



HOME WORSHIP GUIDE

SUNDAY, MAY 3, 2020

GATHERING

This being the first Sunday of the month, we celebrate communion together. This will obviously be an entirely different experience than when we celebrate the Lord's Supper together in one physical location. Yet as we often remind each other, church is not a place or a building, but a people, even when we are scattered in our various households. As we gather together online at the same time, Jesus is spiritually present to all of us as we take this common meal together. To prepare for communion, set up a small table or coffee table in the place where you are worshipping together. Set out bread and wine or juice.

PRELUDE | "HOLY, HOLY, HOLY" (MICHAEL BURKHARDT)

PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP | FROM PSALM 62:5

- › For you, O Lord, our souls in stillness wait;
- » **Truly our hope is in you.**

SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

CALL TO WORSHIP | FROM HEBREWS 4:14; REVELATION 5:10,12

- › Jesus Christ has ascended into heaven and is at God's right hand— with angels, authorities, and powers in submission to him.
- » **Since we have a great high priest who has gone into heaven—Jesus, the Son of God— let us hold firmly to the faith we profess. Let us praise his holy name!**
- › Salvation belongs to our God, who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!
- » **Blessing, glory, wisdom, thanks, honor, power, and strength be to our God forevermore!**

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Take a few moments with the people you are gathered with, or on your own, to praise God for his goodness and faithfulness, even in this moment of crisis.

SONG OF PRAISE | "O WORSHIP THE KING"

SONG OF PRAISE | "WAIT FOR THE LORD"

MUSIC ON PAGE 2

MUSIC ON PAGE 3

O WORSHIP THE KING

G C D G

1 O worship the King all - glo - rious a - bove, O grate - ful - ly
 2 O tell of his might and sing of his grace, whose robe is the
 3 Your boun - ti - ful care, what tongue can re - cite? It breathes in the

G/B D7 G D

sing his power and his love: our shield and de - fend - er, the
 light, whose can - o - py space. His char - iots of wrath the deep
 air, it shines in the light; it streams from the hills, it de -

D7 G G/B D7

An - cient of Days, pa - vil - ioned in splen - dor and gird - ed with praise.
 thun - der - clouds form, and dark is his path on the wings of the storm.
 scends to the plain, and sweet - ly dis - tills in the dew and the rain.

4 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!

5 O measureless Might, unchangeable Love,
 whom angels delight to worship above!
 Your ransomed creation, with glory ablaze,
 in true adoration shall sing to your praise!

For another setting of Ps. 104 see 11

Words: Robert Grant, 1833, alt, P.D.

Music (LYONS 10.10.11.11): W. Gardiner's *Sacred Melodies*, 1815; attr. Johann Michael Haydn, P.D.

WAIT FOR THE LORD

Musical score for the hymn "Wait for the Lord". The score is written in 3/2 time and G major. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has four measures with lyrics: "Wait for the Lord, whose day is near." The second system starts at measure 5 and has six measures with lyrics: "Wait for the Lord; keep watch, take heart!". The chords are: Em, C, Am⁶, B for the first system; and Em, D, G, Am, B, Em for the second system.

CONFESSING

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

- › Let us come with humble and repentant hearts to the Lord.
- » **We all, like sheep, have gone astray.**
Each of us has turned to our own way;
and the Lord has laid on him the iniquity of us all.

SILENT CONFESSION

SONG OF ASSURANCE | "I LIFT MY EYES UP"

*I lift my eyes up unto the mountains; where does my help come from?
My help comes from you, Maker of heaven, Creator of the earth.*

*Oh, how I need you, Lord. You are my only hope, you're my only prayer.
So I will wait for you to come and rescue me, to come and give me life.*

GREETING OF PEACE

As a new spiritual family reconciled to one another through Christ, take a few moments to pass the peace of Christ to one another as you're able, either with those in your home, or by sending a text to other friends and family watching.

THANKSGIVING

OUR OFFERINGS | FROM 1 CHRONICLES 29:14

- › Lord, who are we that we are able to give so generously?
- » **For all things come from you and what we now offer is already yours.**

To give online, visit thirdrva.org/generosity.

Please pray for our mission partner Needle's Eye Ministries and founder Buddy Childress as they seek to build connections between business professionals and matters of faith and to encourage men and women to impact our community with Christ's values, ethics and love.

OFFERTORY | "O MY SOUL"

Rivers and stones, and the trees of the field, they sing in the night.
And a thousand tongues lie deep in your lungs to raise to the sky.

*Don't lie to yourself, O my soul: love your God.
Don't lie to yourself, O my soul: love your God.*

Deep in your heart you feather and tar your folly and fear.
Expose them all for the fools they are, and the world comes clear.

*Your worries will never love you; they'll leave you all alone.
But your God will never forsake you, O my soul. O my soul!*

GLORY BE TO THE FATHER

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.

PROCLAIMING

SCRIPTURE READING | 1 THESSALONIANS 4:13–5:11

¹³ Brothers and sisters, we do not want you to be uninformed about those who sleep in death, so that you do not grieve like the rest of mankind, who have no hope. ¹⁴ For we believe that Jesus died and rose again, and so we believe that God will bring with Jesus those who have fallen asleep in him.

¹⁵ According to the Lord's word, we tell you that we who are still alive, who are left until the coming of the Lord, will certainly not precede those who have fallen asleep. ¹⁶ For the Lord himself will come down from heaven, with a loud command, with the voice of the archangel and with the trumpet call of God, and the dead in Christ will rise first. ¹⁷ After that, we who are still alive and are left will be caught up together with them in the clouds to meet the Lord in the air. And so we will be with the Lord forever.

¹⁸ Therefore encourage one another with these words.

¹ Now, brothers and sisters, about times and dates we do not need to write to you, ² for you know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. ³ While people are saying, "Peace and safety," destruction will come on them suddenly, as labor pains on a pregnant woman, and they will not escape.

⁴ But you, brothers and sisters, are not in darkness so that this day should surprise you like a thief. ⁵ You are all children of the light and children of the day. We do not belong to the night or to the darkness.

⁶ So then, let us not be like others, who are asleep, but let us be awake and sober. ⁷ For those who sleep, sleep at night, and those who get drunk, get drunk at night. ⁸ But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, putting on faith and love as a breastplate, and the hope of salvation as a helmet. ⁹ For God did not appoint us to suffer wrath but to receive salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ. ¹⁰ He died for us so that, whether we are awake or asleep, we may live together with him. ¹¹ Therefore encourage one another and build each other up, just as in fact you are doing.

- › This is the word of the Lord.
- » **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE | "HE WILL COME AGAIN TO JUDGE THE LIVING AND THE DEAD"

THE APOSTLES' CREED

- › Christians, what do you believe?
- » **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 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 sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty;**
 - from there 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.**

RESPONDING

CELEBRATION OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

- › Lift up your hearts!
- » **We lift them up to the Lord.**
- › Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- » **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

- › Holy and merciful God, our Father, you have made us in your image and for yourself. You have made this good world for us to tend and to enjoy. God, our Father,
- » **Hear the praise of grateful hearts.**

- › You sought your ancient people when they strayed from you. You freed them from the oppressor and brought them home. God, our Father,
- » **Hear the praise of grateful hearts.**
- › You have sent your Son to bring us home to you. By his Incarnation—
- » **You have found us.**

- › By his Death—
- » **You have forgiven us.**

- › By his Resurrection—
- » **You have freed us.**

- › God, our Father,
- » **Hear the praise of grateful hearts.**

- › In union with Jesus Christ of Nazareth, our Great High Priest, and with all who worship you, both in heaven and on earth, we offer you our praise, singing:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,
heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the
high - est! Bless - ed is he, bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

RESPONDING

WORDS OF INSTITUTION | FROM 1 CORINTHIANS 11:23-26

"The Lord Jesus, on the night he was betrayed, took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, 'This is my body, which is for you; do this in remembrance of me.'"

As Corey picks up the bread to break it, pick up the bread in your home and also break it.

"In the same way, after supper he took the cup, saying, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood; do this, whenever you drink it, in remembrance of me.' For whenever you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes."

As Corey lifts up the cup in thanksgiving, pick up the cup in your home in thanksgiving.

- › Holy and merciful God, our Father, send down your Holy Spirit on our bread and wine, that they may be for us the body and blood of Christ, and on your people, that we may be the body of Christ, reconciled to you and to each other by his blood. By your Holy Spirit make us—
- » **One with Christ, one with each other, and one in mission to all the world,**
- › Until Christ shall come in final victory and we feast together at his heavenly banquet. We cry,
- » **Maranatha! Even so, come, Lord Jesus, come. Amen!**

After Corey prays for the Holy Spirit to come and consecrate us and the sacrament, he will invite you to partake together. Take the bread and cup and distribute it among yourselves.

As we take the elements together, spend some moments in reflection, meditating on the mercy of God given to us in Jesus' death and resurrection, and consider the amazing way God binds us together in unity through Jesus' sacrifice. Spend some time praising and thanking God for his gift of love.

The Lord's Supper, or Communion, is one of the two sacraments we celebrate (the other is baptism). It is one of the most important things we do when we gather together, because the bread and juice are concrete signs of what Jesus has done for us on the cross. When we come forward to receive them, we believe that Jesus is actually present through the Holy Spirit, extending his grace and forgiveness to us.

We welcome anyone to the table who is willing to forsake their sin and trust in Jesus Christ for salvation. If you are not able to receive Communion, we invite you to use this time to meditate on one of the following prayers:

Prayer of those searching for truth: Lord Jesus, you claim to be the Way, the Truth and the Life. Help me to be undaunted by the cost of following you as I consider the reasons for doing so. If what you claim is true, please guide me, teach me, and open me to the reality of who you are. Lead me into the light and life you promise. Amen.

Prayer of belief: Lord Jesus Christ, I admit that I am more blind and sinful than I ever dared admit, but through you I am more loved and accepted than I ever dared hope. I thank you for paying my debt on the cross, taking what I deserved in order to offer me complete acceptance. Knowing that you have been raised from the dead, I turn from my sins and receive you as Savior and Lord. Amen.

– Adapted from prayers written by Rev. Scot Sherman, Redeemer Presbyterian Church.

RESPONDING

COMMUNION SONG | "I NEED THEE EVERY HOUR" (REFRAIN)

*I need thee, O I need thee;
Every hour I need thee.
O bless me now, my Savior;
I come to thee.*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Spend some time praying aloud for the following topics, and for concerns in your life and community:

Pray that God would guide the church to love its neighbors in this moment.

Pray that God would save lives from the coronavirus.

Pray that God would give our authorities wisdom, and our people peace and receptivity.

Pray that God would strengthen and bless our healthcare workers.

Pray that God would give wisdom and revelation to our health experts, and that treatments and vaccines would be discovered.

Pray that God would equip us with ways to safely and self-sacrificially serve our local communities in this moment, especially the elderly, those with frail immune systems, people in need of work or childcare, and the uninsured who often delay needed care due to fear about financial consequences.

For health: Martha Schilthuis, Phil Marriott, Brad Bishop, Bradley Crawford, Keena Harwood, Donna Wells, Bob Lauranzon, Gretchen Gravely, Christie Geraty, Erika Gouverneur, Francis Steadman, Milton Jones

For comfort for those who have lost loved ones: Rich Hines (wife, 4/27); Peg Shealy (mother, 4/19); Elizabeth Massie (mother, 4/11); René Shouse (mother, 4/9); Libbie Cornett (mother, 4/2); Lauren Auker (grandmother, 3/27); Julie Walden (3/25); Mary Damon (sister, 3/21); Anna Shenk (grandmother, 3/19); Noel Brooks (father, 3/19); Edwin Phillips (cousin, 3/14); Bradley Crawford (mother, 3/3)

Gathering our prayers into one, let us boldly pray as our Savior has taught us:

- » **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 for ever. Amen.**

SENDING

SONG OF COMMISSION | "WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION"

We will feast in the house of Zion, we will sing with our hearts restored.

"He has done great things," we will say together. "We will feast and weep no more."

We will not be burned by the fire. He is the Lord our God.

We are not consumed by the flood—upheld, protected, gathered up.

In the dark of night, before the dawn: my soul, be not afraid.

For the promised morning, oh, how long? O God of Jacob, be my strength.

Every vow we've broken and betrayed. You are the faithful one.

And from the garden to the grave, bind us together, bring shalom.

COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION | FROM PHILIPPIANS 3:21–4:1

› But our citizenship is in heaven.

And we eagerly await a Savior from there, the Lord Jesus Christ,
who, by the power that enables him to bring everything under his control,
will transform our lowly bodies so that they will be like his glorious body.

» **Therefore, brothers and sisters, stand firm in the Lord in this way, dear friends!**

POSTLUDE | "TRUMPET VOLUNTARY" (JOHN STANLEY)