Worship in the Home

Sunday after Pentecost





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

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September 19, 2021

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.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

CONFESSIONG AND FORGIVENESS

In the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

Kneel, sit or stand. Silence is kept for reflection.

Most merciful God,

we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves.

We have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone.

We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.

For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us.

Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name.

Amen.

God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ.

By grace you have been saved.

In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven.

Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith.

Amen.

DEVOTIONAL MUSIC

Click the following link for audio presentation -

https://youtu.be/5FreZ4LmhWk



KYRIE

In peace, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.



For the peace from above, and for our salvation, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God, And for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.

Lord, have mercy.

For this holy house, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, Let us pray to the Lord. Lord, have mercy.

Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord. **Amen.**

PRAYER OF THE DAY



O God, our teacher and guide, you draw us to yourself and welcome us as beloved children. Help us to lay aside all envy and selfish ambition, that we may walk in your ways of wisdom and understanding as servants of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.



FIRST READING: Jeremiah 11:18-20

¹⁸It was the LORD who made it known to me, and I knew; then you showed me their evil deeds.
¹⁹But I was like a gentle lamb led to the slaughter.

And I did not know it was against me that they devised schemes, saying,

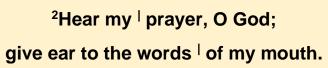
"Let us destroy the tree with its fruit, let us cut him off from the land of the living, so that his name will no longer be remembered!"
²⁰But you, O LORD of hosts, who judge righteously, who try the heart and the mind,

let me see your retribution upon them, for to you I have committed my cause.

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

PSALM 54

¹Save me, O God, [|] by your name; in your might, de- [|] fend my cause.



³For strangers have risen up against me, and the ruthless have | sought my life, those who have no re- | gard for God.

⁴Behold, God | is my helper; it is the Lord who sus- | tains my life.

⁵Render evil to those who | spy on me; in your faithful- | ness, destroy them.

⁶I will offer you a [|] freewill sacrifice and praise your name, O LORD, for [|] it is good.

⁷For you have rescued me from | every trouble, and my eye looks down | on my enemies.



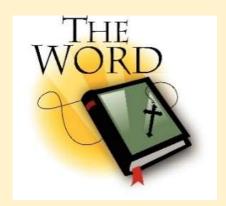
SECOND READING: James 3:13-4:3, 7-8a

¹³Who is wise and understanding among you? Show by your good life that your works are done with gentleness born of wisdom. ¹⁴But if you have bitter envy and selfish ambition in your hearts, do not be boastful and false to the truth. ¹⁵Such wisdom does not come down from above, but is earthly, unspiritual, devilish. ¹⁶For where there is envy and selfish ambition, there will also be disorder and wickedness of every kind. ¹⁷But the wisdom from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, willing to yield, full of mercy and good fruits, without a trace of partiality or hypocrisy. ¹⁸And a harvest of righteousness is sown in peace for those who make peace.

^{4:1}Those conflicts and disputes among you, where do they come from? Do they not come from your cravings that are at war within you? ²You want something and do not have it; so you commit murder. And you covet something and cannot obtain it; so you engage in disputes and conflicts. You do not have, because you do not ask. ³You ask and do not receive, because you ask wrongly, in order to spend what you get on your pleasures. ⁷Submit yourselves therefore to God. Resist the devil, and he will flee from you. ⁸Draw near to God, and he will draw near to you.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.



GOSPEL: Mark 9:30-37

The holy Gospel according to Mark. Glory to you, O Lord.

³⁰[Jesus and the disciples went on] and passed through Galilee. He did not want anyone to know it; ³¹for he was teaching his disciples, saying to them, "The Son of Man is to be betrayed into human hands, and they will kill him, and three days after being killed, he will rise again." ³²But they did not understand what he was saying and were afraid to ask him. ³³Then they came to Capernaum; and when he was in the house he asked them, "What were you arguing about on the way?" ³⁴But they were silent, for on the way they had argued with one another who was the greatest. ³⁵He sat down, called the twelve, and said to them, "Whoever wants to be first must be last of all and servant of all." ³⁶Then he took a little child and put it among them; and taking it in his arms, he said to them, ³⁷"Whoever welcomes one such child in my name welcomes me, and whoever welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me."

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.



SERMON—Pastor Ida Iverson

"QUESTIONS"

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

As we look at today's lesson from Mark, there are a few things that we need to take into consideration about this gospel. In many respects the disciples just do not seem to get what Jesus is trying to tell them and teach them. Mark is the gospel that has the abrupt ending, where the women leave the tomb and out of fear said nothing to anyone. So, it is as if Jesus is explaining the resurrection to them early. Since they seem to have trouble understanding what he is telling them he must do it more than once. Today they are hearing it for the second time, but it will happen again. It also seems that the disciples are hesitant or afraid to ask questions of Jesus. I believe we can all relate to that. Most people have not asked a question because they did not want to look uninformed, or dare, I say, stupid. Yet, how many teachers have said to students there is no such thing as a stupid question?

Last week we were in chapter 8 in Mark and Jesus and his disciples are in Caesarea Philippi where Jesus had asked them two questions: "Who do people say that I am?", and "But who do you say that I am?" After Peter's answer saying that Jesus is the Messiah, Jesus tells them not to tell anyone yet. Today we are in chapter 9, but there have been some things that have transpired before we enter today's lesson.

Jesus had taken Peter, James, and John up a high mountain and had been transfigured before them, where Jesus then had a conversation with Moses and Elijah. Then Jesus told those three not to tell anybody about what they had witnessed. Jesus and the three joined the other disciples who were surrounded by a great crowd and some scribes who were arguing with the disciples. It seems that a father had brought his son to the disciples to have a spirit removed from him and the disciples were unable to do it. During the encounter between Jesus and the father, the father says to Jesus, "I believe; help my unbelief!" How many of us maybe have not only said that out loud, but it has been in our thoughts, and our minds, and our prayers many times. Of course, Jesus drove the spirit out of the boy and now we enter today's lesson.

As Jesus is teaching his disciples and telling them once again what is going to happen to him, I guess you could say it is that aspect that for many people you must tell them and explain something more than once for them to get it. After all what he is trying to tell them is that soon there will be changes taking place and they need to be prepared.

When Jesus asks them what they had been arguing about, and I am sure after taking a good look at their feet they finally told him, that they had been arguing about which one of them was the greatest. Now, Jesus really had to burst their bubbles and tell them that is not how it is going to work. If you want to be first, you need to be last and servant of all. In other words, you need to humble yourselves. For many people think that means they should have a low self-esteem, but that is not what humble means at all. To be humble means that you are unpretentious, you are modest, you show a lack of vanity, and you meet people where they are at. When Jesus took the child into his arms and told his disciples if they welcomed the child, they welcomed him, and then the one who sent him. We have to remember that at this time a child may have been loved in their family, but in society at large they held no standing at all. The world did not revolve around a child like they do in too many households today.

I remember once when we were on vacation and there was a family, and they were discussing what they were going to do, but their child was demanding that they wanted to do what was planned for the next day, <u>NOW!</u> I looked at this child and said, "You know you are very lucky to have parents that are taking you on this wonderful vacation, but they are the adults, and you need to listen to them." And then I walked on. I have no idea what they did that day or the next, but I hoped I was a little helpful.

Back to this child who has no standing in society, who Jesus welcomes and shows love for. Sometimes hearing a lesson is not enough, but being shown a lesson brings understanding. Here he is showing his disciples how they need to welcome those who are the outcasts, those who may not have standing in society. You know many of those who we have been walking with. Perhaps very few of us will ever be great, but by our actions, there will be greatness.

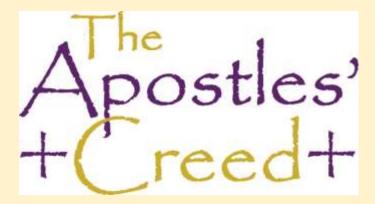
Jesus shows them repeatedly why he was sent by the Father, and that it is all about relationships. In his teaching, in his healing, in his preaching...relationships were formed and renewed. In Jesus' life, death, and resurrection, our relationship with God has been restored and renewed, allowing us to humbly meet people where they are at, welcome them and serve them. Just as you and I have been met, welcomed, and served as the children of God that you and I are. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

Click the following link for audio presentation -

https://youtu.be/qhvnbhPvbsA





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.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

Made children and heirs of God's promise, we pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

God of community, we pray for the church around the world. Unite us in our love for you. Help us overcome our divisions, that we are encouraged to work together for your sake.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of creation, we pray for this earth that you gave for us to care for. Help us to be good stewards of all that you have provided as we find ways to distribute the harvest it yields that none shall go without.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of cooperation, we pray for nations of the world embroiled in conflict, including our own. Unite us in our love for you. Help us overcome our divisions, that we are encouraged to work together for your sake.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of comfort, we pray for all who live with mental or physical illness. Help them find appropriate care. Bring healing and wholeness when the path forward seems bleak. We ask you to especially guard and keep these we name before you either silently or aloud: Michele Pester, Marsha Woleshin, Baby William, Donna Cormier, Clay Chaffee, Lucy Creel, John Meisburg, Carey Blair, Ted Richardson, Derrek Burns at the death of his parents Alene & Tony Daniels, Tom Woleshin & Family at death of cousin Richard Laughinghouse, Family of Rev. Bruce Wilder, Family of Steve Kelly, Todd Willis, Faye, Sam Mandrick, Charlie Vaughn, Amanda Williams, premature twin granddaughters of Linda Pesante, all those who serve in the military, for those under care for the Covid virus

We give thanks for all the prayers you have answered by the power of the Holy Spirit. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer**.

God of compassion, we pray for the young people of this congregation. Renew in us your call to welcome the children in our midst. As they grow, strengthen their faith and our commitment to them.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

God of life, it is with joy we celebrate the birthdays of Tess Mandrick, Aaron Opheim, Les Boette and Emily Pittman this week along with Blake & Nancy Carter on their anniversary. Lord, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

God of consolation, we give you thanks for our loved ones who have died and pray for all who grieve today especially Cindy Herring and her family. Shine your grace on all your saints.

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God and those in our hearts known only to you; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen

LORD'S PRAYER (Sung)

Let us pray as Jesus 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,
forever and ever. Amen.



BLESSING

People of God, you are Christ's body, bringing new life to a suffering world. The holy Trinity, + one God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit bless you now and forever.

Amen.



SENDING HYMN

Click the following link for audio presentation

https://youtu.be/4NOrc6doudc



DISMISSAL

Go in peace. The living Word dwells in you. **Thanks be to God.**

Readings of the Week:

Sunday after Pentecost Jeremiah 11:18-20, James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a, Mark 9:30-37

Sunday after Pentecost Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29, James 5:13-20, Mark 9:38-50

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

Jane Cotner - Room 3106

Savannah Grand

Jo Kruer - Room 332 Mary Jordan- Memory Care Unit

At Home

Emmy Lou Sorum / Michele Pester / Clay Chaffee / Dorothy Schwager / Orv Lind / Lucy Creel / Blake Carter / Allan Johnson / Carey Blair / Marsha Woleshin / Ted Richardson / Donna Cormier / Charlie Vaughn



Luke Ellison, Army National Guard, Syria (nephew of Mark & Susan Foutz)
Lt. Commander Tim Cassel, Coast Guard, Washington, D.C. (grandson of Glen & Norma Bever)

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

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

"<u>T</u>" 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.