

Worship Guide - March 22, 2020 | Woodland Hills Christian Church

[NOTES: A leader should read the Scriptures and prayers in plain text. All should read together **the words in bold**. Headings and words in italics are for guidance and instruction, and need not be read aloud. All words of songs should be sung together. The lyrics in bold are repeated refrains. Music can be found on Spotify in the Sunday playlist or through the YouTube links provided on our website at whcc.info/coronavirus.]

GATHERING *[God calls his people to worship him and prepare our hearts to hear his Word.]*

Call to Worship Romans 8:18-23

For I consider that the sufferings of this present time are not worth comparing with the glory that is to be revealed to us. For the creation waits with eager longing for the revealing of the sons of God. For the creation was subjected to futility, not willingly, but because of him who subjected it, in hope that the creation itself will be set free from its bondage to corruption and obtain the freedom of the glory of the children of God. For we know that the whole creation has been groaning together in the pains of childbirth until now. And not only the creation, but we ourselves, who have the firstfruits of the Spirit, groan inwardly as we wait eagerly for adoption as sons, the redemption of our bodies.

Leader: The Word of the Lord,

People: Thanks be to God.

Prayer

Father, we are reminded
of the Israelites in exile,
separated from your people,
unable to worship you together.
But we trust, that even in what
feels like a foreign land,
you are sovereign yet.

Though our voices may be
scattered in our separate homes,
may they as little lights, pushing
back the present darkness of our time.

Though they may lack the
harmony of singing together,
may they rise to you all the same,
and in rising, converge
across space and time,
to join together and with the voices
of heaven, as a sign of our hope in
the day when we will sing together
again, and of our greater hope
in the day when we will sing together
around your throne.

Amen.

Sing: Sovereign Over Us

There is strength within the sorrow
There is beauty in our tears
And You meet us in our mourning
With a love that casts out fear

You are working in our waiting
Sanctifying us

When beyond our understanding
You're teaching us to trust

**Your plans are still to prosper
You've not forgotten us
You're with us in the fire and the flood
Faithful forever perfect in love
You are sovereign over us**

You are wisdom unimagined
Who could understand Your ways
Reigning high above the heavens
Reaching down in endless grace

You're the lifter of the lowly
Compassionate and kind
You surround and You uphold me
And Your promises are my delight

**Your plans are still to prosper
You've not forgotten us**

Sing: Here's My Heart

Here's my heart Lord (3x)
Speak what is true

'Cause I am found I am Yours
I am loved I'm made pure
I have life I can breathe
I am healed I am free

'Cause You are strong You are sure
You are life You endure

You're with us in the fire and the flood

Faithful forever perfect in love

You are sovereign over us

Even what the enemy means for evil
You turn it for our good
You turn it for our good
And for Your glory

Even in the valley You are faithful
You're working for our good
You're working for our good
And for Your glory

You are good always true
You are light breaking through

Here's my heart Lord (x3)

Speak what is true

Here's my life Lord (3x)

Speak what is true

You are more than enough
You are here You are love
You are hope You are grace
You're all I have You're everything

WORD *[God speaks to his people through the Scriptures in the power of the Holy Spirit.]*

Prayer for Illumination

Gracious God, we do not live by bread alone,
but by every word that comes from your mouth.
Make us hungry for your Word,
that it may strengthen us today in ways of eternal life;
through Jesus Christ, the bread of heaven.

Amen.

Scripture Reading - John 8:1-11

[Read the text together and then play the teaching video.]

Sing: There Is A Fountain

There is a fountain filled with blood
Drawn from Emmanuel's veins
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains

Lose all their guilty stains
Lose all their guilty stains
And sinners plunged beneath that flood
Lose all their guilty stains

The dying thief rejoiced to see
That fountain in his day
And there may I though vile as He
Wash all my sins away

Wash all my sins away
Wash all my sins away
And there may I though vile as He
Wash all my sins away

Hallelujah fountain full of love for us Poured out on us

E'er since by faith I saw the stream
Thy flowing wounds supply
Redeeming love has been my theme
And shall be till I die

And shall be till I die
And shall be till I die
Redeeming love has been my theme
And shall be till I die

TABLE *[God unites his people to himself as we respond to his Word.]*

Prayers of the People

Gracious Father, we thank you for the blessings you give to us, your children.

All we have is from you, gifts of your grace.

[Take a moment to thank God for ways he has blessed you in the last week.]

Merciful Father, we come to you with the burden to intercede,

**for those who are sick and suffering,
for the who feel isolated and alone,
for those do not know the hope of Jesus.**

[Take a moment to pray for those people and situations that God has laid on your heart.]

Confession and Assurance

Let us confess our sins to God.

**Most merciful God,
we confess that 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.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**

**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

As you have promised us in your Word so we believe, and find assurance: If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *[1 John 1:9]*

Let us pray as our Savior has taught us.

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins**

**as we forgive those who sin against us
And lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For yours is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Communion

What I received from the Lord is what I deliver to, that the Lord Jesus Christ, on the very night when he was betrayed, took the bread, blessed it, broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take and eat. This is my body, broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." And in the same way after supper, he took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to the disciples, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me." For whenever you eat this bread, and whenever you drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until he comes again. These are the gifts of God for the people of God. Taste and see the goodness of the Lord in the gift of his Son.

[Those who are baptized may share in the bread and the cup.]

**Sing: His Mercy Is More
Praise the Lord
His mercy is more
Stronger than darkness
new every morn
Our sins they are many
His mercy is more**

What love could remember
no wrongs we have done
Omniscient all knowing

He counts not their sum
Thrown into a sea
without bottom or shore
Our sins they are many
His mercy is more

What patience would wait
as we constantly roam
What Father so tender
is calling us home
He welcomes the weakest
the vilest the poor

Our sins they are many
His mercy is more

What riches of kindness
He lavished on us
His blood was the payment
His life was the cost
We stood 'neath a debt
we could never afford
Our sins they are many
His mercy is more

SENDING *[God sends his people out to love and serve him in the world.]*

Closing Prayer

Lord, teach us to love: To love the Lord our God

**With all our heart,
with all our soul,
and with all our mind.**

To love our neighbor as ourselves.

Lord, teach us to love like Jesus.

Benediction

As you go to love and serve the Lord, may the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. **Amen.**

Questions for Discussion

1. What areas are shame holding you back from experiencing the radical grace of Jesus?
2. Have you experienced a time where someone was picking up a stone to throw at your sin?
3. Would you be honest with yourself in confessing if you have thrown stones at someone else?
4. How can we break the cycle of shame in our relationships? Our parenting? Our marriages? And extend mercy to someone who needs to see Jesus like the adulterous woman did that day? Will they feel valued, seen, and loved through your encounter with their failures?