

Worship @ Home Guide – Jan 31, 2021

4th Sunday after Epiphany

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

Worship recordings now on YouTube! Find link from
www.woodstockpresbyterianchurch.com

RECONNECT

Gathering Music/Announcements “Sunday Blessed Day”

Welcome

Call to Worship *Psalms 111, The Message*

Let us praise the Lord:

Hallelujah!

I give thanks to GOD with everything I’ve got—
Wherever good people gather, and in the congregation.

GOD’s works are so great,

Worth a lifetime of study—endless enjoyment!

Splendor and beauty mark his craft;

His generosity never gives out.

His miracles are his memorial—

This GOD of Grace, this GOD of Love.

He gave food to those who fear him,

He remembered to keep his ancient promise.

He proved to his people that he could do what he said:

Hand them the nations on a platter—a gift!

He manufactures truth and justice;

All his products are guaranteed to last—

Never out-of-date, never obsolete, rust-proof.

All that he makes and does is honest and true:

He paid the ransom for his people,

He ordered his Covenant kept forever.

He’s so personal and holy, worthy of our respect.

The good life begins in the fear of GOD—

Do that and you’ll know the blessing of GOD.

His Hallelujah lasts forever!

Hymn – Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness

Prayer of Confession

Call to confession:

When Jesus emerged from 40 days of temptation in the wilderness, he called for us to repent and believe the good news of the gospel — to turn away from our sin and temptations to sin, in order to see and live into all that God wills for us and for our world. Let us confess our sin together.

Please join me in prayer:

Merciful God, you have called to participate in your reconciling, justice seeking work in a broken world plagued by pandemics of race, class and political division. Yet we acknowledge that we have fallen short of that calling. To be honest, we are inclined to hate our enemies rather than to love them as you love them. We quickly discern the sins of others, but fail to acknowledge our own. We seek accountability for others, but not for ourselves. We confess these sins, O God. Help us to hear your call to repent, to reorient our lives to your purposes and to believe in the gospel. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

God's mercy abounds, forgiving us, restoring us and setting us on right paths of justice and peace. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven and empowered to live into God's kingdom as it struggles toward realization now.

Gloria Patri

READ

Scripture Reading 1 Corinthians 8:1-13

8 Now concerning food sacrificed to idols: we know that "all of us possess knowledge." Knowledge puffs up, but love builds up. ² Anyone who claims to know something does not yet have the necessary knowledge; ³ but anyone who loves God is known by him.

⁴ Hence, as to the eating of food offered to idols, we know that "no idol in the world really exists," and that "there is no God but one." ⁵ Indeed, even though there may be so-called gods in heaven or on earth—as in fact there are many gods and many lords— ⁶ yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist.

⁷ It is not everyone, however, who has this knowledge. Since some have become so accustomed to idols until now, they still think of the food they eat as food offered to an idol; and their conscience, being weak, is defiled. ⁸ "Food will not bring us close to

God.”⁸ We are no worse off if we do not eat, and no better off if we do. ⁹ But take care that this liberty of yours does not somehow become a stumbling block to the weak. ¹⁰ For if others see you, who possess knowledge, eating in the temple of an idol, might they not, since their conscience is weak, be encouraged to the point of eating food sacrificed to idols? ¹¹ So by your knowledge those weak believers for whom Christ died are destroyed.⁸ ¹² But when you thus sin against members of your family,⁸ and wound their conscience when it is weak, you sin against Christ. ¹³ Therefore, if food is a cause of their falling,⁸ I will never eat meat, so that I may not cause one of them⁸ to fall.

REFLECT

Musical Reflection - All Creatures of Our God and King

RESPOND

Offering

God is the giver of life and source of all that is good. We acknowledge the abundance of gifts that have been showered upon us, and now return a portion of them in the hope that they might serve Christ’s purposes in our community and in our world.

Doxology

Prayers of Thanksgiving

The Lord’s Prayer

RETURN

Charge & Benediction

based on 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Friends, as you go from here, take with you the good news that the kingdom of God has drawn near. Believe that good news and live into it. And by the power of God’s Spirit at work within us, Stand in solidarity with those who suffer, Comfort all who grieve, And let everything we do and say be in love. Amen.

Sending Hymn – Guide Me O Thou Great Jehovah

Thanks to: Irene Mertens, Pat Ladehoff, Lori Staley, JJ Jones

Credits: Hymns from Glory to God. All music used with permission under CCLI License

#2326188 OneLicense: # A-733858 Music recordings from Hymnary.org and

smallchurchmusic.com. Liturgy: © Presbyterian Outlook, 2021. Liturgy written by Roger Gench and provided for free distribution. Images: Vanderbilt Divinity Library