

May 24 2020 -7th Sunday of EASTER Worship @ Home Guide

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

Blessings and Peace, Friends!

*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 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!)*

*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*

GATHERING MUSIC

ANNOUNCEMENTS

+NEXT SUNDAY, MAY 31 IS PENTECOST!

- Send us a picture of something **RED** from your home or garden!
- Pastor Kate is collecting written submissions and short recordings to be used in worship May 31st. “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 to Lori or katerascoe@yahoo.com by May 25th).
- You are invited to a Zoom **BIRTHDAY PARTY** for the Church Universal, Sunday, May 31st, 12:30pm. Attend in festive attire. Party hats optional!



+ **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 donating.

+Where is your **Mini-Jesus**? Send us pics!

PRAYER REQUESTS

+ for Eileen Haigh, who finalized the sale of her house last Friday.

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

+ for residents of care facilities and nursing homes, especially Mary Gwen Long, Margy Boyer, Shirley Lynn, Louise Grinstead, Janet Einstein, and Sarah & Ben Nelson

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP – Psalm 86:11-12

Teach me your way, O LORD,
that I may walk in your truth;
give me an undivided heart to revere your name.
I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
and I will glorify your name forever.

HYMN “Blessed Jesus, at Your Word”

1. *Blessed Jesus, at your word
we are gathered all to hear you;
let our minds and wills be stirred
now to love you and revere you;
by your teachings true and holy
drawn from earth to love you solely.*

2. *All our knowledge, sense and sight
lie in deepest darkness shrouded,
till your Spirit breaks our night
with the beams of truth unclouded;
you alone to God can win us;
you must work all good within us.*

3. *Glorious Lord, yourself impart,
light of light, from God proceeding,
open now each mind and heart;
help us by the Spirit's pleading.
Hear the cry your church now raises;
Lord, accept our prayers and praises.*

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Peter 2:2-10

Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built^[a] into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

"See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him^[b] will not be put to shame."

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,

"The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner,"

⁸and

"A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall."

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people,^[c] in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light.

¹⁰Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

MESSAGE *Rev. Clayton Rascoe*

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

With the whole church, let us confess our faith.

I believe in God, the Father almighty, Maker of heaven and earth.

and in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried;

he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS

Loving God, knowing that Christ prays for us, we join our hearts and voices in his prayers for the world. We come before you seeking to ask the right questions, discern your answers and do your will. We cast our anxieties on you, knowing you care for us.

Merciful God, knowing that our ways are not your ways, we humble ourselves and ask for your guidance. As we struggle with how to navigate these turbulent and frightening times, we pray that you would help us to make choices that glorify you and demonstrate our love for our neighbors. Help us to look to the interest of others as we begin to venture from our homes again. Do not let us be a stumbling block to the well-being of the vulnerable and weaker among us.

Gracious God, knowing that you refuse to leave us alone, that you run out to meet us when we make the slightest turn toward you, that you rejoice whenever a lost one is found, we pray for those in greatest need of your strength and courage. Comfort those who mourn. Bind up the brokenhearted. Feed the hungry. Set the captives free. Enliven us with the Spirit so that we may be the light and salt we are called to be in your world.

Almighty God, knowing that you can do abundantly more than we can ever hope our imaginations, we are bold to ask you to fulfill the desires of our

hearts. You know our deepest needs before we even name them. You send your Son that we might have abundant life and our joy might be complete. Resting in your promises, we set aside our worry and open our mouths in praise. Help us to give thanks in all circumstances, confidence that you hold us in the palm of your hand and will never let us go.

Generous God, knowing that there is no end to your goodness, we pray to do your will, no matter where it takes us or what it requires of us. You give us the power of the Holy Spirit to be your witnesses to the ends of the earth. Free us from whatever prevents us from being welcoming, generous and loving. Make us one in our service to our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen

THE LORD'S PRAYER

*We lift our prayers with our siblings in Christ around the globe,
praying as Christ taught:*

**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;
forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom and the power,
and the glory, forever. Amen**

OFFERING

*The Church and the world need generosity now more than ever.
Out of gratitude for all that we have received,
let us lend ourselves to the glory of God and the love of neighbor.
Woodstock Presbyterian Church remains dedicated
to supporting our local, national, and worldwide ministries,
as well as keeping our full staff employed.
Every prayer and penny count. Checks can be mailed to the church.*

HYMN Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

*Love Divine, all loves excelling
Joy of heaven to earth come down
Fix in us thy humble dwelling
All thy faithful mercies crown*

*Jesus, thou art all compassion
Pure unbounded love thou art
Visit us with thy salvation
Enter every trembling heart.*

*Come, Almighty to deliver,
Let us all thy life receive;
Suddenly return and never,
Never more thy temples leave.*

*Thee we would be always blessing,
Serve thee as thy hosts above,
Pray and praise thee without ceasing,
Glory in thy perfect love.*

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

***God be with you till we meet again;
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.***

Special Thanks to:

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