Worship in the Home

Second Sunday after Pentecost June 14, 2020



In this time of world-wide crisis, congregations throughout this church are not able to gather for worship as the body of Christ. While you cannot be together in person, we can hear the word of God and hold each other in prayer. We offer this brief resource as an aid for prayer in the home.

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign marked at our baptism.

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, whose steadfast love is everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from generation to generation. **Amen!**

Trusting in the mercy of God, let us confess our sin.

Silence is kept for reflection.

Reconciling God, we confess that we do not trust your abundance, and we deny your presence in our lives. We place our hope in ourselves and rely on our own efforts. We fail to believe that you provide enough for all. We abuse your good creation for our own benefit. We fear difference and do not welcome others as you have welcomed us. We sin in thought, word, and deed. By your grace, forgive us; through your love, renew us;

and, as the Holy Spirit, lead us; so that we may live and serve you in newness of life. Amen!

Beloved of God, by the radical abundance of divine mercy we have peace with God through + Christ Jesus, through whom we have obtained grace upon grace. Our sins are forgiven. Let us live now in hope. For hope does not disappoint, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. **Amen!**

If you have a hymnal (or using the graphic below), you might now sing or read, "Gather Us In" (Evangelical Lutheran Worship 532).



Text: Marty Haugen, b. 1950 Music: GATHER US IN, Marty Haugen Text and music © 1982 GIA Publications Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358.

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The Prayer of the Day may be prayed.

God of compassion, you have opened the way for us and brought us to yourself. Pour your love into our hearts, that, overflowing with joy, we may freely share the blessings of your realm and faithfully proclaim the good news of your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Then the readings for this Sunday may be read, as follows:

First Reading: Exodus 19:2-8a

²The Israelites had journeyed from Rephidim, entered the wilderness of Sinai, and camped in the wilderness; Israel camped there in front of the mountain. ³Then Moses went up to God; the Lord called to him from the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the Israelites: ⁴You have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to myself. ⁵Now therefore, if you obey my voice and keep my covenant, you shall be my treasured possession out of all the peoples. Indeed, the whole earth is mine, ⁶but you shall be for me a realm of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the Israelites."

⁷So Moses came, summoned the elders of the people, and set before them all these words that the Lord had commanded him. ^{8a}The people all answered as one: "Everything that the Lord has spoken we will do."

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

Psalm: Psalm 100 may be sung or spoken in response to the First Reading.

¹Make a joyful noise to the Lord, I all you lands!
²Serve the Lord with gladness; come into God's presence with a song.
³Know that the Lord is God, our maker to whom I we belong;
^{we} are God's people and the sheep I of God's pasture
⁴Enter the gates of the Lord with thanksgiving and the courts with praise;
^{give} thanks and bless God's holy name.
⁵Good indeed is the Lord, whose steadfast love is I everlasting,
^{whose} faithfulness endures from I age to age.

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-8

¹Since we are justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, ²through whom we have obtained access to this grace in which we stand; and we boast in our hope of sharing the glory of God. ³And not only that, but we also boast in our sufferings, knowing that suffering produces endurance, ⁴and endurance produces character, and character produces hope, ⁵and hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us. ⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷Indeed, rarely will anyone die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person someone might actually dare to die. ⁸But it is proof of God's own love for us in that while we still were sinners Christ died for us.

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

Gospel: Matthew 9:35–10:8

The holy gospel according to Matthew. **Glory to you, O Lord.**

³⁵Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the dominion of heaven, and curing every disease and every sickness. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers for the harvesting."

^{10:1}Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. ²These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The dominion of heaven has come near.' ⁸Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse those with leprosy, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment.

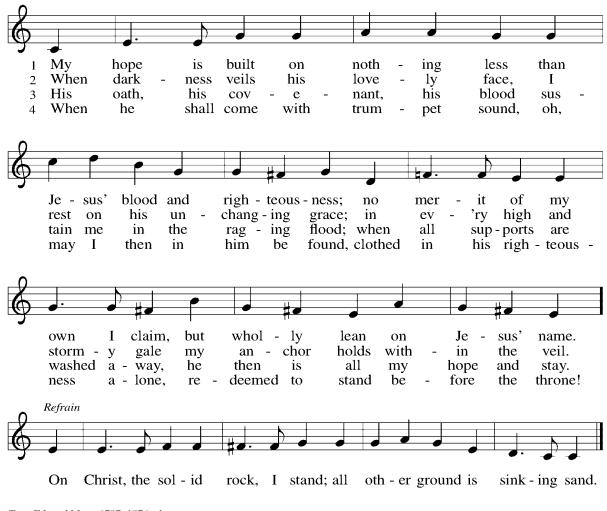
This is the holy Gospel of our Lord! Praise to you, O Christ!

Reflection

Having read these readings, think of this:

Surely we as well as our neighbors are among the harassed and helpless that Jesus sees, those with "every disease and every sickness." But, as the baptized, we are also those to whom Jesus has committed his mission, and we have often failed. Nonetheless, God says, "I have brought you to myself." Because of Jesus Christ, forgiveness and love have been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Just as the Twelve stand for the Israelites, called to be a people of priests for all the world, we too are given the charge to pray for all and to bear witness to the healing love of God, all of us together Christ's priestly people for the sake of the world.

If you have a hymnal (or using the graphic below), you might now sing or read, "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" (Evangelical Lutheran Worship 597).



Text: Edward Mote, 1797–1874, alt. Music: MELITA, John B. Dykes, 1823–1876

Then pray together these prayers for our church and world:

Called into unity with one another and the whole creation, let us join together to pray for the church, our nation, and for all who are in need, responding to each petition with the words, "Graciously hear our prayer."

A brief silence.

O God, Holy Spirit, surround your whole church and her leaders with your tender might. Strengthen the believers who cannot assemble for worship. Guide the church's use of technology, and make yourself known to those who have no access to such materials.

Your steadfast love is everlasting: Graciously hear our prayer.

O God, Holy One of creation, continue your care for the earth. Where there was fire or flooding, drought or storm, bring renewal of the land. Bless farmers and ranchers, and protect migrant farm workers as they toil in the sun to harvest our food.

Your steadfast love is everlasting: Graciously hear our prayer.

O God, Holy One of unity, as we commemorate this week the martyrdom of the Emanuel Nine, who, five years ago, were killed while assembled in their Charleston church for Bible study, we hope to end the scourge of racism and white supremacy; protect protestors; halt those who intend violence; preserve our democracy. Raise up leaders who model repentance and reconciliation, and support legislators who seek justice in our land.

Your steadfast love is everlasting: Graciously hear our prayer.

O God, Holy One of compassion, heal the sick, and embrace the fearful. Visit the millions who are suffering from the coronavirus. Protect us from another wave of disease. Uphold health care workers and medical researchers as they work on our behalf. Assist the unemployed in finding a job. Show us how to provide safe housing and daily food for the homeless in our nation and around the world. We, also, lift up those dear to us in our hearts...

Your steadfast love is everlasting: **Graciously hear our prayer.**

O God, Holy One of hope, sustain those who cannot endure their suffering but are led only to despair. Pour your grace into their hearts.

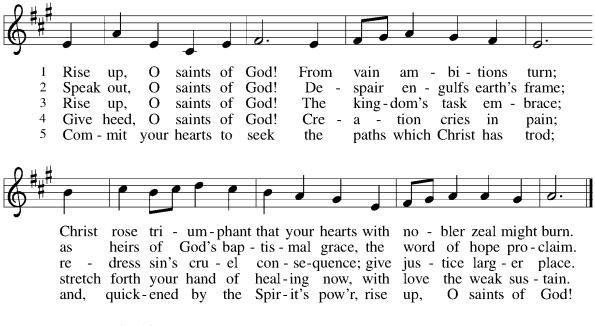
Your steadfast love is everlasting: Graciously hear our prayer.

O God, Holy eternal One, we praise you for the lives of all the faithful departed, both the famous and the forgotten. At the end of all things, bring to yourself all your treasured people, to abide in your presence forever.

Your steadfast love is everlasting: Graciously hear our prayer.

Receive these prayers, O God, and those desires too deep for words, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen!**

If you have a hymnal (or using the graphic below), you might now sing or read "Rise Up, O Saints of God!" (Evangelical Lutheran Worship 669).



Text: Norman O. Forness, b. 1936

Music: FESTAL SONG, William H. Walter, 1825–1893 Text © Norman O. Forness, admin. Augsburg Fortress

Then conclude with these prayers:

O God of justice and love, we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with the words of your Son. Give us the light we need, awaken us to the needs of others, and at the end bring all the world to your feast; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory forever and ever! **Amen!**

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen!

Almighty God, Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever! **Amen!**

Materials for the commemoration of the Emanuel Nine (June 17) can be found at <u>www.elca.org/EmanuelNine</u>

Readings for the Week:

Monday Psalm 105:1-11. Tuesday Thessalonians 2:13-

3:5. Wednesday (commemoration of the Emanuel Nine, martyrs, 2015) Proverbs 4:10-27. Thursday Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18. Friday Jeremiah 18:18-23. Saturday Luke 11:53—12:3. Second Sunday after Pentecost (commemoration of Onesimos Nesib, translator, evangelist, died 1931; Gregory, Bishop of Nyssa, died around 385; Gregory of Nazianzus, Bishop of Constantinople, died around 389; Macrina, teacher, died around 379) Jeremiah 20:7-13; Psalm 69:7-10 [11-15] 16-18; Romans 6:1b-11; Matthew 10:24-39.

Daily Prayer Resources are now available, including simple forms of Morning, Evening, and Night Prayer; Responsive Prayer; and prayers for mealtimes and other occasions.

Reflection material: Gordon Lathrop. Intercessory Prayer: Gail Ramshaw

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