



Worship @ Home Guide

March 7, 2021- 3rd Sunday in Lent

Woodstock Presbyterian Church
142 E. Court St., Woodstock, VA 22664
www.woodstockpresbyterianchurch.com

RECONNECT

Gathering Music/Announcements – “Again & Again”, by *The Many*, performed by Martha Berryman

+Congregational Meeting, March 7 – parking lot, 1:00pm

Welcome

*Creator God,
We don't just want to listen.
We want to hear you.
We want to read scripture aloud and
Know that you are as close as you have always been.
We want to read scripture aloud and
Feel your word resonating inside our bones.
We want to read scripture aloud and
Have your words stuck in our heads like a melody,
Falling off our lips like a love song.
Creator God,
We don't just want to listen,
We want to hear you.
So turn our hearts toward you,
Just as you turned strangers into disciples.
Turn our ears toward you,
Just as you turned tables in the temple.
We are listening.
Amen.*

Call to Worship

One: Again and again,
All: We come to this space.
One: Again and again,
All: We gather as a community.
One: Again and again,

All: We move closer to God.

One: And again and again,

All: God is here.

One: We are met.

All: We are heard.

One: We are shown the way.

All: So again and again,

Let us worship holy God.

Hymn – Savior Like a Shepherd, The Joslin Grove Choral Society

[Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tGO9_xGunBg&feature=youtu.be) - https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=tGO9_xGunBg&feature=youtu.be

Call to Confession

Science tells us that a person makes about 35,000 choices in a day.

35,000 choices each and every day!

In the prayer of confession, we pause to take a moment to think and to ask:

How many of our decisions are choices God would have us make?

How many are not?

*So let us pray together, knowing that we need guidance, and trusting that even if we fall,
God is showing us the way.*

Prayer of Confession

One: God of Justice,

We are guilty of building tables.

All: We have built tables that oppression dines on,

Sexism thrives on, and racism lives on.

One: God of Justice,

We are guilty of forgetting where we are,

All: Of turning faith into a negotiation tool

And the church into a place for insiders.

One: God of Justice,

We are guilty of ignoring the point;

All: For you taught that the temple was for worship

And your message was for all.

One: God of our hearts,

All: Be in our decision making.

One: Draw near to our choices.

All: Forgive our mistakes.

One: And as you do,

All: Flip every table, habit, belief, or point of view that needs adjusting.

One: With hope we pray for a better day. Amen.

READ

Scripture Reading John 2: 13-22

¹³ The Passover of the Jews was near, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ¹⁴ In the temple he found people selling cattle, sheep, and doves, and the money changers seated at their tables. ¹⁵ Making a whip of cords, he drove all of them out of the temple, both the sheep and the cattle. He also poured out the coins of the money changers and overturned their tables. ¹⁶ He told those who were selling the doves, "Take these things out of here! Stop making my Father's house a marketplace!" ¹⁷ His disciples remembered that it was written, "Zeal for your house will consume me." ¹⁸ The Jews then said to him, "What sign can you show us for doing this?" ¹⁹ Jesus answered them, "Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." ²⁰ The Jews then said, "This temple has been under construction for forty-six years, and will you raise it up in three days?" ²¹ But he was speaking of the temple of his body. ²² After he was raised from the dead, his disciples remembered that he had said this; and they believed the scripture and the word that Jesus had spoken.

REFLECT

Message "Again & Again, We are Shown the Way"

RESPOND

Communion

Prayers of the People

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

We believe in and give thanks for a God who knows holy rage—
A God who stands with the underdog,
Who passionately protects the suffering,
And who overturns systems of corruption.

We give thanks for You - a God who leads by example—
Feeding the hungry,
Welcoming the children,
Offering water to the Samaritan,
Eating with the tax collector,
Healing the sick,
Preaching from the mountaintop,

And offering second chances.

We give thanks for you - a God who knew that we would lose our way,
And still said, "This is my body broken for you."

We give thanks for you - a God who knew our capacity for mistakes,
And still said, "I'm going to prepare a place for you."

And because of this love,
You, God, show us the way,
Again and again and again.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

Breaking Bread & Pouring the Cup

Music during Communion - Bread of the World in Mercy Broken

RETURN

Words of Forgiveness

One: Friends, whether you are standing at the door of a deeper faith journey,
Unsure of what comes next,
Or running your way through that threshold,
You are claimed, forgiven, and loved by God.

**All: Again and again, we are forgiven.
Again and again, we are loved.
Again and again, we are invited in.**

One: Thanks be to God for a love like that.
if you hear nothing else today, hear this:
God is here. God sees you. God knows you. God meets you at the edge of every new beginning,
And God calls you beloved.

**All: We are washed by the water.
We are called beloved.
Thanks be to God for a love like that.**

One: Siblings in Christ,
We confess with gratitude because we know that God already has heard and forgiven us.
No matter what we have done or left undone, we are held in God's hand.
So rest in this good news:

**All: God invites us in.
God meets us where we are.**

**God hears our prayers.
God forgives us.**

One: Thanks be to God for a love like that.

**All: Family of faith,
The good news is that God took on flesh and walked this earth to show us the way.**

One: God took on flesh so that we could see what it looks like to disrupt and overturn systems of corruption.

God took on flesh to teach us another way.

God took on flesh to point us to restoration.

God took on flesh so that we might be forgiven.

**ALL: Friends, we are held, loved, and forgiven by a just and merciful God.
Thanks be to God for a love like that.**

Charge & Benediction - again & again, a lenten refrain

**As you leave this space,
May your mouth speak of God's goodness.
May your arms hold those in need.
May your feet walk toward justice.
May your heart trust its worth.
May your soul dance in God's grace.
And may this be your rhythm—
Again and again and again,
Until God's promised day.
In the name of the Lover, the Beloved, and Love itself,
Go with courage, go with heart, go in peace.
Amen.**

Sending Hymn - Be Thou My Vision – Center for Cong Song

Thanks to:

Pat Ladehoff- liturgist

Martha Berryman – guest musician

Rev. Kate Rascoe – preacher, video production

Lori Staley & JJ Jones – tech support

Credits:

"Again & Again", music by The Many

"[Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us](#)" - performed by The Joslin Grove Choral Society

"Bread of the World in Mercy Broken" – recording by Smallchurchmusic.com

"Be Thou My Vision" – recording by The Center for Congregational Song

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