

**May 3 2020 -EASTER 4 SUNDAY Worship @ Home Guide**

**Woodstock Presbyterian Church, 142 E. Court St., Woodstock, VA 22664**

*Easter Season Greetings!*

*You are encouraged to use this as a guide for worship at home,  
or as a bulletin during our online worship.*

***Please scroll down to see Announcements and Prayer Requests.***

*There will be two links on [www.woodstockpresbyterianchurch.com](http://www.woodstockpresbyterianchurch.com) to get to worship –  
one is a direct link to the recording, available at any time.*

*The other is a public FaceBook Premiere, which will be active at 11:00am Sunday –  
you will be able to chat with others who are worshipping at that time.*

*The FaceBook page also keeps the video for you to return to at any time.*

*(Night owls, this is your chance to worship when you want!)*

***In this worship service, we will be celebrating communion. Please set your  
space with bread & cup. Any bread and juice-like substance will do, just  
make sure you have enough to share with those gathered with you.***

*Due to our love of neighbor we gather in Spirit, trusting in our ever-present God,  
who conquered death so that we would live in love. +Pastor Kate*

PRELUDE, GATHERING MUSIC

WELCOME

RESPONSIVE PSALM      Psalm 23

<sup>1</sup>The LORD is my shepherd, I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;

<sup>3</sup> he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil;

for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff—  
they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;

you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.  
6 Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
my whole life long.

HYMN #187 "Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us"

Savior, like a shepherd lead us;  
much we need your tender care.  
In your pleasant pastures feed us;  
for our use your fold prepare.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have bought us: we are yours.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
you have bought us: we are yours.

We are yours: in love befriend us;  
be the guardian of our way.  
Keep your flock: from sin defend us;  
seek us when we go astray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
hear your children when we pray.  
Blessed Jesus, blessed Jesus,  
hear your children when we pray.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

+ **Bread of Life Food Pantry** would take donations of paper products to redistribute to those in our community most in need. If you have any extras, please consider sharing.

+ Looking forward to Pentecost: Pastor Kate is collecting written submissions and short recordings to be used in worship May 31<sup>st</sup>. “What is ONE way you hope to be changed by your current circumstances?” or, “What is one dream you have for the world?” Don’t overthink it – just looking for simple, honest answers... (submitted by May 25<sup>th</sup>).

### PRAYER REQUESTS

+ for Jade, cousin of Jessica Jones, ending cancer interventions and soon to be placed on hospice

### PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

We pray to you, O God:  
be our helper and protector.  
Save the afflicted,  
have mercy on the lowly,  
raise up the fallen,  
help the needy,  
humble the proud,  
return the lost,  
feed the hungry,  
release the captive,  
heal the sick,  
revive the weak,  
and comfort those in fear.  
All this we ask  
for the sake of the world you love,  
and in the name of the one  
you sent to save us:  
Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**  
—Based on a prayer of Clement of Rome (1st century)

### SCRIPTURE READING Acts 2: 42-47

They devoted themselves to the apostles’ teaching and fellowship, to the breaking of bread and the prayers.

<sup>43</sup> Awe came upon everyone, because many wonders and signs were being done by the apostles. <sup>44</sup> All who believed were together and had all things in common; <sup>45</sup> they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds<sup>[a]</sup> to all, as any had need. <sup>46</sup> Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home<sup>[b]</sup> and ate their food with glad and generous<sup>[c]</sup> hearts, <sup>47</sup> praising God and having

the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

MESSAGE

EUCCHARIST

OFFERING

The earth is the Lord's, and all that is in it,  
**the world, and those who live in it.**

*Ps. 24:*

HYMN #515 – I Come with Joy vv1-2

I come with joy, a child of God,  
forgiven, loved, and free,  
the life of Jesus to recall,  
in love laid down for me,  
in love laid down for me.

I come with Christians far and near  
to find, as all are fed,  
the new community of love  
in Christ's communion bread,  
in Christ's communion bread.

Heaven and earth are yours, O Lord,  
**and of your own we give you.**

*1 Chr. 29:11, 14*

INVITATION

According to Luke,  
when our risen Lord was at table with his disciples,  
he took the bread,  
blessed and broke it,  
and gave it to them.  
Then their eyes were opened,  
and they recognized him.

We sit at the Lord's Table, wherever we are,  
Invited to meet him, to recognize him, and  
to share the feast that he has prepared.

Communion is a sacrament never confined  
to sanctuaries or precious surfaces —  
tables carved with “Do this in Remembrance of Me,”  
but always following  
wherever one of God precious children,  
like a sheep astray,  
is lost or needs a guiding.

Christ is our shepherd.  
In the loneliest lockdown,  
we do not want for companionship.

In crowded families —  
distance-learning and never catching breath,  
we find an inner source of still waters.

In the soul-stretching days  
of health care and emergency professionals,  
decision-makers for others,  
and essential workers with daily risk,  
we meet a restorer of souls.

In the paths of right-eousness —  
assisted living, correctional facility, shelter,  
immigration detention, nursing home,  
housing for those who are simply poor —  
we find a leader, a staff to lean on,  
a rod that points a new way.

Christ leads us not around it,  
but through the valley of the shadow —  
and turns to us, as Jesus did when he came through  
the walls of a locked room  
in the afternoon of resurrection,  
said, “Peace be with you,”  
and then asked if they had anything  
to give him to eat.

Give the gentle Shepherd who is the Risen Christ  
your bread, your cup and your heart.

## GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
It is right to give our thanks and praise.  
Praise to you, O God, for all your works.  
You created the world and called it good  
and made us in your image to live together in love.  
You made a covenant with us,  
and even when we turned from you,  
you remained ever faithful.

Therefore with all creation we sing your praise:

**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.**

Thank you, O God, for sending us your Son.  
He lived among us and told your story.  
He healed the sick and welcomed sinners.  
He shared our pain and died our death,  
then rose to new life that we might live,  
and all creation be restored.

Remembering your boundless love  
revealed to us in Jesus Christ,  
we break bread and share the cup,  
giving ourselves to you  
to live for him in joy and praise.

Great is the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

By your Spirit unite us with Christ and one another  
until we feast with him and with all your saints  
in your eternal realm of justice and peace.

Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
all glory and honor are yours, almighty God,  
now and forever. **Amen.**

## **LORD'S PRAYER**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

**Our Father in heaven,  
hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come,**

**your will be done, on earth as in heaven.**  
**Give us today our daily bread.**  
**Forgive us our sins**  
**as we forgive those who sin against us.**  
**Save us from the time of trial**  
**and deliver us from evil.**  
**For the kingdom, the power,**  
**and the glory are yours**  
**now and forever. Amen.**

### **Prayer of Consecration**

Leader: We have bread and cup and heart. Our church community is dispersed in distance but we are one in Christ. In your many kitchens, and living rooms, rest your hands lightly upon these elements which we set aside today to be a sacrament. Let us ask God's blessing upon them and upon us and upon those who are in our prayers this morning.

#### **Unison:**

**Gentle Host, you prepare a table before us in the presence of a threat that separates us. You anoint our hearts, bless our bread and our cups overflow. Surely as we shelter in place we find both the goodness of community and mercy to those most vulnerable. Now and all the days of our lives we claim that this house — these many houses where we dwell and also our church building, are, indeed, the house of God.**

**Send your Spirit of life and love, power and blessing upon your children who are staying at home so that this Bread may be broken and gathered in love and this Cup poured out to give hope to all. Risen Christ, live in us, that we may live in you. Breathe in us, that we may breathe in you. Amen.**

#### **Words of Remembering**

Leader: We remember the sharing of bread in many places — wilderness manna, tents and caves of shepherds, the lunch of a small boy, the fish of the disciples and the loaf of Emmaus.

And we remember that Paul the apostle wrote letters to congregations throughout places we now call Greece, Turkey and Macedonia, and they were the first "remote" worship resources, including these Communion words sent to the church at Corinth:

For I received from the Lord what I also handed on to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in

my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me.” For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord’s death until he comes.

### **Sharing of the Elements**

The gifts of God for the people of God.

**Thanks be to God.**

Leader: Let us in our many places receive the gift of God, the Bread of Heaven.

**Unison: We are one in Christ in the bread we share.**

Leader: Let us in our many places receive the gift of God, the Cup of Blessing.

**Unison: We are one in Christ in the cup we share.**

### *COMMUNION*

*HYMN #515, I Come with Joy, vv3-5*

*As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,  
each proud division ends.*

*The love that made us, makes us one,  
and strangers now are friends,  
and strangers now are friends.*

*The Spirit of the risen Christ,  
unseen, but ever near,  
is in such friendship better known,  
alive among us here,  
alive among us here.*

*Together met, together bound  
by all that God has done,  
we’ll go with joy, to give the world  
the love that makes us one,  
the love that makes us one.*

### **PRAYER**

God of abundance,  
with this bread of life and cup of salvation  
you have united us with Christ,  
making us one with all your people.

Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit  
that we may proclaim your redeeming love to the world  
and continue forever in the risen life  
of Jesus Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

HYMN #65 "Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah"

Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,  
pilgrim through this barren land.  
I am weak, but thou art mighty.  
Hold me with thy powerful hand.  
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,  
feed me till I want no more;  
feed me till I want no more.

Open now the crystal fountain,  
whence the healing stream doth flow.  
Let the fire and cloudy pillar  
lead me all my journey through.  
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,  
be thou still my strength and shield;  
be thou still my strength and shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,  
bid my anxious fears subside.  
Death of death, and hell's destruction,  
land me safe on Canaan's side.  
Songs of praises, songs of praises  
I will ever give to thee;  
I will ever give to thee.

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Beloved church,  
behold the victory of our God:  
Jesus, our Lord, has conquered the grave.  
**Christ is risen! Alleluia!**  
Sin and death shall reign no more.  
**Christ is risen! Alleluia!**  
Let this place resound with joy.  
**Christ is risen! Alleluia!**  
**Thanks be to God.**

Postlude #460 "Break Thou the Bread Of Life" swing band

*Break thou the bread of life,  
dear Lord, to me,  
as thou didst break the loaves  
beside the sea.  
Beyond the sacred page  
I seek thee, Lord.  
My spirit pants for thee,  
O living Word!*

*Bless thou the truth, dear Lord,  
now unto me,  
as thou didst bless the bread  
by Galilee.  
Then shall all bondage cease,  
all fetters fall.  
And I shall find my peace,  
my all in all.*

*Communion liturgy adapted from Maren C. Tirabassi;*

*<https://giftsinopenhands.wordpress.com/>*

*Hymns from Glory to God. Music recordings from Hymnary.org and  
smallchurchmusic.com.*

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