



WISDOM OF ECCLESIASTES

THE VANITY OF KNOWING

ECCLESIASTES 1:12-18; 2:13-17; 8:17



TRINITY

Presbyterian Church

ORDER OF WORSHIP | Sunday, June 14, 2020

Listening devices are available for the hearing impaired.

Please speak with a greeter or visit the sound booth upstairs for a listening device.

SONG OF GATHERING & PREPARATION

The people of God always sang as they ascended the hill in Jerusalem up to the temple to worship (see Psalms 120-134). We, as well, prepare our hearts, minds, and bodies for worship by singing about the God we serve.

Glorious And Mighty

CALL TO WORSHIP | Colossians 2:6-10 (ESV)

We read God's Word, the Bible, together. It reveals to us who God is and what He expects of us.

Therefore, as you received Christ Jesus the Lord, so walk in him, rooted and built up in him and established in the faith, just as you were taught, abounding in thanksgiving. See to it that no one takes you captive by philosophy and empty deceit, according to human tradition, according to the elemental spirits of the world, and not according to Christ. For in him the whole fullness of deity dwells bodily, and you have been filled in him, who is the head of all rule and authority.

PRAYER OF ADORATION & CONFESSION

We pray together praising God for who He really is (Adoration) and admitting our inability to live up to what He expects of us (Confession).

ASSURANCE OF PARDON | Colossians 2:1-3, 13-14 (ESV)

We read God's Word together and are reminded that mercy and grace are freely given to all who have faith in Jesus Christ.

I want you to know how great a struggle I have for you. that your hearts may be encouraged, being knit together in love, to reach all the riches of full assurance of understanding and the knowledge of God's mystery, which is Christ, in whom are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge ... And you, who were dead in your trespasses and the uncircumcision of your flesh, God made alive together with him, having forgiven us all our trespasses, by canceling the record of debt that stood against us with its legal demands. This he set aside, nailing it to the cross.

WORSHIP THROUGH GIVING

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace for us in Jesus by giving generously to the work of this church and the kingdom of God.

Holy Holy Holy

PRAISE & CELEBRATION

Our response to God's free grace is celebratory worship. We express our praise to God for who He is and what He has done for us.

I Will Wait For You

Your Glory

CONFESSION OF FAITH

As an expression of our faith in Jesus Christ in solidarity with his people, we declare the substance of what we believe.

From the New City Catechism:

Q. 26. What else does Christ's death redeem?

A. Christ's death is the beginning of the redemption and renewal of every part of fallen creation, as he powerfully directs all things for his own glory and creation's good.

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING & INTERCESSION

We express in prayer our gratitude to God for what He has done and ask Him to continue to act for our good and the good of others in our community and world.

PROCLAMATION OF GOD'S WORD | *Tim Rice, Lead Pastor & Director of Church Planting*

A small portion of God's Word is explained to us and applied to our lives and circumstances.

SONG OF RESPONSE

We respond to the good news of God's mercy and grace by singing again of His goodness and greatness.

How Great Is Your Love

BENEDICTION

Because the hand of God's wrath was raised against Jesus, we now receive the hand of God's blessing as we are sent out to live our lives to the glory of God.

May the LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make His face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;
the LORD turn His face toward you and give you His peace,
both now and forevermore. Amen.

SCRIPTURE PASSAGE & SERMON OUTLINE

Proclamation of God's Word

Text: Ecclesiastes 1:12-18; 2:13-17; 8:17 (ESV)

Title: Wisdom of Ecclesiastes: The Vanity of Knowing

Teacher: Tim Rice

^{1:12} I the Preacher have been king over Israel in Jerusalem. ¹³ And I applied my heart to seek and to search out by wisdom all that is done under heaven. It is an unhappy business that God has given to the children of man to be busy with. ¹⁴ I have seen everything that is done under the sun, and behold, all is vanity and a striving after wind. ¹⁵ What is crooked cannot be made straight, and what is lacking cannot be counted. ¹⁶ I said in my heart, "I have acquired great wisdom, surpassing all who were over Jerusalem before me, and my heart has had great experience of wisdom and knowledge." ¹⁷ And I applied my heart to know wisdom and to know madness and folly. I perceived that this also is but a striving after wind. ¹⁸ For in much wisdom is much vexation, and he who increases knowledge increases sorrow. ... ^{2:13} Then I saw that there is more gain in wisdom than in folly, as there is more gain in light than in darkness. ¹⁴ The wise person has his eyes in his head, but the fool walks in darkness. And yet I perceived that the same event happens to all of them. ¹⁵ Then I said in my heart, "What happens to the fool will happen to me also. Why then have I been so very wise?" And I said in my heart that this also is vanity. ¹⁶ For of the wise as of the fool there is no enduring remembrance, seeing that in the days to come all will have been long forgotten. How the wise dies just like the fool! ¹⁷ So I hated life, because what is done under the sun was grievous to me, for all is vanity and a striving after wind. ... ^{8:17} Then I saw all the work of God, that man cannot find out the work that is done under the sun. However much man may toil in seeking, he will not find it out. Even though a wise man claims to know, he cannot find it out.

Intro: When have you thought you knew, *only to find out you didn't?*

GOD & KNOWLEDGE

How does God's holiness apply to all of our knowledge?

OBSCURITY & DISTORTION

How have we wrenched knowledge out of joint?

MEANING & PERSPECTIVE

Why does it matter that Jesus is not merely a revealer *of* God but that He IS *God revealed*?

YOU CAN PRAY WITH US ...

1. Worship the LORD for His holy knowledge and wisdom. Praise Him, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, that He alone knows all things, and that He has revealed Himself to us in His Word and by His Gospel.
2. How have you lived as if you don't need God for what you know or how you live? Confess your pride and folly to Jesus, asking Him to forgive you but also to correct you, to heal your perspective into His.
3. Give thanks to Jesus for His Light and Love – for His work to save us from folly and death and revealing God and His Grace to us! *Thank Him for saving you and loving you enough to lead you daily by His wisdom and His Spirit.*
4. Who do you know that lives in darkness and folly? Pray for them, asking the Lord to help them to gain hope and perspective in Jesus and His Sovereign love.
5. Ask the Holy Spirit to bear in you His fruit of love and peace. Pray that He would so work to secure you in Christ that you would live peacefully (in a dark, foolish world) and that you would be a light in that darkness.

WELCOME TO TRINITY!

We're so glad you are here.

Please place completed tear-off in offering plate.

Name (Please Print) Gender Male Female

Spouse

Children (Include DOB for Children's Ministry)

Address

City/State Country/Zip

Phone

E-mail Address

First-Time Visitor Regular Attendee

Member College Student

Update my contact information

I would like to receive:

Worship Folder & Announcement Emails

I would like information about:

Children's Ministry New Member Class

College Ministry Student Ministry

Community Group Volunteering

Men's Ministry Women's Ministry

Prayer

How can our staff pray for you?

Community Bible Reading

communitybible-reading.org

June 15 - 20, 2020

(3-year plan: read blue passages | 1-year plan: read all)

Monday	1 Thessalonians 2 2 Chronicles 12	Numbers 2 Jeremiah 45
Tuesday	1 Thessalonians 3 2 Chronicles 13	Numbers 3 Jeremiah 46
Wednesday	1 Thessalonians 4 2 Chronicles 14	Numbers 4 Jeremiah 47
Thursday	1 Thessalonians 5 2 Chronicles 15	Numbers 5 Jeremiah 48
Friday	2 Thessalonians 1 2 Chronicles 16	Numbers 6 Jeremiah 49
Saturday	Psalms 77	Psalm 25 Psalm 123

Scripture Memory for the Week:

Jeremiah 9:23-24 (ESV)

²³ Thus says the LORD: "Let not the wise man boast in his wisdom, let not the mighty man boast in his might, let not the rich man boast in his riches, ²⁴ but let him who boasts boast in this, that he understands and knows me, that I am the LORD who practices steadfast love, justice, and righteousness in the earth. For in these things I delight, declares the LORD."

Communication

Register for events at trinitylakeland.org/events



Vacation Bible School (VBS) - Backyard Bolt

June 16-18, or [June 23-25](#)

Contact [Callie Sandman](#) for information.



Women's Summer Back Porch Study

Wednesdays, 9-10:30a, June 10-July 29

& Thursdays, 10:30a-12p, June 11-July 30

Contact [JoAnn Johnson](#) for information.



Full-time Receptionist Position

For consideration or more information, contact

[Frank McCaulley](#).

Office Hours:

Mon - Fri | 8:30a - 5:00p

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