

CALVIN PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

A Service for Worship at Home – August 9, 2020

Revised Common Lectionary Readings
for the 10th Sunday after Pentecost/
19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Genesis 37:1-28
Psalm 105:1-6, 16-22, 45b
Romans 10:5-15
Matthew 14:22-33

Allow a moment to take a breath, and quiet your heart and mind before the Lord.

Opening Prayer

**adapted from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, (c) 2014 Westminster John Knox Press*

Son of God, you walk on the waters of turmoil to meet us in the midst of your purposed journey for our lives. Help us to recognize your presence, remember your promise, rely on your power, and receive your peace through every storm.

Call to Worship

from Psalm 102:1-2*

Hear our prayer, O LORD; let our cry come to you.

Do not hide your face from us in the day of our distress.

Incline your ear to us;

Answer us speedily in the day when we call.

*Throughout the summer, as circumstances prevent us from gathering together, and in recognition of all that is going on in our nation and the world, each Sunday's Call to Worship will be from a psalm of lament; and each Sunday's Benediction will include a passage of hope and promise from that same psalm.

Opening Hymn

O Worship the King, all Glorious Above!
Presbyterian Hymnal #476

Confession

Matthew 14:30

"But when Peter noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, 'Lord, save me!'"

Lord Jesus, we call upon you. Save us! We are intimidated by our circumstances, distracted from your purposes, drowning in doubts and fears. We are presumptuous about your will, belittling others and magnifying ourselves. We envy the blessing of others, secretly despising their dreams. We have hardened our hearts to the suffering of our brothers and sisters, feeding ourselves in the face of the injustice that holds them captive.

Lord Jesus, who searches our hearts, lift us from sin and help us to walk with you in faith, humility, and brotherly-sisterly love.

*from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, (c) 2014 Westminster John Knox Press

(silent confession)

Assurance and Peace

Romans 10:6, 13

“Because if you confess with your lips that Jesus is Lord and believe in your heart that God raised him from the dead, you will be saved...For, ‘Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord shall be saved.’”

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God

May the Peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Scripture

[Genesis 37:1-28](#)

(New Revised Standard Version)

Sermon

Sibling Rivalry (Again!)

Hymn

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

Presbyterian Hymnal #427

Offering

Please prayerfully consider the time, talents, or gifts you have received, and how you can give them back to God in love and service to others.

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 and the Prayers of the People

**from Presbyterian Outlook Order of Worship for the 10th Sunday after Pentecost, August 9, 2020, Rev. Jill Duffield*

Gracious God, we offer to you not only our monetary gifts, but our whole selves, our hearts, minds, hopes and fears. We give them freely and in the knowledge that we can never earn your grace. You come to us even before we turn to you. You pursue us with your steadfast love. You refuse to give up on us even when we have gone astray. Bless these gifts we pray, signs of our gratitude, and use them to proclaim the good news to those yet to hear it and know of their priceless worth in your eyes.

Lord God, as we navigate strong headwinds and seek to see you through our fatigue and fears, we confess that you are truly the Son of God, the Savior of the world, the one who stills the storm and immediately reaches out your hand to keep us from drowning. We rest for a moment in the joy of your presence, no longer afraid, free from anxiety, assured that you do not leave us alone, but seek us out when we are most in need of your peace.

We know, Lord of all, that none of our thoughts and hopes, our doubts or worries are off limits to your care and compassion. We know you, our teacher and our friend, welcome us as we are and hear whatever is on our hearts and minds. We ask you to hear our prayers for those in our midst most battered by the storms of our time.

Grab the hands of those about to go under the waves of poverty or financial crisis. We ask for your intervention on behalf of families unable to provide basic necessities for their children, our siblings wrestling with food insecurity, those on the cusp of eviction and the unemployed facing the end of benefits. As we see those about to be swamped by the waves of this pandemic, move us to act in ways that lift others out of the roiling sea.

Reach out and give courage and strength to people in leadership positions. Grant them wisdom to make decisions in the best interests of the most vulnerable. Inspire communities to use their power and resources, their will and gifts, to support the people on the margins, those for whom this difficult season has been catastrophic. We pray for teachers, administrators, parents and students as they all seek to navigate a new school year rife with uncertainty and unprecedented challenges. We are mindful of essential workers, who are facing the danger of this public health crisis every day. Protect and sustain them, Lord. We lift up the sick and all those who suffer. Give them hope, bring relief, surround them with your mercy.

Quiet the dangerous winds of discord and division and stir up the breath of the Holy Spirit to heal and unite us. Help us to build up the body, strengthen our witness and reveal to the world that we follow the One who commands us to love one another. May others look at your church and see your hands and feet at work in the world feeding and tending, forgiving and repairing, doing justice, loving kindness and walking humbly with God.

So hear us now as we lift up those whose names are known to us. We pray for those who mourn the death of loved ones – family members, and friends.

We pray for those with COVID-19 – for Paul's mother; Lord, we continue to pray for those with other health complications – for Jackie and Chuck, Betty's friends Maria, Charlene, and Theresa; Linda; Marsha and her mother and father. We pray for Jennifer's sister-in-law Carrie.

We pray for all who were in the path of Hurricane and Tropical Storm Isaias. For those whose lives were lost or injured, for those whose livelihoods were affected, and for those for whom this storm and the aftermath disrupts vital services.

We pray for those in the city of Beirut, for those who have lost loved ones, those who are injured, and those who face the daunting task of rebuilding and recovering from the explosion.

We pray for those reaching out for prayer online...including Eugenia with an unspoken prayer, and those who have reached out with private prayer requests.

We continue to remember and lift up Elaine, Dot, Marilyn, Miriam, Fran and all those at Madonna Manor, Chapel Hill, Highlands, Waterman Lake, Atria and other assisted living communities; and especially the Holiday Health and Rehab as many residents and staff there are bearing the weight of COVID-19 cases.

And hear us as each of us lifts up the prayers echoing in our hearts...

(personal prayers)

In this moment, Lord God, we rest in your presence, certain that you are our Savior and the Savior of the world, able to do abundantly more than we can ever hope or imagine, never far from us, always reaching out your hand to save us when we fear the wind and waves of life will overtake us. We worship and praise you as we pray the prayer you taught us, saying

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 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.

Closing Hymn

I Sing the Mighty Power of God
Presbyterian Hymnal #288

Charge and Benediction

Psalm 102:16

For the LORD will build up Zion; he will appear in his glory.

The LORD will regard the prayer of the destitute, and will not despise their prayer.

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