



March 15, 2020
Home Worship Service

Call to Worship (Psalm 63)

O God, you are our God.

Our souls are thirsty for you.

We have seen your power and your majesty.

We lift up our hands in praise for you have been our help

You keep us in the shadow of your wings

In your presence we sing for joy.

Your loving kindness is better than life itself

We will glorify you all of the days of our lives.

Prayers of Adoration

A reading from Romans 8:31–39:

What then shall we say to these things? If God is for us, who can be against us? He who did not spare his own Son but gave him up for us all, how will he not also with him graciously give us all things? Who shall bring any charge against God's elect? It is God who justifies. Who is to condemn? Christ Jesus is the one who died—more than that, who was raised—who is at the right hand of God, who indeed is interceding for us. Who shall separate us from the love of Christ? Shall tribulation, or distress, or persecution, or famine, or nakedness, or danger, or sword? As it is written,

“For your sake we are being killed all the day long;
we are regarded as sheep to be slaughtered.”

No, in all these things we are more than conquerors through him who loved us.

For I am sure that neither death nor life, nor angels nor rulers, nor things present nor things to come, nor powers, nor height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God in Christ Jesus our Lord.

***Offer prayers of worship and adoration to God in your own words, or use this:*

Our gracious God, surely you are near to us even in times of trial and sorrow. Help us to know that you are for us, today and always. Help us to know that we are your chosen and beloved people. We give you thanks and praise that through the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus we have the certain hope that we can never be separated from your love. You alone are the one whose love never leaves us. Help us entrust our lives to your care. Amen.

Prayers of Confession

***Take a moment to confess your sins to God in silence.*

Almighty Father, though you have created and redeemed us in perfect love, we confess that we have failed to love and obey you with our whole hearts. Instead of loving and serving one another, we have loved ourselves and sought our own desires, using and abusing others for our own gain. Forgive us and heal us we pray. Lord Jesus, renew our hearts, that we might love and obey you, following in your way of self-giving love and laying down our lives for our neighbors, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

"Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God (Romans 5:1-2)."

Prayers of Intercession

Pray for your own needs, as well as the needs of your neighborhood, our city, nation and world. Pray particularly for:

- For the vulnerable among us who are at greatest risk from this disease, particularly the elderly and those existing medical conditions
- For the children of our church and city – that they would be healthy and unafraid, that they would be provided adequate care and meals during the closure of our schools
- For our governmental leaders at local, state and national levels who are charged with leading through this crisis. May God grant them wisdom and courage.
- For your neighbors by name, particularly that God would grant you opportunity to love and serve them in tangible ways
- For the worship and witness of our church. That God would preserve our community during this time of social distancing, that we would care for one another well, and that our love for our neighbors would be a sign of God's presence

End by praying the Lord's Prayer together:

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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.

Scripture Readings

Psalm Reading: Psalm 46

God is our refuge and strength,
a very present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear though the earth gives way,
though the mountains be moved into the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble at its swelling. Selah

There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.
God is in the midst of her; she shall not be moved;
God will help her when morning dawns.
The nations rage, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts.
The LORD of hosts is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Come, behold the works of the LORD,
 how he has brought desolations on the earth.
He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
 he breaks the bow and shatters the spear;
 he burns the chariots with fire.
"Be still, and know that I am God.
 I will be exalted among the nations,
 I will be exalted in the earth!"
The LORD of hosts is with us;
 the God of Jacob is our fortress. Selah

Old Testament Reading: Genesis 4:17-27

Cain knew his wife, and she conceived and bore Enoch. When he built a city, he called the name of the city after the name of his son, Enoch. To Enoch was born Irad, and Irad fathered Mehujael, and Mehujael fathered Methushael, and Methushael fathered Lamech. And Lamech took two wives. The name of the one was Adah, and the name of the other Zillah. [20] Adah bore Jubal; he was the father of those who dwell in tents and have livestock. His brother's name was Jubal; he was the father of all those who play the lyre and pipe. [22] Zillah also bore Tubal-cain; he was the forger of all instruments of bronze and iron. The sister of Tubal-cain was Naamah.

Lamech said to his wives:

"Adah and Zillah, hear my voice;
 you wives of Lamech, listen to what I say:
I have killed a man for wounding me,
 a young man for striking me.
If Cain's revenge is sevenfold,
 then Lamech's is seventy-sevenfold."

And Adam knew his wife again, and she bore a son and called his name Seth, for she said, "God has appointed for me another offspring instead of Abel, for Cain killed him." To Seth also a son was born, and he called his name Enosh. At that time people began to call upon the name of the LORD.

Homily – Available on Facebook Live at 10 AM, or via our podcast the next day

Prayer

Benediction