Worship in the Home

Resurrection of Our Lord





"Come...Be a Part of Peace!"

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In this time of world-wide crisis, we are not able to gather for worship as the body of Christ. While we cannot be together in person, we can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer. Use this resource as an aid for prayer in the home. As with our prayers in the gathered assembly for worship.



Set out and light a candle and you may wish to have a bowl of water as a reminder of your baptism into the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Responsive Prayer

Holy God, holy and mighty, holy and immortal, have mercy on us.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended to the dead. On the third day He rose again; He ascended into heaven, He is seated at the right hand of the Father, and He will 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 sin, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Devotional Music

You might now sing or read "Christ is Alive! Let Christians Sing" Or, click the following link for audio presentation –

https://youtu.be/fD8pxDgTZZU



Morning Prayer

O Lord, I cry to you for help.

In the morning
my prayer comes before you.

Let my mouth be full of your praise and your glory all the day long.

Every day will I bless you, and praise your name forever and ever.

Awesome things will you show us in your righteousness,
O God of our salvation,
O hope of all the ends of the earth and of the seas that are far away.

Bless the Lord, O my soul, and all that is within me, bless God's holy name.

You redeem my life from the grave, and crown me with mercy and steadfast love.

Lord, hear my prayer, and let my cry come before you.

The Prayer of the Day may be prayed.



Almighty and ever-living God, you hold together all things in heaven and on earth. In your great mercy receive the prayers of all your children, and give to all the world the Spirit of your truth and peace, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

Amen.

Then the first reading for this Sunday may be read, as follows.

FIRST READING: Acts 17:22-31

²²Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. ²³For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. ²⁴The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, ²⁵nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. ²⁶From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, ²⁷so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. ²⁸For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' ²⁹Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. ³⁰While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, ³¹because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 66: 8-20 May be sung or read in response to the First Reading.



⁸Bless our | God, you peoples; let the sound of | praise be heard.

⁹Our God has kept us a- | mong the living and has not allowed our | feet to slip.

¹⁰For you, O God, have | tested us; you have tried us just as sil- | ver is tried.

¹¹You brought us in- | to the net; you laid heavy burdens up- | on our backs.

¹²You let people ride over our heads; we went through | fire and water, but you brought us out into a place | of refreshment.

13I will enter your house | with burnt offerings and will pay | you my yows—

 $^{14} those \ that \ I \ promised \ ^{\mid} \ with \ my \ lips$ and spoke with my mouth when $I \ ^{\mid} \ was \ in \ trouble.$

¹⁵I will offer you burnt offerings of fatlings with the | smoke of rams;

I will give you ox- en and goats.

¹⁶Come and listen, all you who believe, and I will tell you what God has done for me.

¹⁷I called out to God | with my mouth, and praised the Lord | with my tongue.

¹⁸If I had cherished evil | in my heart, the Lord would | not have heard me;

¹⁹but in truth | God has heard me and has attended to the sound | of my prayer.

²⁰Blessed be God, who has not reject- ed my prayer, nor withheld unfailing love from me.

Then the second reading for this Sunday may be read, as follows.

SECOND READING: 1 Peter 3:13-22

¹³Who will harm you if you are eager to do what is good? ¹⁴But even if you do suffer for doing what is right, you are blessed. Do not fear what they fear, and do not be intimidated, ¹⁵but in your hearts sanctify Christ as Lord. Always be ready to make your defense to anyone who demands from you an accounting for the hope that is in you; ¹⁶yet do it with gentleness and reverence. Keep your conscience clear, so that, when you are maligned, those who abuse you for your good conduct in Christ may be put to shame. ¹⁷For it is better to suffer for doing good, if suffering should be God's will, than to suffer for doing evil. ¹⁸For Christ also suffered for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, in order to bring you to God. He was put to death in the flesh, but made alive in the spirit, ¹⁹in which also he went and made a proclamation to the spirits in prison, ²⁰who in former times did not obey, when God waited patiently in the days of Noah, during the building of the ark, in which a few, that is, eight persons, were saved through water. ²¹And baptism, which this prefigured, now saves you—not as a removal of dirt from the body, but as an appeal to God for a good conscience, through the resurrection of Jesus Christ, ²²who has gone into heaven and is at the right hand of God, with angels, authorities, and powers made subject to him.

Word of God, word of life. **Thanks be to God.**

Then the gospel reading may be read, as follows.

Gospel: John 14:15-21

The holy Gospel according to John. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

[Jesus said to the disciples:] ¹⁵"If you love me, you will keep my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive, because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him, because he abides with you, and he will be in you. ¹⁸I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me; and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

The gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

Reflection

"AGAPA LOVE"



Grace and peace from God our Father and Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

In the Greek there are many words for love, and in checking the word used in our gospel lesson for today it is agape. What agape translates to is: the highest form of love, God to man and man to God, it is universal, unconditional love and a self-less love for everyone. It is the love that Jesus gave to his disciples and all those he encountered along the way. It is the love that would surpass any human love that we might ever feel in our lifetimes.

I think the closest I might say that as a mother I felt this type of love was when I gave birth to my three children. As I looked at each one of them, the feeling of love was so strong it was like nothing I had ever felt before and will ever feel again. Unfortunately, there comes a point where you still love them unconditionally, but after sleepless nights, the teenage years with their acts of rebellion, it is not quite the same feeling unless you look at them while they are sleeping. Then that feeling of love can wash over you again as you think of all the joy they have brought into your life.

Sometimes we forget since it is the Sundays after Easter when Jesus is talking with his disciples, he is still in the upper room and he has yet to go to the garden where he will be betrayed by Judas. This is still part of his farewell discourse and he is trying to tell them that they will not be left alone. There will be another who he will send to help them as they go forward into the world.

Now, as Jesus says to the disciple; "If you love me, you will keep my commandments". That "if" is not a command like you will do this, or else. It is not meant as a threat. No, if we think about how the word love, agape, is meant here, it is a selfless love. He is saying to them if you are not thinking first about yourself but of others, you will keep the commandments. A short time before he had actually given them a new commandment: "That you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another". The word love that Jesus used then was also agape.

Jesus knows that the disciples will need a great deal of help when he is no longer with them, and that is why he is promising that he will send them another...the Advocate or as we call him, the Holy Spirit. You know, the shy member of the Trinity. It is not like the Holy Spirit is not always present, we just do not talk about him as much as God the father or Jesus.

Jesus knew that his disciples including you and me would need another beside us when he was no longer there. They and we would need that agape love shown to us in the Holy Spirit who enters in our lives to help us along...to show us the way and how to witness agape love to the world. In today's world Augustine's words of what love looks like might just be what we need for us as we are going through something we never thought we would experience...a pandemic. He said, "What does love look like? It has hands to help others. It has feet to hasten to the poor and needy. It has eyes to see misery and want. It has ears to hear the sighs and sorrows of men. That is what love looks like."

Right now, in this time that we are experiencing, how much we need to share the agape love that comes from the Holy Spirit that abides with us.

Many of us have experienced the love within a community of faith, and that is where we are meant to learn about it. You might even say that agape love is one of the inheritances we receive in the community of faith as we abide in the word and the word in us. For love is not singular, there has to be another one to love.

Jesus said to love one another as he had loved them. If you love me you will keep my commandments. Those who love me will be loved by my Father. Love is not individual, there has to be another to love, to love with agape love, a love that is the highest form of love, God to man and man to God, love that is universal, love that is unconditional and love that is self-less, not just for a few but for everyone.

Lord, abide with us in your love shown to us in the Holy Spirit that Jesus sent to be with us, when he returned to you. Help us to abide together and share your love with those we live with, work with, and encounter along the way. May your love be with us and give strength and courage to us during these most unusual times. We pray this in Jesus name that you were sent to show us your love. Amen.



Hymn of The Day

You might now sing or read "Love Devine, All Love Excelling"

Or, click the following link for audio presentation -

https://youtu.be/TQrNMJrgbyM



Then read the prayers of intersession, as follows.



Prayers of Intercession

Uplifted by the promised hope of healing and resurrection, we join the people of God in all times and places in praying for the church, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Abiding God, you have revealed yourself to us in the form of your Son, Jesus Christ. Embolden your church, as your followers, to reveal your love to everyone in our speaking and in our living.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

You are the creator of heaven and earth. Revitalize the health of oceans, rivers, lakes, springs, glaciers, and other bodies of water that give life to your creatures.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

You call all people of the world your children. Judge the nations justly, show mercy to the oppressed, and speak truth to power through your prophets.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

You come near to us when we are lost, and you hear our distress. We pray for those who suffer in any way, and all in need especially: Yvonne Bowman at death of husband Harry Bowman, Nick Ivanovic, Clay Chaffee, Lucy Creel, Tamera Nicholson, Donna Lind, Orv Lind, Katherine Holmberg, Steve Nicholson, and all those who have the Coronavirus.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Your commands are good and merciful. Give us courage to take hold of our baptismal promises to work for justice, advocate for the voiceless, and free the oppressed and imprisoned in body, mind, or spirit.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

You remain with us always, O God, and your kingdom has no end. We remember the saints who have gone before us. Unite us forever in your final victory over death.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

With bold confidence in your love, almighty God, we place all for whom we pray into your eternal care, through Christ our Lord.

Amen

Then conclude with these prayers.

Let us pray,

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

Morning Prayer

We give thanks to you, heavenly Father, through Jesus Christ your dear Son, that you have protected us through the night from all harm and danger. We ask that you would also protect us today from sin and all evil, so that our life and actions may please you. Into your hands we commend ourselves: our bodies, our souls, and all that is ours. Let your holy angels be with us, so that the wicked foe may have no power over us.

Amen.

We pray:

Then speak the Blessing:

The blessing of the living God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, surround and sustain you, keep you from harm, and fill you with courage.

Amen.

Alleluia! Christ is Risen! Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!



Sending Hymn

"Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with your Love"

Click the following link for audio presentation that includes the verses to sing

https://youtu.be/UvQz513JI8M



Dismissal

Jesus said, You will be my witnesses to the ends of the earth

I chose you and appointed you to bear fruit that will last.

Remember, I will be with you always, to the end of time.

Go in peace. Share the good news. Alleluia! Thanks be to God!



Readings of the Week:

Sixth Sunday of Easter Acts 17: 22-31, 1 Peter 3: 13-22, John 14: 15-21

Seventh Sunday of Easter Acts 1: 6-14, 1 Peter 4: 12-14; 5:6-11, John 17: 1-11

Reflection material: Gordon Lathrop. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw

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IN NEED OF PRAYER

We give thanks to you, O Lord, for all the prayers you have heard and answered and the peace you have given, through the power of the Holy Spirit.

Osprey Village

Lloyd & Jane Cotner - Room 3106 Katherine Holmberg- Room ?

Savannah Grand

Jo Kruer - Room 332 Mary Jordan- Room 106



At Home

Emmy Lou Sorum / Billy Foster / Gertie Schreffler / Michele Pester / Clay Chaffee / Dorothy Schwager/ Lucy Creel / Ted Wessel / Lloyd Cotner/ Tamera Nicholson/ Orv Lind / Donna Lind / Nick Ivanovic / Blake Carter

Yvonne Bowman & Family at death of husband Harry Bowman



Lt. Tim Cassel, Coast Guard, Valdez, AK (son of Glen & Norma Beyer)

Lt. J.G. Eric Strommel, Kings Bay, Subbase, GA

Lt. Col. Laura Laskowski, Air Force Intelligence, stationed in Boston, Massachusetts (daughter of Sue Whitman)

Andy Shook, US Army, (son of Ricky Shook)

Corporal, James Ryan Kruer, Beaufort Marine Corp. Air Station, Beaufort, S.C.

(grandson of Jo Kruer)

Sgt. Rob Kinnard (Afghanistan)

Components of an Effective Prayer

"A" ADORATION Worship of God, First for who He is, Second for all His benefits

"C" CONFESSION If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive and cleanse us from unrighteousness

"T" THANKSGIVING Gratitude to GOD for His blessings

"S" SUPPLICATION Expressing our petitions to GOD for individual and specific needs and desires

Keeping Our Prayer List Up to Date ...

Call our Church Office to add friends and family to our prayer list.

We often can all use as many prayers as we can get.