

Saint Mark Virtual Worship

Sunday, March 29, 2020

Welcome to online worship. A few things to help you prepare for worship wherever you are. If you're following along with others, ask people to take turns reading the prayer or scripture out loud. If you're on your own, try reading out loud even though you're the only one listening. Sometimes reading out loud can help us focus even more.

If you are accessing this on your computer, put your phone on silent and put it away somewhere you can't see it. Make sure your email is closed and you won't get any alerts from anywhere. If you're on your phone, maybe put it on do not disturb so you won't get calls or texts while you're reading, listening and praying.

Now, once you've done that, make sure you're in a comfortable place. Put your feet on the ground. Let your shoulders loosen up. Close your eyes. Take five deep breaths. As you breathe in, breathe in the Holy Spirit, who gives us all life. As you breathe out, breathe out the fear, anxiety, worry, everything that separates us from God.

Welcome

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1zYNQ0kxs3A&feature=youtu.be>

Let us worship God.

Hymn 469

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

<https://youtu.be/sFZK4GvATdM>

Lord, listen to your children praying.

Lord, send your Spir-it in this

place. Lord, listen to your chil-dren

pray - ing. Send us

love; send us power; send us grace.

Opening prayer:

Lord God, Great I Am,

You are resurrection and life. As we worship you this day,

Show us who we are:

Bearers of good news,

Messengers of reconciliation and resurrection;

Through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.¹

Hymn

When We Face an Unknown Future

BEACH SPRING

Link

<https://www.dropbox.com/s/qud0jfo1pjiz4te/When%20We%20Face%20an%20Unknown%20Future%20Jeff%20voice%20and%20piano.m4a?dl=0>

When we face an unknown future that we can't imagine yet,
when the closeness we have treasured turns from blessing into threat—
As we miss our friends and loved ones, as we crave community,
may we look, God, in this season, for a whole new way to be.

Jesus faced the lonely desert as a time to look within.
There he met such trial and conflict; there he knew you were with him.
In this time of separation when we miss the life we've known,
may we hear your voice proclaiming: "I am here! You're not alone."

May we cherish those around us as we never have before.
May we think much less of profit; may we learn what matters more.
May we hear our neighbors' suffering; may we see our neighbors' pain.
May we learn new ways of offering life and health and hope again.

God, when illness comes to threaten, and when so much here goes wrong,
may we know this thing for certain— that your love is sure and strong.
You're beside us in our suffering, and when times are surely tough,
we may face an unknown future, but it's filled, Lord, with your love.

A Time for Children

Link

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DxXXXtcBItU&feature=youtu.be>
"God In Between" By Sandy Eisenberg Sasso

¹ Prayer from *Feasting on the Word Worship Companion, Year A Volume 1*, edited by Kimberley Bracken Long.

First Reading:

Ezekiel 37:3-5

³ He said to me, “Mortal, can these bones live?” I answered, “O Lord God, you know.” ⁴ Then he said to me, “Prophesy to these bones, and say to them: O dry bones, hear the word of the Lord. ⁵ Thus says the Lord God to these bones: I will cause breath to enter you, and you shall live.

Second Reading

John 11: 5,6; 20-26

⁵ Accordingly, though Jesus loved Martha and her sister and Lazarus, ⁶ after having heard that Lazarus was ill, he stayed two days longer in the place where he was.

⁰ When Martha heard that Jesus was coming, she went and met him, while Mary stayed at home. ²¹ Martha said to Jesus, “Lord, if you had been here, my brother would not have died. ²² But even now I know that God will give you whatever you ask of him.” ²³ Jesus said to her, “Your brother will rise again.” ²⁴ Martha said to him, “I know that he will rise again in the resurrection on the last day.” ²⁵ Jesus said to her, “I am the resurrection and the life.^[a] Those who believe in me, even though they die, will live, ²⁶ and everyone who lives and believes in me will never die. Do you believe this?”

Sermon

“A Preview of Coming Attractions”

Pastor Scott Wilson

Link to listen and watch:

<https://youtu.be/jmsmn8iHO2g>

Solo

Healer of Our Every Ill

Haugen

Lee Hinkle, voice and guitar

<https://youtu.be/392YukRUPSE>

Refrain:

Healer of our every ill,

light of each tomorrow,

give us peace beyond our fear,

and hope beyond our sorrow.

1 You who know our fears and sadness,

grace us with your peace and gladness;

Spirit of all comfort, fill our hearts. [Refrain]

2 In the pain and joy beholding

how your grace is still unfolding,

give us all your vision, God of love. [Refrain]

3 Give us strength to love each other,

every sister, every brother;

Spirit of all kindness, be our guide. [Refrain]

**4 You who know each thought and feeling,
teach us all your way of healing;
Spirit of compassion, fill each heart. [Refrain]**

Offering:

Without the breath of God, we are dry bones,
And without the Word of God we are dust.
With gratitude,
Let us offer our lives to the Lord of Life.

We encourage you in this time of virtual worship, as you are able, to continue our offerings to God through the Saint Mark website, scroll down to the link “Give.”
www.saintmarkpresby.org

Prayer of Intercession:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NehPD-MdLg4&feature=youtu.be>

Text for Prayer source:

<https://pres-outlook.org/2020/03/a-word-of-prayer-from-the-223rd-general-assembly-co-moderators-for-these-uncertain-times/>

Benediction

May the Lord Jesus Christ,
Who is the Resurrection and the Life,
Bless and keep you in this life,
And the life to come.

The peace of Christ be with you.

Announcements

- The Monday night Bible study will take place via Zoom video conference. Look for an email on Monday with a link and more information. No Zoom account is needed!
- The Mission Ministry is working on a resource of ways we can support those in our county who will be in particular need as schools and other county resources close. Look out for that via email.
- If you do not want to go outside but need groceries, prescriptions, or other errands run, **please let one of the Pastors know** and we will connect you with someone. We have had members of the church volunteer to help with this!
- The congregational Lent Devotional is a great way to stay connected and spiritually grounded during this time.
- Pastors Scott and Shelby and our Office Administrator Christina will be working remotely for a time, based on the recommendations of National Capital Presbytery. We will still be reachable!
- Thanks to Pat George-Houser, who synced the video files to the audio file for the first hymn.

Please contact us if you need us.

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When We Face an Unknown Future

Tune: The Sacred Harp, 1844; attributed to Benjamin Franklin White

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