

CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Sunday, April 19 2020
The Second Sunday of Easter: A Service for Worship at Home

Prelude

Take this time to take a breath, and quiet your heart and mind.

Greeting

Alleluia! Jesus Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Opening Prayer

God of new life, in Jesus Christ – the one who was crucified but has been raised from the dead – you have given us a new birth into a living hope. Send your Holy Spirit that as we worship you, as we hear and respond to your Word, we may rejoice in your living presence with us.

Call to Worship

adapted from 1 Peter 1:3-9

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ!

God has given us a new birth unto a living hope through the resurrection of Christ from the dead.

God has given us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading.

In this we rejoice even when we suffer trials.

Hymn

Confession

Psalm 16:1

“Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.”

God of resurrection and new life, we confess that we are unsure how to be a resurrection people in a time such as this. We are unsure how to be a people who worship in the midst of doubts. We have trouble imagining how to love and care for our neighbor in new ways, and we are tempted to not try. Lord, the size of the trials of this day draws our attention from the promise we have received in the risen Christ.

Forgive our lack of imagination. Guide our hearts and our minds, that our hands and feet may follow into your service.

Assurance and Peace

Matthew 28:18

And Jesus came to them and said, 'All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me.'"

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God!

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

Throughout this week, please find ways to share the peace of Christ with one another, with neighbors across the street and across the hall, and with those in your communities.

Children's Message

Downloadable materials for children (and the young at heart!) can be found on the church website (www.CalvinChurchRI.org) with the worship materials.

Scripture

Matthew 28:16-20

Sermon**Hymn****Offering**

Psalm 16:2

"I say to the Lord, 'You are my Lord; I have no good apart from you.'"

We understand that these are uncertain and difficult times. But that is all the more reason that the work of the church continues. Please prayerfully continue to give your gifts to this ministry. You can take just a moment to give online through our website, or prepare a check to be mailed.

Prayer of Dedication

Generous God, you are our portion and our cup. In you our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice, and our bodies rest. Bless and multiply our offerings and pledges that they may bring the joy of your presence more deeply into the world. Amen.

Prayers of the People

God of resurrection, you have promised that all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to our risen Lord, Jesus Christ. Therefore we come to you with our prayers and petitions, joys and sorrows.

This morning we pray for this world, under the curse of this pandemic. We pray for those who are sick, and their friends and families. We pray for those who are mourning the death of a loved one, and we especially lift up those whose grief is compounded by physical distance and isolation.

We are thankful, though not nearly thankful enough, for those who put themselves at risk for our sakes...doctors and nurses, caregivers, grocery workers, those who clean our hospital rooms and other public spaces and facilities. Lord, protect and strengthen them. Keep us mindful of the sacrifices they and their families make.

Lord, in this time of confusion and uncertainty, we pray for our leaders and those who make public policy. Give them integrity and courage to do what is right and good, and in the interest of the common good.

Open up our imaginations, that we may envision new opportunities to proclaim the Good News of Jesus Christ, not just in our words, but in our actions; help us to envision how we might, even in these circumstances, be agents of your grace, mercy, and loving provision for those in need. Keep us mindful of those we are prone to forget, yet for whom circumstances make this virus all the more deadly: the poor, the refugees, the imprisoned. Open our eyes to the ways this pandemic shows us we are all equal, and also the ways it shows us the inequality and injustice still present in our hearts and in our communities.

[silent prayers]

Lord in all these prayers, we trust that all authority in heaven and on earth has been given to you, and that you are with us, to the end of the age. We worship you, Lord, for you are the resurrection and the life; and we are bold to pray the pray you have taught us...

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 our debts, as we forgive our debtors;
 and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn

Benediction

Let us go in the promise that all authority in heaven and on earth has been give to our risen Lord, Jesus Christ; and that he is with us always, even to the end of the age.

May the love of God the Father, The grace of Jesus the Son, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, One God, be with you, now and forever. Amen.