



July 27, 2025

## *Welcome to Trinity! We are glad to have you worship with us this morning!*

Our ultimate purpose in life is to glorify God and enjoy him forever. One of the greatest ways we can do this is to worship God corporately with God's people. At TPC we plan a worship service that is God-centered, God-directed, God-glorifying, anchored in the historical richness of tradition and is understandable by today's culture. This worship service seeks to focus on the majesty and grace of God through the use of the Scriptures, hymns (new & old), the sacraments, and prayer.

What follows is a liturgy or plan for our worship service. It seeks to tell the story of the gospel of grace. We are called by God into his presence to worship him alone. We remember the holiness and majesty of God and so we recognize our need of cleansing because of our sin. We remember the perfect provision God has made for us through Jesus Christ and his atoning death on the cross. We respond with thanksgiving. We are instructed by God through his Word. We commune with him through the Lord's Supper. And we are sent out with God's blessing.

As we worship God together through this re-enactment of the gospel, we pray that we will all grow in our knowledge of and love for the Lord, for one another, and in our desire to serve him in all we do.

### *Children in the service*

We believe God calls us to nurture and disciple our children in the faith. One of the ways we do this is through corporate worship. So, children are welcome to be with the congregation during the entire service. A room for nursing mothers is available on the north side of the sanctuary. The foyer can be used for children who are crying or need some extra attention. There are speakers enabling you to hear the service in both locations. A nursery is available (when staffing is available) off the main hallway for children from birth through three years of age.

### *Standing and sitting*

During parts of the service the congregation is asked to stand (indicated by the † in the bulletin). However, we understand that some are not able to stand for various reasons, and we hope that you will feel free to remain seated.

### *Giving*

Our members and regular attenders contribute financially to the Lord's work in and through our church. Visitors should feel no obligation to give. If you do not own a Bible or know someone who does not own a Bible, please accept a free copy of the Scriptures to take with you. You can find one at the Welcome Center in the foyer.

# ***WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP OUR GOD & KING***

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**TIME OF QUIET PREPARATION**

## ***GOD CALLS US INTO HIS PRESENCE TO WORSHIP & WE RESPOND***

**†THE CALL TO WORSHIP**

*Revelation 4:8, 11 - Holy, holy, holy, is the Lord God Almighty, who was and is and is to come!...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.*

**†HYMN OF ADORATION & PRAISE**

*Holy, Holy, Holy! - #100*

**†INVOCATION**

# **WE ARE REMINDED OF OUR NEED FOR CLEANSING & GOD'S PROVISION FOR US IN CHRIST**

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

*1 John 3:1-3 - See what kind of love the Father has given to us, that we should be called children of God; and so we are. The reason why the world does not know us is that it did not know him. Beloved we are God's children now, and what we will be has not yet appeared; but we know that when he appears we shall be like him, because we shall see him as he is. And everyone who thus hopes in him purifies himself as he is pure.*

## **CONFESSION OF SIN**

### **Corporately**

*Our Father in heaven, you are the one who loves us, your people, with an undeserving, unconditional, and unending love. You have demonstrated your love for your people in so many ways over all time. We have every reason to believe you love us, and to live lives of purity and holiness in response. Please forgive us for the many ways we fail to do so. Forgive us for all of our sins. Cleanse our hearts and minds. Motivate and empower us to love you and to obey you in this coming week.*

### **Silently**

## **DECLARATION OF OUR ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

*Hebrews 4:14-16 - Since then we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but one who in every respect has been tempted as we are, yet without sin. Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.*

## **†HYMN OF RESPONSE**

*Before the Throne, bulletin, p. 7*

# **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE & ARE INSTRUCTED BY HIS WORD**

## **CONFESSION OF FAITH**

*The Heidelberg Catechism #86*

**Pastor** - *We have been delivered from our misery by God's grace alone through Christ and not because we have earned it: why then must we still do good?*

**People** - *To be sure, Christ has redeemed us by his blood. But we do good because Christ by his Spirit is also renewing us to be like himself, so that in all our living we may show that we are thankful to God for all he has done for us, and so that he may be praised through us. And we do good so that we may be assured of our faith by its fruits, and so that by our godly living our neighbors may be won over to Christ.*

## **CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER**

*Elder Lee Aase*

## **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*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, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.*

## **SCRIPTURE READING**

*Malachi (pp. 801-803)*

## **SERMON**

*Summer in the Minor Prophets*

*Reverend Chris Harper*

## **WE COMMUNE WITH GOD THROUGH THE LORD'S SUPPER**

*For further explanation of The Lord's Supper, please refer to the last page of this bulletin. All bread is gluten-free.*

### **THE WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

### **PRAYER OF CONSECRATION**

### **DISTRIBUTION OF THE BREAD**

### **DISTRIBUTION OF THE WINE**

### **†HYMN OF THANKSGIVING**

*My Faith Looks Up to Thee - #528*

## **GOD SENDS US OUT WITH HIS BLESSING**

### **†BENEDICTION**

### **†DOXOLOGY**

*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.*

*(We conclude our service recognizing that all that we have belongs to the Lord, and we give praise to the one from whom all blessings flow, including, but not limited to, our financial resources. We do not take an offering during our worship service. If you would like to give to the Lord's work you can do so in the plates in the back of the sanctuary, or through the "Giving" page on our website.)*

### **POSTLUDE**

# Before the Throne

Bancroft/Cook

Cook

Be - fore the throne of God a - bove, I have a strong and per - fect  
When Sa - tan tempts me to des - pair, and tells me of the guilt with -  
Be - hold Him there, the ri - sen Lamb! My per - fect spot - less right - eous -

5

plea: a great High Priest whosename is Love, who ev - er lives and pleads for  
in, up - ward I look and seeHim there, who made an end of all my  
ness. The great un change - a - ble I AM, the King of Glor - y and of

9

me. My name is gra - ven on His hands. My name is writ - ten on His  
sin. Be - cause the sin - less Sav - ior died, my sin - ful soul is coun - ted  
Grace. One with Him - self I can - not die. My soul is pur - chased by His

13

[illegible]

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

16

|                       |                                      |
|-----------------------|--------------------------------------|
| tell me to de - part. | no tongue can tell me to 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. |

# Summer in the Minor Prophets

## Malachi

July 27, 2025

Reverend Chris Harper

### I. What was going on?

1. The man
2. The date
3. The context

### II. What was Malachi's message?

1. Dispute 1 – God's love (1:1-5)
2. Dispute 2 – Worship (1:6-2:9)
3. Dispute 3 – Marriage (2:10-16)
4. Dispute 4 – Justice (2:17-3:5)
5. Dispute 5 – Not trusting God (3:6-12)
6. Dispute 6 – Speaking against God (3:13-4:3)
7. Conclusion – Remember back, Look forward (4:4-6)

### III. How does Malachi's message apply today?

1. Lean against apathy & disobedience by remembering God's love & promises
2. Finances – trust the Lord
3. Marriage – honor the Lord
  - (A) For those wanting to be married
  - (B) For those already married



# July Verse of the Month:

...the righteous shall live by his faith.

Habakkuk 2:4b

*The entire Trinity family is encouraged to memorize the Verse of the Month together as we seek to grow in our knowledge of and love for God.*

## A Big Picture View of TPC—Our Purpose-Plan-Principles

### Purpose — Why does TPC exist – what is our purpose?

Our purpose is to make mature, grace-filled disciples of Christ who are growing in their knowledge and love for God, for people, and in their desire and ability to serve in the kingdom of God for God's glory.

- Matthew 28 - the great commission to the church → make disciples
- Matthew 22 - the great commandment to the church → love God and love people
- Ephesians 4 - equipping the saints for ministry and building up the body in love

### Plan — How will TPC accomplish our purpose of making mature, grace-filled disciples of Christ?

- (1) We plan to help people grow in knowledge and love for God by:
  - having weekly worship that is God-centered, God-directed, God-glorifying; is anchored in the historical richness of tradition; is understandable by today's culture; presents the grace of God; focuses on the Word, sacraments, and prayer
  - providing an education program for adults and children
- (2) We plan to help people grow in knowledge and love for others by:
  - encouraging gospel-centered community through small groups and fellowship opportunities
- (3) We plan to help people grow in their desire and ability to serve in the kingdom of God by:
  - equipping/training people to serve inside and outside TPC
  - providing opportunities for people to serve on committees and ministries inside TPC
  - sending people to serve in the kingdom of God with organizations/ministries outside TPC

### Principles — What are the things most important to us?

- (1) *Scripture* - We are committed to the inerrant Word of God, which is inspired by the Holy Spirit, is the revelation of God's truth, and is infallible, authoritative, and trustworthy in all matters of faith and practice.
- (2) *Grace* - We are committed to the gospel of God's amazing grace as the foundation of all we do at TPC and as the primary motivation for growing into mature disciples.
- (3) *Reformed Theology* - We are committed to the reformed faith as it is articulated in the Westminster Confession of Faith & Catechisms and to teaching that is a warm and winsome demonstration of it.
- (4) *Missions* - We are committed to the gospel going out into every aspect of culture, locally and globally.
- (5) *Discipleship* - We are committed to a life-long process of growing in Christian maturity and Christ-likeness.
- (6) *Fellowship* - We are committed to building community within the church by demonstrating God's love for us in our love for each other.
- (7) *Welcoming* - We are committed to being a welcoming community - open and welcoming to both Christians and non-Christians - to the convinced and to the skeptic.
- (8) *Growing* - We are committed to being a growing community - internally as members of TPC grow both numerically and in Christ-likeness and externally as we see churches planted in SE MN for God's glory.

## **THE LORD'S SUPPER**

*We invite to the Lord's Table all those who are baptized disciples of Jesus Christ and are under the authority of Christ and His body, the Church. By eating the bread and drinking the wine with us as a visitor, you are acknowledging to the elders of this local church that you are in covenant with God and an active member of a congregation in which the gospel is faithfully confessed, taught, and believed. You also acknowledge that you are a sinner, without hope except in the sovereign mercy of God, and that you are trusting in Jesus Christ alone for salvation. The Lord's Supper is a sacrament of bread & wine. For those who prefer, grape juice is provided in the tinted cups at the center of the communion trays. If you have any questions about participating, please speak with one of the elders before or after the service.*

### **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. Grant that I might be unafraid of the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. Give me an understanding of you that is clear, convincing, and that leads to the life you promise. Amen.*

### **PRAYER FOR THOSE DESIRING TO TRUST IN JESUS CHRIST**

#### **FOR THE FIRST TIME**

*Lord Jesus, I admit that I am weaker and more sinful than I ever before believed. And I know that through you I am more loved & accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt, bearing my punishment on the cross, and providing forgiveness and new life. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as my Savior and Lord and desire to live a life of loving and serving you. Amen.*

