

COVENANT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

AT HOME LITURGY

April 26, 2020

This liturgy is set up to be led by the head of household in a family. Saints who worship alone are still encouraged to read aloud as directed. All directions are underlined.

Preparation for Worship

Read and reflect on the following Scripture passage, praying for the Lord to bless your time of worship:

Scripture for Meditation

Ephesians 1:11

In Him also we have obtained an inheritance, being predestined according to the purpose of Him who works all things according to the counsel of His will.

God Calls Us Into His Presence

Read the following passage aloud together:

Call to Worship

Psalm 47:5-7

God has gone up with a shout,
The LORD with the sound of a trumpet.
Sing praises to God, sing praises!
Sing praises to our King, sing praises!
For God is the King of all the earth;
Sing praises with understanding.

We Respond to God's Call

Stand and sing the following hymn together:

Hymn of Praise, No. 75 *O Father, You Are Sovereign*

Listen to tune here: <https://www.cpcjackson.org/sermons/hymn-75-o-father-you-are-sovereign/>

75

O Father, You Are Sovereign

The LORD Almighty has purposed, and who can thwart him? His hand is stretched out, and who can turn it back? Is. 14:27

1. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign in all the worlds you made;
 2. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign in all af - fairs of man;
 3. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign, the Lord of hu - man pain,
 4. O Fa - ther, you are sov - ereign! We see you dim - ly now,

your might - y word was spo - ken and light and life o - beyed.
 no pow'rs of death or dark - ness can thwart your per - fect plan.
 trans - mut - ing earth - ly sor - rows to gold of heav'n - ly gain.
 but soon be - fore your tri - umph earth's ev - ery knee shall bow.

Your voice com - mands the sea - sons and bounds the o - cean's shore,
 All chance and change tran - scend - ing, su - preme in time and space,
 All e - vil o - ver - rul - ing, as none but Con - qu'ror could,
 With this glad hope be - fore us our faith springs up a - new:

sets stars with - in their cours - es and stills the tem - pest's roar.
 you hold your trust - ing chil - dren se - cure in your em - brace.
 your love pur - sues its pur - pose—our souls' e - ter - nal good.
 our sov - ereign Lord and Sav - ior, we trust and wor - ship you!

Have leader pray the following prayer aloud, all responding with "Amen":

Prayer of Adoration

O Father, You are sovereign, and we come before You now as those who have experienced Your sovereign love and care in our salvation and in Your daily provision for us. We rejoice to be counted among Your children because of our faith in Jesus Christ. We ask You to receive our worship as we offer it to You in the name of Jesus, Your eternal Son, who abides with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. **Amen.**

God Cleanses Us of Our Sins

Be seated. Have leader read the verses before and after, with all praying aloud together.

Call to Confession

1 John 1:8

If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

Confession of Sin

(kneel, as able)

Leader: Let us confess our sins together.

All: Merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart and mind and strength. We have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. In Your mercy forgive what we have been, help us amend what we are, and direct what we shall be, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways, to the glory of Your holy name. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Stand.

Assurance of Pardon

1 John 1:9

If we confess our sins, He is faithful and just to forgive us our sins and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

We Respond to God's Declaration

All remain standing and sing together:

The Gloria Patri

(with hands lifted)

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen, amen.*

Be seated.

God Consecrates Us By His Word

Have leader pray the following prayer aloud, all responding with "Amen":

Prayer for Illumination

Lord, Your commandments are our delight. Your testimonies are righteous forever. Give us understanding of Your Word that we might live. This we ask, through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

Have one person read each of the Scripture passages:

Old Testament Lesson Psalm 2:1-12

Why do the nations rage,
And the people plot a vain thing?
The kings of the earth set themselves,
And the rulers take counsel together,
Against the Lord and against His Anointed, saying,
"Let us break Their bonds in pieces
And cast away Their cords from us."
He who sits in the heavens shall laugh;
The Lord shall hold them in derision.
Then He shall speak to them in His wrath,
And distress them in His deep displeasure:
"Yet I have set My King
On My holy hill of Zion."
"I will declare the decree:
The Lord has said to Me,

'You are My Son,
Today I have begotten You.
Ask of Me, and I will give You
The nations for Your inheritance,
And the ends of the earth for Your possession.
You shall break them with a rod of iron;
You shall dash them to pieces like a potter's vessel.' "
Now therefore, be wise, O kings;
Be instructed, you judges of the earth.
Serve the Lord with fear,
And rejoice with trembling.
Kiss the Son, lest He be angry,
And you perish in the way,
When His wrath is kindled but a little.
Blessed are all those who put their trust in Him.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

New Testament Lesson 1 Timothy 2:1-4

Therefore I exhort first of all that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and giving of thanks be made for all men, for kings and all who are in authority, that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and reverence. For this is good and acceptable in the sight of God our Savior, who desires all men to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord!

All: **Thanks be to God!**

Homily: [Listen to the message posted on the homepage of the church website: \[www.cpcjackson.org\]\(http://www.cpcjackson.org\)](#)

We Respond to God's Instruction

Have leader ask, "Christians, what do we believe?" Then, all respond by reciting the creed together:

Affirmation of Faith

Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father;
by whom all things were made;
who for us and for our salvation
came down from heaven,
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary,
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate;
He suffered and was buried;
and the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures,
and ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of the Father;
and He shall come again, with glory,
to judge both the living and the dead;
whose kingdom shall have no end.

And we believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son;
who with the Father and the Son together
is worshiped and glorified;
who spoke by the prophets;
and we believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church;

we acknowledge one baptism for the remission of sins;
and we look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayer of the Church

Have leader read each section of prayer, all responding after "God of all mercies," with "Hear our prayer" and final "Amen."

Our Father, whose blessed Son our Savior gave His back to the smiters and did not hide his face from shame: give us all that we need to endure the sufferings of this present time with grace and joy, as well as a sure and certain confidence of the glory that shall be revealed in us through Jesus Christ our Lord.

God of all mercies, **People: Hear our prayer.**

O Lord, we pray for Your Church in all places, for this congregation, and for all congregations where Your Word is faithfully proclaimed. Help us that we may be strengthened to greater and greater faithfulness, that no matter what we may face, we will always walk in Your ways. Take care of all our needs, providing for us bountifully from your generosity.

God of all mercies, **People: Hear our prayer.**

Please turn the hearts of our enemies away from hate and maliciousness and bring them into your fold. And give us daily grace to love our enemies, do good, and lend, hoping for nothing in return, that we may show ourselves to be sons and daughters of the Most High.

God of all mercies, **People: Hear our prayer.**

We beseech You to lift up Your face on those in hard times, dark times, dry times, and harrowing times. Comfort them in their grief; strengthen them in their weakness; deliver them in their distress; refresh them in their weariness, and raise them to renewed hope and with refreshed hearts.

God of all mercies, **People: Hear our prayer.**

Please safeguard our country and deliver us from the road to serfdom. Be with our civic leaders at every level of government, and bring forth a proper, appropriate, and prompt solution to the present crisis. Direct the hearts and minds of the leaders of every nation,

that they would render true judgments, show kindness and mercy to one another, not oppress the widow, the fatherless, the sojourner, or the poor, nor devise evil against one another in their heart. And draw many civil rulers unto Your Son in saving faith.

God of all mercies, **People: Hear our prayer.**

Finally, Lord, we thank You for Your generous goodness to us, and that You take pleasure in those who fear You, in those who hope in Your steadfast love. We thank You for demonstrating Your love for us by saving us through Your Son, Jesus Christ who, with You and the Holy Spirit, reign as one God forever and ever. **Amen.**

God Commissions Us to Go Into the World

Hymn of Commitment, No. 642

Be Thou My Vision

Listen to tune here: <https://www.cpcjackson.org/sermons/hymn-642-be-thou-my-vision/>

Be Thou My Vision

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart; naught be all
 2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word; I ev - er
 3. Be thou my bat - tle shield, sword for my fight; be thou my
 4. Rich - es I heed not, nor man's emp - ty praise, thou mine in -
 5. High King of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won, may I reach

else to me, save that thou art— thou my best thought by
 with thee and thou with me, Lord; thou my great Fa - ther,
 • dig - ni - ty, thou my de - light, thou my soul's shel - ter,
 her - i - tance, now and al - ways: thou and thou on - ly,
 heav - en's joys, O bright heav'n's Sun! Heart of my own heart, what -

day or by night, wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 I thy true son; thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
 • thou my high tow'r: raise thou me heav'n - ward, O Pow'r of my pow'r.
 first in my heart, High King of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 ev - er be - fall, still be my vis - ion, O Rul - er of all.

Ancient Irish poem, ca. 8th cent.
 Tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905
 Vers. Eleanor H. Hull, 1912

SLANE 10.10.10.10.
 Traditional Irish melody
 Harm. OPC/URCNA 2016
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Closing Prayer

Have all pray aloud together Psalm 67:1:

God be merciful to us and bless us,

And cause His face to shine upon us. Amen.