

Worship in the Home

Second Sunday after Pentecost Lectionary 11 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. As with our prayers in the gathered assembly for worship, you are encouraged to prepare or adapt them locally for your <u>context</u>.

The Prayer of the Day may be prayed.

Let us pray.

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.

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: 100

¹Make a joyful noise to the Lord, ¹ 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 we belong;

we are God's people and the sheep 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 | everlasting, whose faithfulness endures from | 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 [9-23] 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, <u>cleanse</u> those with leprosy, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. [⁹Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, ¹⁰no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. ¹¹Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. ¹²As you enter the house, greet it. ¹³If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town. ¹⁵Truly I tell you, it will be more tolerable for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah on the day of judgment than for that town.

¹⁶"See, I am sending you out like sheep into the midst of wolves; so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷Beware of them, for they will hand you over to councils and flog you in their synagogues; ¹⁸and you will be dragged before governors and rulers because of me, as a testimony to them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹When they hand you over, do not worry about how you are to speak or what you are to say; for what you are to say will be given to you at that time; ²⁰for it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you. ²¹"Brother and sister will betray one another to death, and the parent the child, and children will rise against parents and have them put to death; ²²and you will be hated by all because of my name. But the one who endures to the end will be saved. ²³When they persecute you in one town, flee to the next; for truly I tell you, you will not have gone through all the towns of Israel before the Son-of-Man comes."]

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, "Rise Up, O Saints of God!" (Evangelical Lutheran Worship 669) or "Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life" (Evangelical Lutheran Worship 719).

Rise Up, O Saints of God!

Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

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, the Holy One of blessing, send your Spirit of tender might throughout your church and to all its leaders, especially Bishop Eaton. 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.

A brief silence.

Your steadfast love is everlasting:

Graciously hear our prayer.

O God, the Holy One of truth, as today we commemorate the fourth-century theologians Basil, Gregory, Gregory, and Macrina, we pray for your Spirit on teachers, preachers, and missionaries. Empower the church as it uses both historic and innovative words to proclaim your gospel across the street and around the globe.

A brief silence.

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.

A brief silence.

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 in 2015 were killed while assembled in their Charleston church for Bible study, we pray: 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.

A brief silence.

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 pray also for those we name here:

A brief silence.

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.

A brief silence.

Your steadfast love is everlasting:

Graciously hear our prayer.

O God, Holy One of mercy, we pray finally also for ourselves.

A longer time of silence.

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.

A brief silence.

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.

OFFERING:

Please remember to mail in your offerings so that Grace can continue to serve you.

If you have a hymnal (or using the graphic below), you might now sing or read "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (Evangelical Lutheran Worship 858/859) or "I Love to Tell the Story" (Evangelical Lutheran Worship 661).

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty 858

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty 859

I Love to Tell the Story

Then conclude with these prayers:

Let us pray.

A brief silence is kept before the prayer.

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 honor and glory forever.

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, $\, \pm \,$ Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

Amen.

Please keep in your prayers this week: Kevin Johnson, Barbara Metzger, Rob Johnson and Steve Lindberg (Streeter Family Friend's & Kin), Noah Klenken (Fred Fixsen's Nephew), Ellsa Sorenson, Cal Curtis & Patty Thompson (Carole Holten's Son-in-Law & Sister), Bill Warner, David Warner, Emily (Ben & Casey's Daughter), Terry Newgard, Ellsa Sorenson.

This and more information can be found on: elca.org

Devotional Music Links: For your individual or group devotion, you may choose to listen to the following choral recordings made available through Augsburg Fortress: "There's a Wideness in God's Mercy"; "Our Mission Is to Follow Jesus"; "Creation's Grandest Glory Stands."

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

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 Portions from Evangelical Lutheran Worship and sundaysandseasons.com, © 2020 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress. Readings from Readings for the Assembly © 1995, 1996, 1997 Augsburg Fortress. Citations from the Revised Common Lectionary © 1992 Consultation on Common Texts. Scripture quotations from NRSV Bible, Copyright © 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the United States of America, adapted and edited with permission by Gordon Lathrop and Gail Ramshaw.