Breakfast
- All hymnals and other materials from pew racks will be removed.
- We will use single-use bulletins with words of hymns and any responses printed. The bulletins will be placed on the pews prior to the service. Please take all used personal items (bulletin, gloves, mask) with you as leave.
- Masks are not required, but are encouraged (especially when singing). You will need to supply your own mask. Staff and volunteers (except for worship leaders) will be masked and gloved.
- There will be four spaces available for worship:
 - o The Sanctuary – please enter though the main entrance
 - o Trinity Hall (Livestreamed) – Please enter under the Porte Cochere
 - o The Westminster Room (Livestreamed) – Please enter by the play ground. **This room will be available for those who want a low risk environment. Masks will be required for those worshipping in the Westminster Room.**
 - o Outside Front Lawn - We will also broadcast the radio broadcast outside the Sanctuary for those who wish to worship on the lawn, weather permitting.
- Please try to arrive a bit early so that we can seat everyone in a timely manner. **You will be seated and dismissed by the Ushers starting at the front of the Sanctuary. The ushers will dismiss the congregation in the opposite order.** Our organist will begin playing an instrumental Prelude at 10:45 AM.

- Seating will be on every other pew which gives the needed six-foot distancing. Couples and families certainly are not expected to have 6 feet between each person. Please keep at least two empty seats or six feet of separation between parties on a row (unless family).
- Doors will be propped open so that handles are not needed for opening.
- Spray hand sanitizing stations will be available.
- Before and after the service, please do not gather and socialize inside the building, even though the habit will be hard to limit. Social distancing is still in effect on campus.
- Please be understanding and cooperative if the Sanctuary reaches capacity and you are not able to worship in the Sanctuary. If the Sanctuary fills to the safe capacity, please use Trinity Hall for overflow worship. The same protocol will be in place in that room.
- Offering plates will not be passed but will be available at the exits.

Regardless of your decision, please exercise charity and grace toward others whose decisions and personal protocol differ from your own. It is precisely because there is no “one size fits all” solution that we have chosen the path of providing options for people and letting them make the decision that best fits them.

Thank you for your cooperative and unified attitude you have shown during this unusual season. Returning to “normal” church activities will be more of a process than an event. We are hopeful that as the weeks progress we will be able to return gradually to a more normalized life in every way, including as a church family. To that end, we will continue to monitor the conditions and standards and adjust as necessary.

Your Brother in Christ,

Patrick Curles
Executive Minister

A MESSAGE TO THOSE AT HIGHER RISK

Dear Members of Trinity Church Who Might Be at Higher Risk for Covid-19,

First of all, we want you to know we love you. You are an extremely valuable part of the body of Christ at Trinity Church and a beloved child of God. It is because we love you that we wanted to reiterate your need to think of your own well-being as a priority during this time.

We know that some churches are urging those 65 and older to continue to worship online via livestream or the radio. As Patrick has said in his correspondence: because you CAN be present in worship does not necessarily mean you SHOULD be present. We wanted you to hear from your pastoral care ministers that you should not feel compelled to attend in person nor should you feel guilty if you stay home. Should you decide to worship on campus, please take all necessary precautions for high-risk persons.

If you are present this Lord's Day, we look forward to seeing you. If you choose to continue to worship at home, we will miss you but trust you are taking care of yourself.

Should you have any need at all, do not hesitate to call one of us day or night: Claude (334-462-7770) or Michael (334-462-7789).

You are loved, and you are prayed for.

Claude and Michael



A congregation of the Presbyterian Church in America (PCA)

trinitypca.org