

Worship Resource for 6 Easter (Sunday, May 9, 2021)

Thanks for joining us in worship today! If you are worshipping online, be sure to fill out the digital connection card.

Sunday School this Week

Adult Sunday School class continues a 12-week series, featuring the teaching ministry of well-known Christian author and teacher Francis Chan. The class will be titled "Lessons for Living in the Book of James."

During this class you will see how true faith produces fruit. A faith without action and without life change is ultimately a dead faith. The book of James speaks to the realities of a living faith in Jesus—the kind of roll-up-your-sleeves and get-your-hands-dirty discipleship that is borne out of an authentic relationship with the risen Lord. James writes to believers who know suffering, who've faced trials and who ultimately desire a deep relationship with God. Sam Poston will serve as the lead facilitator for this class, which will run through July 4.

Getting Reading for Worship

As you get ready for worship, you will want to have:

1. Your Bible. We will be reading these passages: Acts 7:54-8:8, 1 John 5:1-6 and John 15:9-17.
2. A Lutheran Book of Worship. We will sing hymn #527 vv. 1,2,7 ("All Creatures of Our God and King"). A With One Voice hymnal. We will sing hymn #699 ("Blessed Assurance").
3. The elements for Holy Communion. We encourage you to strive for a bread product and something in the "fruit of the vine" category.
4. The worship service will be broadcast on YouTube. You will find links to both on the home page of the Grace website (www.grace-nalc.org).

Prelude: *When There's Love at Home*
I Love You, Lord
Blest Be the Tie That Binds
What a Friend We Have in Jesus

J. McNaughton, arr. Roger C. Wilson
Laurie Klein, arr. Douglas E. Wagner
Johann G. Nageli, arr. James Mansfield
Charles C. Converse, arr. Marianne Kim

Opening Hymn: *All Creatures of Our God and King* (LBW #527 vv. 1,2,7)

1. All creatures of our God and King, lift up your voice with us and sing:
Alleluia! Alleluia! O burning sun with golden beam
And silver moon with softer gleam; *Refrain*.

Refrain: Oh, praise him! Oh, praise him! Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia!

2. O rushing wind and breezes soft, O clouds that ride the winds aloft:
Oh, praise him! Alleluia! O rising morn, in praise rejoice,
O lights of evening, find a voice. *Refrain*.
7. Let all things their Creator bless And worship God in humbleness.
Oh, praise him! Alleluia! Oh, praise the Father, praise the Son,
And praise the Spirit, Three in One, *Refrain*.

Brief Order for Confession and Forgiveness

Have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins known and unknown, things done and left undone. Uphold us by your Spirit so that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Kyrie

P: Kyrie eleison C: Lord, have mercy.

P: Christe eleison C: Christ, have mercy.

P: Kyrie eleison C: Lord, have mercy.

Hymn of Praise

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord God, heavenly king, almighty God and Father,

We worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father

Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us;

You are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

For you alone are the holy one, you alone are the Lord,

You alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,

In the glory of God the Father, Amen.

Glory to God, glory to God, glory to God in the highest.

Glory to God, glory to God, and peace to God's people on earth.

And peace to God's people on earth.

Holy Scripture: Acts 7:54-8:8

⁵⁴ When the members of the Sanhedrin heard this, they were furious and gnashed their teeth at him. ⁵⁵ But Stephen, full of the Holy Spirit, looked up to heaven and saw the glory of God, and Jesus standing at the right hand of God. ⁵⁶ "Look," he said, "I see heaven open and the Son of Man standing at the right hand of God."⁵⁷ At this they covered their ears and, yelling at the top of their voices, they all rushed at him, ⁵⁸ dragged him out of the city and began to stone him. Meanwhile, the witnesses laid their coats at the feet of a young man named Saul.⁵⁹ While they were stoning him, Stephen prayed, "Lord Jesus, receive my spirit." ⁶⁰ Then he fell on his knees and cried out, "Lord, do not hold this sin against them." When he had said this, he fell asleep.

8 And Saul approved of their killing him. On that day a great persecution broke out against the church in Jerusalem, and all except the apostles were scattered throughout Judea and Samaria. ² Godly men buried Stephen and mourned deeply for him. ³ But Saul began to destroy the church. Going from house to house, he dragged off both men and women and put them in prison.⁴ Those who had been scattered preached the word wherever they went. ⁵ Philip went down to a city in Samaria and proclaimed the Messiah there. ⁶ When the crowds heard Philip and saw the signs he performed, they all paid close attention to what he said. ⁷ For with shrieks, impure spirits came out of

many, and many who were paralyzed or lame were healed. ⁸So there was great joy in that city.

Holy Scripture: 1 John 5:1-6

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ is born of God, and everyone who loves the father loves his child as well. ²This is how we know that we love the children of God: by loving God and carrying out his commands. ³In fact, this is love for God: to keep his commands. And his commands are not burdensome, ⁴for everyone born of God overcomes the world. This is the victory that has overcome the world, even our faith. ⁵Who is it that overcomes the world? Only the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God. ⁶This is the one who came by water and blood—Jesus Christ. He did not come by water only, but by water and blood. And it is the Spirit who testifies, because the Spirit is the truth.

***Holy Gospel: John 15:9-17**

⁹“As the Father has loved me, so have I loved you. Now remain in my love. ¹⁰If you keep my commands, you will remain in my love, just as I have kept my Father’s commands and remain in his love. ¹¹I have told you this so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete. ¹²My command is this: Love each other as I have loved you. ¹³Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. ¹⁴You are my friends if you do what I command. ¹⁵I no longer call you servants, because a servant does not know his master’s business. Instead, I have called you friends, for everything that I learned from my Father I have made known to you. ¹⁶You did not choose me, but I chose you and appointed you so that you might go and bear fruit—fruit that will last—and so that whatever you ask in my name the Father will give you. ¹⁷This is my command: Love each other.

The Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.

I believe in Jesus Christ, his only son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the Virgin Mary. He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, for the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Giving of Your Tithes and Offerings

We encourage you to participate in the offering as you worship from your home. Have a designated basket where you place your offering, and include your children in the process. Let them serve as ushers, for example. Use this as a teaching time to talk about the importance of stewardship, and to pray for your church’s financial situation during these abnormal times. Here are a few giving options for you to consider:

1. Your Grace offering envelope is also a mailing envelope. We recommend added an additional piece of tape to secure the tab.
2. Give through the Grace app. It’s quick, simple and easy, and very secure. Connect through the “Give” option.
3. Use the “bill pay” option through your bank.
4. Arrange for automatic contributions through the Grace system (Vanco). Again this is very secure. There is a form to be filled out for this. Contact Church Administrator Darla Kalifoot (937-399-6257) to get this set up.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

P: The Lord be with you!

C: And also with you!

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord

Holy, holy, holy Lord. God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

The Lord's Prayer

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 trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;

and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace, grant us peace.

At the pastor's direction, share the communion elements with one another.

As you share the bread with one another, say "The body of Christ given for you."

As you share the cup with one another, say "The blood of Christ shed for you."

Musical Offering: *A Mother's Love*
Love Grows Here

Boyd Bacon
Don Besig
Maxine Shroyer, vocal soloist

Hymn: *Blessed Assurance* (#699 WOV)

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine! Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!
Heir of salvation, purchase of God, born of his Spirit, washed in his blood. *Refrain.*

*Refrain: This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long:
This is my story, this is my song, praising my Savior all the day long.*

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight, visions of rapture now burst on my sight;
Angels descending bring from above echoes of mercy, whispers of love. *Refrain.*
3. Perfect submission, all is at rest; I in my Savior am happy and blest,
watching and waiting, looking above, filled with his goodness, lost in his love.
Refrain.

Text: Fanny J. Crosby Tune: Phoebe P. Knapp Reprinted with permission, CCLI License #2861403

Postlude: *Alleluia! Love to Christ*

Wihla Hutson

Other Notes:

- Throughout the service, feel free to stand whenever doing so would enhance your worship experience.
- As you share the peace, consider sending a text of peace to someone who also may be sheltered in a different place. Stay connected!