

Worship at Home Bulletin

For times when you can't be with
the church for worship...
but still are the church

JOB IS TESTED



*Even when we must worship from home it is good for us to
gather together in this way, through God's Spirit.*

We're glad you're here!

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St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church

135 Hamilton Street, Penn Yan, NY 14527

315-536-8165

email: stpaulspyny@gmail.com

website: www.stpaulspennyan.org

Friend us on **Facebook**

Rev. Lori Nickoloff, Pastor

SUGGESTIONS FOR WORSHIP AT HOME

At one time, worship at home was more common. Either due to weather, or not having a church that spoke your language. Families would hold worship at home using a common prayer book and a book of Sermons by Martin Luther or pastors from their homeland.

Here are some things you can do to “set the scene” for worshipping at home:

- Create an altar. This used to be fairly common. A cross on a wall or on a simple table with a family Bible. Find a place to gather, perhaps around the kitchen table or a coffee table. Bring out a candle, cross, and Bible. These are symbols of our faith and unite us together in worship as the Body of Christ. - Decide who will take the role of “Leader.” When it comes to the songs, feel free to sing out loud or read the text together. - You are welcome to remain seated throughout the entire liturgy, but we do encourage you to stand, as you are able, for the reading of the Gospel. In our Lutheran tradition, we rise during the reading of the Gospel in order to meet Christ in the Word. - In place of communion, perhaps fill a bowl with water and place it on the table. Before you worship you may mark the sign of the cross on your forehead with the water to remember your baptism and that you are a beloved child of God. - Thank you for your faithful participation in worshipping and praising God. We hope this resource will be a blessing to you.

Holy Communion: We celebrate Holy Communion when we are gathered together. While we are saddened to not share the Body and Blood with you in person, the sacrament of Holy Communion is effective. Its blessing and mercy and power are yours and upon you even if we do not partake in the eating of the elements.

TODAY’S WORSHIP LEADERS

You. You are a leader in the church and you are called for such a time as this to read the Word of God, to sing with praise, and to preach the Good News of Jesus Christ’s life death and resurrection.

Call to Worship

P: Our lives remain a mystery,

C: But God remains the same.

P: We struggle hard to understand,

C: But God remains the same.

P: When shifting sands displace our feet,

C: Our God remains the same.

P: Praise God—despite everything

C: You still remain the same.

Confessions and Forgiveness

P: We confess our sins before God and one another.

Pause for silence and reflection.

P: Gracious God,

c: We are tempted to be thankful only when things are going well for us. We are tempted to take credit for all that is good in our lives. We conveniently forget that all things come from you. Forgive us for being shortsighted, arrogant and thoughtless. Cleanse our hearts and bring us back to your side, for you are all that we truly need.

P: God hears our repentance and answers our request for forgiveness. Receive the assurance of your creator's mercy and return to the loving embrace of the one who made, loved, and redeemed you. In Jesus' name,

All: Amen.

1 All peo - ple that on earth do dwell, sing to the
 2 Know that the Lord is God in - deed; with - out our
 3 Oh, en - ter then his gates with praise; ap - proach with
 4 For why? The Lord our God is good: his mer - cy
 5 To Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost, the God whom

Lord with cheer - ful voice; him serve with mirth, his
 aid he did us make. We are his folk, he
 joy his courts un - to; praise, laud, and bless his
 is for - ev - er sure; his truth at all times
 heav'n and earth a - dore, from us and from the

praise forth tell; come ye be - fore him and re - jice.
 doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.
 name al - ways, for it is seem - ly so to do.
 firm - ly stood, and shall from age to age en - dure.
 an - gel host be praise and glo - ry ev - er - more.

The Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **C: And also with you.**

Hymn of Praise: In Fear the World is Weeping

1 In fear the world is weep - ing, and longs with ev - ery breath, for
2 Our lives are bound to - geth - er in sor - row and in prayer. In

life and hope and seek - ing new paths be - yond this death. And
life and death and na - ture the Ho - ly One gives air. A -

lov - ing hearts are risk - ing their lives that we may thrive. Praise
round the world show wis - dom, with o - pen hearts give care, a

God for those who la - bor, O may they stay a - live.
new world calls us on - ward, sing hope now ev - ery - where.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a bass line (bass clef). The lyrics are placed between the vocal and bass lines. The first system contains two verses of lyrics. The second system continues the lyrics. The third system continues the lyrics. The fourth system concludes the lyrics. The music features a mix of chords and moving lines, with some chromaticism in the bass line.

WORDS: Ruth Duck © 2020

MUSIC: Hans L. Hassler, 1601; harm. J. S. Bach, 1729

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PASSION CHORALE

7.6.7.6.D.

Prayer of the Day

P: Patient God, When all our fury finally dies down, you are still there. Fill us with the profound peace that only you can give, through the power of your Holy Spirit,

C: Amen.

Solo

My Lord of Light

Jason Riley

Prayer of Illumination

A: Dear Lord, As we read these scriptures, bring your understanding and reveal your truth. Open our minds, hearts and souls to all that these words of life offer us. We long to be continually challenged, transformed and renewed by your Word. May we hear your voice of life as we read and draw close to you.

C: Amen.

Job 3:1-10; 4:1-9; 7:11-21 The Message

3 ¹⁻² Then Job broke the silence. He spoke up and cursed his fate:

³⁻¹⁰ "Obliterate the day I was born.

Blank out the night I was conceived!

Let it be a black hole in space.

May God above forget it ever happened.

Erase it from the books!

May the day of my birth be buried in deep darkness,
shrouded by the fog,
swallowed by the night.

And the night of my conception—the devil take it!

Rip the date off the calendar,
delete it from the almanac.

Oh, turn that night into pure nothingness—
no sounds of pleasure from that night, ever!

May those who are good at cursing curse that day.

Unleash the sea beast, Leviathan, on it.

May its morning stars turn to black cinders,
waiting for a daylight that never comes,
never once seeing the first light of dawn.

And why? Because it released me from my mother's womb
into a life with so much trouble.

4 ¹⁻⁶ Then Eliphaz from Teman spoke up:

"Would you mind if I said something to you?

Under the circumstances it's hard to keep quiet.

You yourself have done this plenty of times, spoken words
that clarify, encouraged those who were about to quit.

Your words have put stumbling people on their feet,
put fresh hope in people about to collapse.

But now *you're* the one in trouble—you're hurting!

You've been hit hard and you're reeling from the blow.

But shouldn't your devout life give you confidence now?

Shouldn't your exemplary life give you hope?

⁷⁻¹¹ "Think! Has a truly innocent person ever ended up on the scrap heap?

Do genuinely upright people ever lose out in the end?

It's my observation that those who plow evil
and sow trouble reap evil and trouble.

One breath from God and they fall apart,

one blast of his anger and there's nothing left of them.

The mighty lion, king of the beasts, roars mightily,

but when he's toothless he's useless—

No teeth, no prey—and the cubs

wander off to fend for themselves.

7 "And so I'm not keeping one bit of this quiet,

I'm laying it all out on the table;

my complaining to high heaven is bitter, but honest.

Are you going to put a muzzle on me,

the way you quiet the sea and still the storm?

If I say, 'I'm going to bed, then I'll feel better.

A little nap will lift my spirits,'

You come and so scare me with nightmares

and frighten me with ghosts

That I'd rather strangle in the bedclothes
 than face this kind of life any longer.
 I hate this life! Who needs any more of this?
 Let me alone! There's nothing to my life—it's nothing
 but smoke.

17-21 "What are mortals anyway, that you bother with them,
 that you even give them the time of day?
 That you check up on them every morning,
 looking in on them to see how they're doing?
 Let up on me, will you?
 Can't you even let me spit in peace?
 Even suppose I'd sinned—how would that hurt you?
 You're responsible for every human being.
 Don't you have better things to do than pick on me?
 Why make a federal case out of me?
 Why don't you just forgive my sins
 and start me off with a clean slate?
 The way things are going, I'll soon be dead.
 You'll look high and low, but I won't be around."

Sermon

Rev. Lori Nickoloff

Hymn 767 Red hymnal *Lord, Take My Hand and Lead Me*

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff at the top and a bass clef staff at the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. Below the treble clef staff, there are three lines of lyrics, each starting with a number (1, 2, 3). The lyrics are: 1 Lord, take my hand and lead me up - on life's way; 2 Lord, when the tem - pest ra - ges, I need not fear; 3 Lord, when the shad - ows length - en and night has come,

di - rect, pro - tect, and feed me from day to day.
 for you, the Rock of A - ges, are al - ways near.
 I know that you will strength - en my steps toward home,

With - out your grace and fa - vor I go a - stray;
 Close by your side a - bid - ing, I fear no foe,
 then noth - ing can im - pede me, O bless - ed Friend!

so take my hand, O Sav - ior, and lead the way.
 for when your hand is guid - ing, in peace I go.
 So, take my hand and lead me un - to the end.

The Apostles' Creed

A: With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Prayers of the Church

A: We pray for the church, the world, and all those in need.

A brief silence.

A: As with Job, you allow us freedom to express the pain and rage of our grief and disappointment with life. Hold us fast no matter what we say or do, and assure us of your unwavering presence in all circumstances. Steadfast God,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: We display and plant flags as statements of identity and loyalty. Remind us that you have gathered all people together, regardless of nationality or culture, and that your family is the most significant identity that we can claim. Steadfast God,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Within the scope of your vast universe, we humans are only a speck. And yet you know and care for each one of us equally. We thank you for the unfathomable way in which you have made and continue to sustain us. Steadfast God,

C: Hear our prayer.

A: Be with all who feel their own bodies have turned against them, suffering with extreme physical pain and affliction. Give them balm for their suffering and comfort from friends and loved ones. Be with those whose particular needs we know today... Steadfast God, **C: Hear our prayer.**

A: We honor St. Macrina the Younger and all those who devote their whole selves to you. May our own lives be modeled on theirs and may our faithfulness eventually bring us back into fellowship with all those who have gone before us. Steadfast God,

C: Hear our prayer.

Here other petitions may be offered.

A: We come to you with thankful hearts for all those near and dear to us who are graduating from high school. We especially remember Collin Cummings and give thanks for the talent and commitment he's shared with us while we've worshipped on Zoom. We're grateful for providing him with parents and teachers to nurture and challenge him along the way. May your blessings be his as he begins a new life full of joy and promise. Steadfast God

C: Hear our prayer.

A: You are faithful as the passing of endless generations, O Lord. May these prayers be a beginning of the fulfillment of your will on the earth, and may we also be used for your holy purposes, in Jesus' name, Amen.

Offering

We take a moment to thank God for the many blessings that God provides for us

The Doxology

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
praise him, all creatures here below;
praise him above, ye heav'nly host;
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.**

Thanksgiving for the Word

A: O God of justice and love we give thanks to you that you illumine our way through life with 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 Saviour and Lord, to whom with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory forever.

C: Amen

The Lord's Prayer

P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

All: 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.

The Benediction

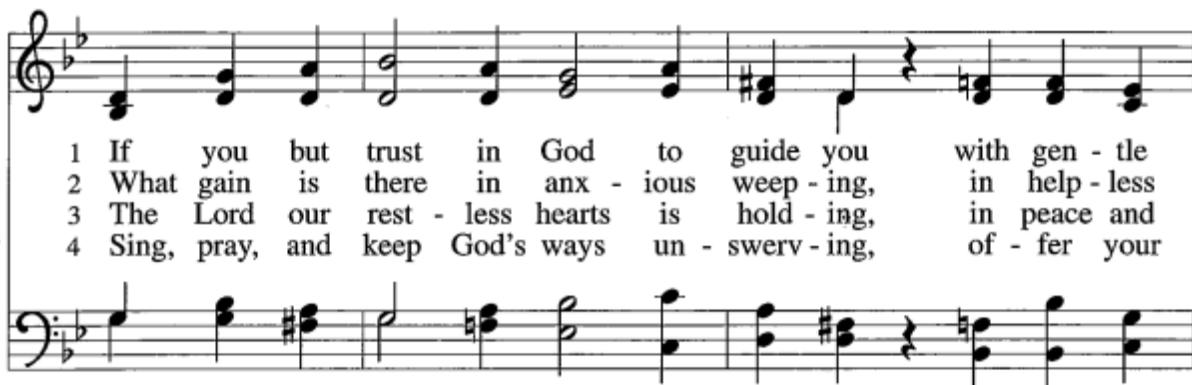
So now we leave this space of worship And while so much of the road ahead is uncertain, the path constantly changing, we know some things that are as solid and sure as the ground beneath our feet, and the sky above our heads.

We know God is love. We know Christ's light endures.

We know the Holy Spirit is there, found in the space between all things, closer to us than our next breath, binding us to each other, until we meet we again, Go in peace. The blessing of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit be with you now and forever.

C: Amen.

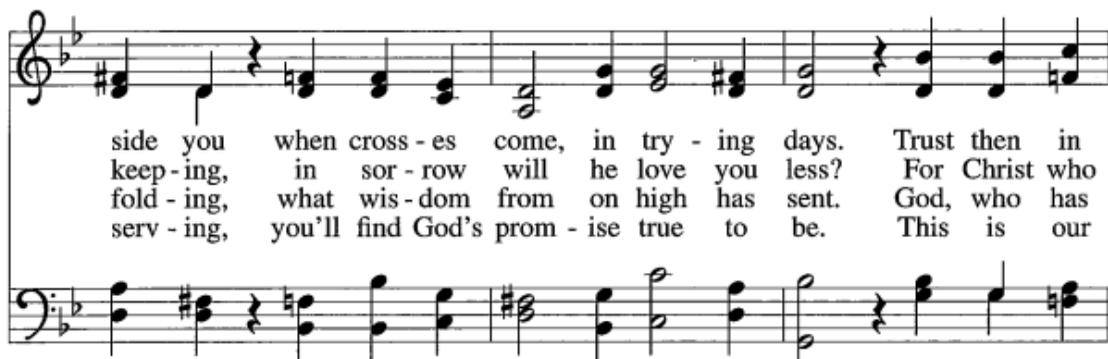
(~ submitted by Rev. Nora Vedress, Calvary United Church in Prince Albert, Saskatchewan, Canada.)



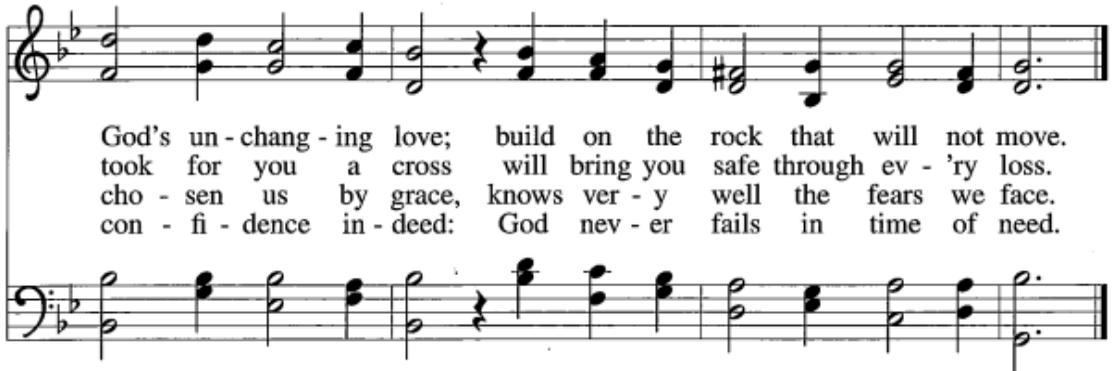
1 If you but trust in God to guide you with gen - tle
 2 What gain is there in anx - ious weep - ing, in help - less
 3 The Lord our rest - less hearts is hold - ing, in peace and
 4 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways un - swerv - ing, of - fer your



hand through all your ways, you'll find that God is there be -
 an - ger and dis - tress? If you are in your Sav - ior's
 qui - et - ness con - tent. We rest in God's good will un -
 ser - vice faith - ful - ly. Trust heav - en's word; though un - de -



side you when cross - es come, in try - ing days. Trust then in
 keep - ing, in sor - row will he love you less? For Christ who
 fold - ing, what wis - dom from on high has sent. God, who has
 serv - ing, you'll find God's prom - ise true to be. This is our



God's un - chang - ing love; build on the rock that will not move.
 took for you a cross will bring you safe through ev - 'ry loss.
 cho - sen us by grace, knows ver - y well the fears we face.
 con - fi - dence in - deed: God nev - er fails in time of need.

Dismissal

A: The worship has ended. The service now begins. Go out and love your neighbor the way that Jesus loves us!

C: Thanks be to God.

