

Worship in the time of COVID-19

An order of worship for March 29, 2020

Welcome by Pastor Kristen

Call to worship: Psalm 130

1 Out of the depths

I cry to you, O Lord;

2 O Lord, hear my voice!

Let your ears be attentive to the voice of my supplication.

3 If you were to keep watch over sins,

O Lord, who could stand?

4 Yet with you is forgiveness,

in order that you may be feared.

5 I wait for you, O Lord; my soul waits;

in your word is my hope.

6 My soul waits for the Lord more than those who keep watch for the morning,

more than those who keep watch for the morning.

7 O Israel, wait for the Lord, for with the Lord there is steadfast love;

with the Lord there is plenteous redemption.

8 For the Lord shall redeem Israel

from all their sins.

Song: We Wait in Hope for Your Love (Psalm 130)

Verse 1

Out of the depths we cry to you

O Holy One hear us

Held to our sin, God, who could stand

We come for forgiveness

O Holy One, hear us

Refrain

We wait in hope for your word
More than watchmen for the morning
We wait in hope for your word
And the dawn is never failing

Verse 2

Always with you, unfailing love
O Holy One, hear us
So we hold you in love and awe
We come for forgiveness
O Holy One, hear us

Prayer of the Day: Almighty God, your Son came into the world to free us all from sin and death. Breathe upon us the power of your Spirit, that we may be raised to new life in Christ and serve you in righteousness all our days, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Children's sermon

Scripture reading: Ezekiel 37:1-14

1The hand of the Lord came upon me, and he brought me out by the spirit of the Lord and set me down in the middle of a valley; it was full of bones. 2He led me all around them; there were very many lying in the valley, and they were very dry. 3He said to me, "Mortal, can these bones live?" I answered, "O Lord God, you know." 4Then he said to me, "Prophecy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. 5Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live. 6I will lay sinews on you, and will cause flesh to come upon you, and cover you with skin, and put breath in you, and you shall live; and you shall know that I am the Lord."

7So I prophesied as I had been commanded; and as I prophesied, suddenly there was a noise, a rattling, and the bones came together, bone to its bone. 8I looked, and there were sinews on them, and flesh had come upon them, and

skin had covered them; but there was no breath in them. 9Then he said to me, “Prophecy to the breath, prophecy, mortal, and say to the breath: Thus says the Lord God: Come from the four winds, O breath, and breathe upon these slain, that they may live.” 10I prophesied as he commanded me, and the breath came into them, and they lived, and stood on their feet, a vast multitude.

11Then he said to me, “Mortal, these bones are the whole house of Israel. They say, ‘Our bones are dried up, and our hope is lost; we are cut off completely.’ 12Therefore prophecy, and say to them, Thus says the Lord God: I am going to open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people; and I will bring you back to the land of Israel. 13And you shall know that I am the Lord, when I open your graves, and bring you up from your graves, O my people. 14I will put my spirit within you, and you shall live, and I will place you on your own soil; then you shall know that I, the Lord, have spoken and will act, says the Lord.”

Sermon

Song-- Special Music from Festeberg choir of Wartburg College

Prayers of Intercession

Praying in our homes and bound together in the Spirit, let us pray for the church, the earth, the world, and all who are in need.

A brief silence.

Come to the church, O saving God. Even when we cannot assemble together, bind your faithful people into one body. Breathe your Spirit of life into the global church, that despite our valley of dry bones we may rise to praise your name.

God of mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Come to the earth, O nurturing God. Use this time when human activity is diminished to restore polluted lands and waterways and to protect endangered plants and animals. Bless farmers and all who labor to bring forth food from the earth. God of mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Come to the nations and their leaders, O God of peace. Lead the world away from war and violence. Guide those in authority to provide for those in dire need of humanitarian relief. Direct all people in positions of authority to make wise decisions that serve the health and safety of all. God of mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Come to all places the coronavirus has struck, O compassionate God. Be present to all who mourn their dead; all who have contracted the virus; those who are quarantined or stranded away from home; those who have lost employment; children who cannot assemble for school and parents with needs for child care. Bless and uphold physicians, nurses, and home health aides; hospitals and clinics; medical researchers; and the Center for Disease Control. God of mercy,

Hear our prayer.

Come to all in need, O healing God. Unbind all who are held captive by anxiety, despair, or pain. Comfort those around the world who cannot bury their dead. House the homeless in safe places. Show us how to provide a measure of assistance to those who suffer. Accompany those who seek care in overwhelmed hospitals and clinics. Send your healing mercy to rest upon those we name before you now in our hearts.

Hear our prayer.

Out of our depths we cry to you, O loving God. Receive our sorrows and our fears, and hear the petitions of our hearts. Into your hands, O mighty God, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy, through Christ, our Savior and 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.

Song: What Wondrous Love Is This ELW 666

1 What wondrous love is this,
O my soul, O my soul!
 What wondrous love is this, O my soul!
 What wondrous love is this
 that caused the Lord of bliss
 to bear the dreadful curse
for my soul, for my soul,
 to bear the dreadful curse for my soul?

2 When I was sinking down,
sinking down, sinking down,
 when I was sinking down, sinking down,
 when I was sinking down
 beneath God's righteous frown,
 Christ laid aside his crown
for my soul, for my soul,
 Christ laid aside his crown for my soul.

3 To God and to the Lamb
I will sing, I will sing;
 to God and to the Lamb I will sing;
 to God and to the Lamb,
 who is the great I AM,
 while millions join the theme,
I will sing, I will sing,

while millions join the theme, I will sing.

**4 And when from death I'm free,
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free, I'll sing on;
and when from death I'm free,
I'll sing God's love for me,
and through eternity
I'll sing on, I'll sing on;
and through eternity I'll sing on.**

The Blessing:

God Almighty send you light and truth to keep you all the days of your life. The hand of God protect you, the holy angels accompany you. God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit (+) cause grace to be mighty upon you and through you.

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

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Scripture is from the New Revised Standard Version of the Bible.

We Wait in Hope for Your Love
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Announcement: If you would like to listen to a Lutheran worship service on the radio during this time, you can tune in to KWAY - 99.3 at 9am on Sunday mornings to hear the service from St. Paul's Lutheran Church in Waverly. You can also listen to sermons from the Christian Crusaders Lutheran ministry at 10:30am on KXEL-1540AM and at 3:00pm on KNWS-1090AM