



CHRIST
CHURCH

April 19, 2026

Prelude

Welcome

Pastor Michael Anderson

Silent meditation

“If the world hates you, know that it has hated me before it hated you. If you were of the world, the world would love you as its own; but because you are not of the world, but I chose you out of the world, therefore the world hates you.” John 15:18-19

Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.

Matthew 10:17-20

GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

Call to Worship

I Peter 4:12-14

Elder Steven Ophoff

Beloved, do not be surprised at the fiery trial when it comes upon you to test you, as though something strange were happening to you. But rejoice insofar as you share Christ's sufferings, that you may also rejoice and be glad when his glory is revealed. If you are insulted for the name of Christ, you are blessed, because the Spirit of glory and of God rests upon you.

* *Be Thou My Vision*

Trinity Hymnal 642

* **Invocation**

*** The Apostles' Creed** *spoken together*

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only begotten Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, 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 at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;
from thence he shall 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.

G O D C A L L S U S T O R E N E W A L

Call to confession Matthew 16:24–25

Then Jesus told his disciples, “If anyone would come after me, let him deny himself
and take up his cross and follow me. For whoever would save his life will lose it,
but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”

Prayer of confession followed by a time of silent confession

Declaration of Forgiveness Psalm 103:10-12

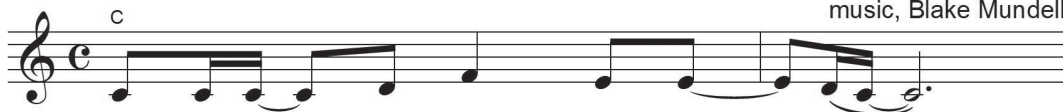
He does not deal with us according to our sins,
nor repay us according to our iniquities.
For as high as the heavens are above the earth,
so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him;
as far as the east is from the west,
so far does he remove our transgressions from us.

8:30 service On the final verse of the song below, 4- to 5- year-olds are invited to the foyer
to join Christ Kids Worship and will return following the sermon.

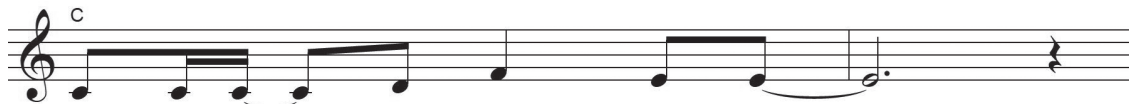
11:15 service Church bags are available in the foyer for 4- to 5-year-olds
who need some quiet activities during the sermon.

* *Glory Be to God the Father*

text, Horatius Bonar
music, Blake Mundell



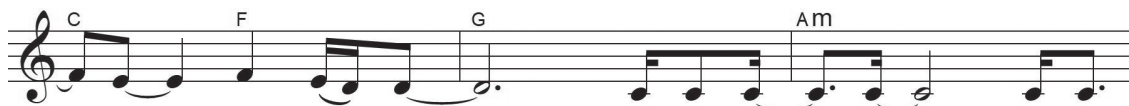
1. Glo - ry be to God the Fa - ther,
2. Glo - ry be to him who loved us,
3. Glo - ry to the King of an - gels,
4. Glo - ry bless - ing praise e - ter - nal,



glo - ry be to God the Son.
washed us from each spot and stain.
glo - ry to the Church - 's King.
thus the choir of an - gels sings.



Glo - ry be to God the Spir - it, great Je - ho -
Glo - ry be to him who bought us, made us kings
Glo - ry to the King of na - tions, heav'n and earth
Hon - or rich - es pow'r do - min - ion, thus its praise



vah, three in One. Sing-ing glo - ry, sing-ing
with him to reign. Sing-ing glo - ry, sing-ing
your prais - es bring. Sing-ing glo - ry, sing-ing
cre - a - tion brings. Sing-ing glo - ry, sing-ing



glo - ry. Glo - ry while e - ter - nal a - ges run.
glo - ry. Glo - ry to the Lamb who once was slain.
glo - ry. Glo - ry to the King of na - tions bring.
glo - ry. Glo - ry, glo - ry to the King of Kings.

GOD'S WORD GIVEN TO US

* Scripture reading

Acts 6:8-15, 7:51-60

^{6:8} And Stephen, full of grace and power, was doing great wonders and signs among the people. ⁹ Then some of those who belonged to the synagogue of the Freedmen (as it was called), and of the Cyrenians, and of the Alexandrians, and of those from Cilicia and Asia, rose up and disputed with Stephen. ¹⁰ But they could not withstand the wisdom and the Spirit with which he was speaking. ¹¹ Then they secretly instigated men who said, "We have heard him speak blasphemous words against Moses and God." ¹² And they stirred up the people and the elders and the scribes, and they came upon him and seized him and brought him before the council, ¹³ and they set up false witnesses who said, "This man never ceases to speak words against this holy place and the law, ¹⁴ for we have heard him say that this Jesus of Nazareth will destroy this place and will change the customs that Moses delivered to us." ¹⁵ And gazing at him, all who sat in the council saw that his face was like the face of an angel.

^{7:51} "You stiff-necked people, uncircumcised in heart and ears, you always resist the Holy Spirit. As your fathers did, so do you. ⁵² Which of the prophets did your fathers not persecute? And they killed those who announced beforehand the coming of the Righteous One, whom you have now betrayed and murdered, ⁵³ you who received the law as delivered by angels and did not keep it."

⁵⁴ Now when they heard these things they were enraged, and they ground their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But he, full of the Holy Spirit, gazed into heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God.

⁵⁶ And he said, "Behold, I see the heavens opened, and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."

⁵⁷ But they cried out with a loud voice and stopped their ears and rushed together at him. ⁵⁸ Then they cast him out of the city and stoned him. And the witnesses laid down their garments at the feet of a young man named Saul. ⁵⁹ And as they were stoning Stephen, he called out, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ And falling to his knees he cried out with a loud voice, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." And when he had said this, he fell asleep.

Elder: The Word of the Lord

All: Thanks be to God!

* Prayer

Sermon

Face Like an Angel

Pastor Andrew VanderMaas

Added to the Lord

Falsely accused

Full of Grace and Power

DEDICATING OURSELVES TO GOD

* *How Firm a Foundation*

Trinity Hymnal 94

Living out our faith announcements about the life of the church

Prayers of the People

During the offertory please pass the red friendship pads found at the end of the rows.

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Offertory

Stephen's Faith

by Andy and Toya

I stand before the council full of grace and power
Speaking truth and wisdom in this appointed hour
They cannot resist the Spirit's voice through me
Signs and wonders flowing, setting captives free

False witnesses gathered, twisting what I said
But my face shines like an angel
though they wish me dead
Moses, Abraham the prophets all foretold
The righteous one has come now as was spoken of old

Which prophet did your fathers not persecute?
You resist the Holy Spirit though you know the truth.

*Stones collide with power but they cannot bind
The glory that explodes across my sight, my mind.
Heaven tears asunder as I'm struck down here.
Jesus rises radiant, my deliverer near.*

Throw them down now (stones keep flying) I see the Savior

You stiff-necked people, hearts and ears shut tight
You betrayed the Holy One, the Morning Light
The temple made with hands cannot contain his name
The most high dwells not there though you bear the shame

They gnash their teeth in fury covering their ears
But I am filled with spirit beyond all earthly fears
The heavens tear wide open, glory all around
I see what they cannot see. Grace inside I've found.

Look, I see the heavens open wide today
The Son of Man is standing; he lights the way *to Chorus*

As the stones rain down I call upon his name
Lord Jesus take my spirit, no bitterness, no blame
I kneel in mercy's shadow, one final prayer to pray,
"Lord do not hold their sin!" Then I pass away. *to Chorus*

* *Gloria Patri*

Trinity Hymnal 735

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be
World without end. Amen, amen.**

* Benediction

Kids and All: You are invited to come forward and play rhythm instruments as we sing our closing Amen song.

* *And All the People Said Amen!*

Matt Maher

And-all the peo-ple said "A-men" Oh _____ And all the peo-ple said "A-

men." Give thanks to the Lord for his love _____ ne-ver ends.

And all the peo - ple said "A - men."

* Postlude

Prayer Partners are available to pray with you right now. Come to the area by the organ with anything on your heart: praise, fears, questions, thanksgiving. We'll sit down and pray together.

Worship musicians

Craig Kooienga, vocals and guitar

Betsy Bray, vocals and piano

Susan Guerra, viola and piano

Rob La Placa, guitar

Rebekah La Placa, percussion