

Lent in the Upper Room

IPC Upper Room Worship

15 March 2020

Third Sunday in Lent

As you gather, before you begin worship:

- Take safety precautions:
 - Set up chairs to accommodate appropriate social distancing
 - Wash/sanitize hands
 - Make sure everyone has washed/sanitized their hands

 - Find volunteers to lead the following aspects of your worship gathering:
 - Liturgy leader: leads the overall service
 - Reader of God's Law (10 Commandments)
 - Old Testament lesson reader
 - New Testament lesson reader
 - Children's message (if applicable)

 - Prepare any needed media:
 - Sermon video or audio (if applicable)
 - Children's sermon video (if applicable)
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Note: an * indicates that you may stand if you are able.

Greeting

Grace and peace to you from Jesus Christ, who is, and who was, and who is to come, and from all the sisters and brothers of our church family!

***Call to Worship (Psalm 100)**

Leader: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth. Worship the Lord with gladness!

People: We come before him with joyful songs!

Leader: Know that the Lord is God! It is he who made us, and we are his!

People: We are his people, the sheep of his pasture!

Leader: Enter his gates with thanksgiving and his courts with praise!

People: We will give thanks to him and praise his name! For the Lord is good and his love endures forever! His faithfulness continues through all generations!

Leader: Amen! Let us worship God!

***Song of Praise: Psalm 100 with Doxology**

Tune: traditional doxology tune ("Old Hundredth")

A capella, or accompanied by instrument

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise him, all creatures here below
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost!

All people that on earth do dwell:
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice!
Him serve with joy, his praise forth tell!
Come all before him and rejoice!

Know that the Lord is God indeed
Without our aid he did us make
We are his folk, he doth us feed
And for his sheep he doth us take

O enter then his gates with praise
Approach with joy his courts unto
Praise, laud, and bless his name always
For it is seemly so to do!

For why? The Lord our God is good!
His mercy is forever sure!
His truth at all times firmly stood
And shall from age to age endure!

***Prayer of Invocation** (all in unison)

Gracious God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit: we gather today to sing your praise, to hear your Word, to call upon your name, and to encourage one another. Though our numbers are small, our hearts overflow with thanksgiving and praise. For you have made us for yourself, and, while our hearts were restless without you, they have finally found rest in you. In our time together, stir up our hearts, so that we love our Lord Jesus more. Awaken our minds, so that we think great thoughts of you. Strengthen our wills, so that we are ready always to do everything you command. And bind us together in sweet fellowship, so that we know for certain that nothing can separate us from your love, or from the love we share together, united in our Lord Jesus Christ. We pray in his name. Amen.

Reading of God's Law : Exodus 20:1-17

Prayer of Confession of Sin (unison)

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole hearts. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We pray that you will not treat us as our sins deserve. Instead, for the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy and forgive us. Renew us, that we might delight in your commandments, love to obey your holy will, and rejoice to walk in all your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Assurance of God's Grace

People of God, it is not because of how mighty you are, how holy you are, or how fervently you pray, but because of God's never-stopping, never-failing, never-giving-up, always-and-forever love that your sins are forgiven. By this same love, our Lord Jesus promises to renew you so that you truly delight in his ways. The steadfast love of the Lord God, shown through the obedience of Jesus Christ, even to the point of death, covers all your sins and energizes you for fresh obedience. Together, let us turn from our pardoned sin, and glorify our Savior with every attitude, word, and action. Amen!

***Song of Assurance: Jesus Loves Me**

(A capella or with musical accompaniment)

Jesus loves me, this I know
For the Bible tells me so
Little ones to him belong
They are weak, but he is strong

Jesus loves me, he who died
Heaven's gate to open wide
He has washed away my sin
Let's his little child come in!

Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.

Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
Yes, Jesus loves me!
The Bible tells me so.

Old Testament Reading

1 Samuel 17:1-51 (from *The Message Bible* paraphrase) See separate document

Children's Message: "Jesus and David" (see link)

New Testament Reading (option 1: goes with Pastor Andy's sermon)

John 14:15-31

New Testament Reading (option 2: goes with Pastor Sam's sermon)

John 15:1-17

Sermon (see links)

"Lent in the Upper Room (Part 5): Why Show Yourself Only to Us?" (Andy)

"Lent in the Upper Room (Part 6): Did We Choose Him?" (Sam)

***Song of Response: "To God Be the Glory"**

(A capella or with accompaniment)

To God be the glory! Great things he has done!
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son;
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin,
And opened the life-gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice!
O Come to the Father, through Jesus the Son:
And give Him the glory! Great things he has done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!
To every believer the promise of God;
The vilest offender who truly believes,
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Chorus

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;
But purer, and higher, and greater will be;
Our wonder, our worship, when Jesus we see!

Prayers of the People

A leader may introduce the theme of each part of the prayer, and then others may pray aloud in keeping with that theme.

Praise: “Gracious and almighty God, we begin by praising you for who you are and what you have done.”

Anyone may pray aloud. Consider praising God for his creative power, his care, his plans and purposes; praise Jesus for his saving work; praise the Spirit for dwelling in us and working through us. Etc.

Prayer for the World: “Dear Lord, because you are so good and have done such wonderful things, we ask for your help.”

Anyone may pray aloud. Pray for peace, for global health, etc.

Prayer for our Church: “Dear Jesus, be with our congregation in these times, even though we are scattered apart. Help us to have a deep sense of unity in your love and mission.”

Anyone may pray aloud. Pray for needs and concerns in our congregation.

Prayer for our personal growth in grace: “Holy Spirit, we know that it is your desire to set us apart completely for our Savior’s purposes. We ask you to work in our hearts and lives.”

Anyone may pray aloud. Pray for the Spirit to sanctify us in God’s truth. Include prayers that we can apply what we learned from Scripture and the sermon to our lives.

Silent prayer: “Lord God, we now take a moment for silent prayer, to lift up to you all the burdens of our hearts.”

The Lord’s Prayer: “And now, Lord God, we follow the Master of prayer, our Lord Jesus Christ, in praying the prayer which he taught us, saying:”

The Lord’s Prayer (unison)

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. Amen.

***Song: "Holy, Holy, Holy"**

(A capella or with musical accompaniment)

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
Early in the morning our song shall rise to thee.
Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore thee,
casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea;
cherubim and seraphim falling down before thee,
who wert, and art, and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide thee,
though the eye of sinful man thy glory may not see,
only thou art holy; there is none beside thee
perfect in pow'r, in love, and purity.

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!
All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!
God in three Persons, blessed Trinity!

***Commissioning and Benediction**

All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to Jesus Christ. Therefore, go. Make disciples of every nation. Teach everyone to obey everything Jesus commands. Care for one another. Carry one another's burdens. Fulfill the law of Christ by loving one another deeply, from the heart. For he is with you, even to the very end of the age.

The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you.
The Lord lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

God be with you until we meet again! Amen!