

Worship in the time of COVID-19

An order of worship for April 26, 2020

3rd Sunday in the Season of Easter

Welcome by Pastor Kristen

Call to Worship: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19

1 I love the Lord, who has heard my voice,
and listened to my supplication,

2 for the Lord has given ear to me
whenever I called.

3 The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave came upon me;
I came to grief and sorrow.

4 Then I called upon the name of the Lord:
“O Lord, I pray you, save my life.”

12 How shall I repay the Lord
for all the good things God has done for me?

13 I will lift the cup of salvation
and call on the name of the Lord.

14 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all God’s people.

15 Precious in your sight, O Lord,
is the death of your servants.

16 O Lord, truly I am your servant;
I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me from my bonds.

17 I will offer you the sacrifice of thanksgiving
and call upon the name of the Lord.

18 I will fulfill my vows to the Lord
in the presence of all God’s people,

19 in the courts of the Lord’s house,
in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. Hallelujah!

Psalm Song: *I Love the Keeper of Life (Psalm 116)*

Chorus: I love the Keeper of Life, for She hears my cry
I call on Her all day and every day (x2)

1. Oh the fear of death had found me, a noose of death had bound me,
O trouble and grief up to my neck
Then I called upon the Keeper of Life, She had my back, She had by back
Chorus
2. How could I ever pay Her back for all She's given to me, I'll lift up the cup of
rescue now Call Her name as I look at the crowd, renew my vow, renew my vow
Chorus
3. O here I am, Her servant, just like my mom before me,
You freed me and smiled up on my life
So I'll make you this sacrifice, my gratitude, my gratitude
O, accept the vows I make now, in front of this assembly,
In the center of this holy place In the midst of Jerusalem, Hallelujah, Hallelujah
Chorus

Prayer of the Day

O God, your Son makes himself known to all his disciples in the breaking of bread. Open the eyes of our faith, that we may see him in his redeeming work, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's sermon

Gospel: Luke 24:13-35

13Now on that same day [when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene,] two [disciples] were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, 14and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. 15While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, 16but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. 17And he said to them, "What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?" They stood still, looking sad. 18Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, "Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?" 19He asked them, "What things?" They replied, "The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, 20and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. 21But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. 22Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, 23and when they

did not find his body there, they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. 24Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said; but they did not see him.” 25Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are, and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! 26Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” 27Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

28As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. 29But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. 30When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. 31Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him; and he vanished from their sight. 32They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” 33That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem; and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. 34They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” 35Then they told what had happened on the road, and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Sermon

Hymn: Christ is Alive, Let Christians Sing! verses 1, 2, 5

1. Christ is alive, let Christians sing! The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring. Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
2. Christ is alive! No longer bound to distant years in Palestine,
But saving, healing, here and now, and touching every place and time.
5. Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age,
Till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love, and praise.

Remembrance of Holy Communion

One of the things we deeply miss during this time of social distancing is sharing the sacrament of Holy Communion. We can't gather and share bread and wine with each other, but in this season when we remember Jesus's death and resurrection, let's take a moment together to remember that the night before his death, our Lord took bread, broke it, and gave it to his disciples and said, "take and eat; this is my body, broken for you." And let's remember that he took the cup and gave thanks and gave it for all to

drink and said "this cup is a new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sins." And even though we can't gather together physically, let's remember those words of togetherness and the promise of a new covenant and be strengthened by Christ's sacrifice until we can join again in a meal at God's table.

Please join me in prayer: Lord, in these times when we are separated help us to remember that we are always joined together at your table, that your sacrifice and gift of your own flesh and blood joins us into one family with all believers. We look forward to the day when we can gather together again but rejoice in knowing that as long as we are together in you we are never truly apart. Amen.

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.

For those whose hearts are fervent with love for your gospel, that they are empowered to tell the story of your love in their lives and to show hospitality in response to this love. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For the diverse natural world: for jungles, prairies, forests, valleys, mountains, and for all the wild and endangered animals who call these spaces home, that they are nurtured and protected. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For broken systems we have inherited and that we continue to perpetuate, forgive us. Restrain the nations from fighting over limited resources. Redeem us from the cycles of scarcity and violence. Help us to join together in our efforts to fight the coronavirus, so that even while we are far apart from each other, we feel the common bond of our humanity. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For all who call upon your healing name, give rest. Grant resilience to health care workers and all others who must work outside of their homes during this pandemic. Stay with us, and walk with all those who are hungry, friendless, despairing, and desiring healing in body and spirit. We pray especially for all those who are affected by COVID-19. Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

For the faith forming ministries of your church, in this congregation and throughout the world. During this time when everything feels strange, may all people come to know that you are present with us, and that you will always be our rock and our salvation.

Lord, in your mercy,

hear our prayer.

Create in our hearts a yearning to rest in your promise of eternal and resurrected life.

Grant us peace and comfort as we mourn those who have died, even as we look forward to the hope of new life with you. 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.

Lord's Prayer

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;

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.

“Walk by Faith” by Jeremy Camp - Hoey twins

Would I believe you when you would say

Your hand will guide my every way?

Will I receive the words you say

Every moment of every day?

Well I will walk by faith

Even when I cannot see

Well because this broken road

Prepares your will for me

Help me to win my endless fears

You've been so faithful for all my years

With one breath you make me new

Your grace covers all I do, yeah, yeah, yeah
yeah yeah
Well I will walk by faith
Even when I cannot see
Well because this broken road
Prepares your will for me
Well I'm broken, but I still see your face
Well you've spoken, pouring your words of
grace
Well I will walk by faith
Even when I cannot see
Well, because this broken road
Prepares your will for me

Well I will walk by faith
Even when I cannot see
Oh well, because this broken road
Prepares your will for me
I will walk by faith, I will walk by faith
(Hallelu) I will walk by faith, I will walk by
(Well hallelujah, hallelu) yeah, yeah
(Well hallelujah, hallelu) yeah, yeah
(Well hallelujah, hallelu) yeah, I will walk, I will
walk, whoa, I will walk by faith
(Well hallelujah, hallelu) I will, oh yeah, I will,
well I will walk by faith
(Well hallelujah)

Blessing

May the One who brought forth Jesus from the dead
raise you to new life, fill you with hope,
and turn your mourning into dancing.
Almighty God, Father, ☩ Son, and Holy Spirit,
bless you now and forever.
Amen.

Go in peace and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God!
And have fun doing it! We will! Amen!

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