

Worship @ Home Guide: Sunday August 9, 2020
– for the Woodstock and Romney Presbyterian Churches

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

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

However you choose to worship, we are happy to have you with us!

Please see the weekly Wellspring for Announcements and Prayer Requests.

*There will be a link on www.woodstockpresbyterianchurch.com to get to worship.
After the public FaceBook Premiere at 11:00am the worship video should be available at any
time. If you have any technical difficulties or think something is amiss, please let us know.
+Pastor Kate*

Special thanks to:

Pam Kizer, Emma Saeler, JJ Jones - liturgists
JJ Jones, Lori Staley - technical support

*Hymns from Glory to God. Music recordings from Hymnary.org and smallchurchmusic.com.
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GATHERING MUSIC -“All Things New”, by Gungor

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

Ps. 85:8–13

God speaks peace to the faithful, to those who turn to God in their hearts.

**Surely salvation is at hand
for those who fear God.**

Where God dwells,
steadfast love and faithfulness meet;
righteousness and peace kiss each other.

**Faithfulness springs up from the ground
and righteousness looks down from the sky.**

**God gives what is good
and we respond with abundant praise!**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

The psalmist tells us

*that when we turn to God in our hearts,
God speaks peace to the faithful.
As we turn to God in true confession of our sin,
we trust in God,
whose shalom makes us whole.*

God of compassion, we are sick.

We have wrestled all night with worry

instead of resting in you.

**We have asserted our own goodness
instead of awakening to yours.**

We have turned away those hungry

**for your help
instead of trusting you and feeding them**

**from your limitless supply of blessings.
Forgive us, heal us, and help us to**

**hold on to you.
We call upon you, for you will answer us, O God,
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

HYMN #463 How Firm a Foundation (2nd in backing tracks)

How firm a foundation, ye Saints of the Lord,
Is laid for your faith in his excellent word!
What more can he say than to you he hath said,
Who unto the Savior for refuge have fled?

Fear not, I am with thee; oh, be not dismayed,
For I am thy God and will still give thee aid.
I'll strengthen thee, help thee, and cause thee to stand,
Upheld by my righteous, omnipotent hand.

When through the deep waters I call thee to go,

The rivers of sorrow shall not thee o'erflow,
For I will be with thee, thy troubles to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

When through fiery trials thy pathway shall lie,
My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply.
The flame shall not hurt thee; I only design
Thy dross to consume and thy gold to refine.

The soul that on Jesus hath leaned for repose
I will not, I cannot, desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Rom. 10

Jesus is Lord!

**God raised him from the dead
and we are saved through him.**

This is the good news we believe in our hearts
and confess with our mouths:

in Jesus Christ we are forgiven!

This is good news to share with all people!

SCRIPTURE READING **Matt 14:22-33** **NRSV**

Jesus Walks on the Water

²² Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. ²³ And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, ²⁴ but by

this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land,^[a] for the wind was against them. ²⁵ And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. ²⁶ But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. ²⁷ But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

²⁸ Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." ²⁹ He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he noticed the strong wind,^[a] he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" ³¹ Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" ³² When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. ³³ And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

MESSAGE Rev. Kate Rascoe

Questions for Reflection

After Jesus caught Peter in the water, was Jesus' question, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" a reproach? When we are facing a great difficulty, do we doubt God's power? Do we doubt ourselves? Can you recall other biblical stories, or a story from your own life, when God reached out to rescue or to overcome doubt and fear with the gift of increased faith?

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A Brief Statement of Faith, 11.4

**We trust in God the Holy Spirit,
everywhere the giver and renewer of life.
The Spirit justifies us by grace through faith,
sets us free to accept ourselves
and to love God and neighbor,
and binds us together with all believers
in the one body of Christ, the Church.
The same Spirit who inspired the prophets and apostles
rules our faith and life in Christ through Scripture,
engages us through the Word proclaimed,
claims us in the waters of baptism,
feeds us with the bread of life and the cup of salvation,
and calls women and men to all ministries of the Church.
In a broken and fearful world
the Spirit gives us courage
to pray without ceasing,**

**to witness among all peoples to Christ as Lord and Savior,
to unmask idolatries in Church and culture,
to hear the voices of peoples long silenced,
and to work with others for justice, freedom, and peace.
In gratitude to God, empowered by the Spirit,
we strive to serve Christ in our daily tasks
and to live holy and joyful lives,
even as we watch for God's new heaven and new earth,
praying, "Come, Lord Jesus!"**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray for the needs of the world, saying,
Save us, O Lord, we come to you.

God of favor and purpose,

You have clothed us with a robe

of righteousness.

You have directed us to our destiny.

You are with us in our deepest pain,
fear, and bewilderment.

You hear our cry when others turn

a deaf ear and a cold heart.

You lift us from the depths

of discouragement

and walk with us over the troubled

waters of life.

We come to you now with confidence
on behalf of the church, the world,

and all in need:

Save us, O Lord, **we come to you.**

For the family of God, our sisters and brothers

who belong to you throughout the world.

Save us, O Lord, **we come to you.**

For your church to fulfill its mission in the world,

showing mercy, proclaiming your good news.

Save us, O Lord, **we come to you.**

For peace and order to permeate your creation,

responding to your commands.
Save us, O Lord, **we come to you.**

For reconciliation among families, factions,
and nations

living in envy and conflict.
Save us, O Lord, **we come to you.**

For those betrayed, beaten, thrown down,
or abandoned,

those in bondage, fear, or distress.
Save us, O Lord, **we come to you.**

For the special needs of those whose names
we remember now.

...
Save us, O Lord, **we come to you.**

For those who have crossed before us to the
other side of life's lake.

Save us, O Lord, **we come to you.**

Clothe us with your favor and love;
inspire us with dreams from you.
Hold us up when we falter in the storm,
and bring us safely to your promised place
of rest and release.
We pray it all in Jesus' name. **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.**

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

Step out in faith,
trusting that the God who has called you
is able to keep you from falling
and holds you in love.

May the steadfast love and faithfulness

of God surround you;
the peace of Christ enfold you;
and the Holy Spirit encourage you,
now and forever

SENDING HYMN - **#8 Eternal Father, Strong to Save**

(Also known as the Navy Hymn - In honor of the servicemen who lost their lives last week.)

1 Eternal Father, strong to save,
Whose arm does bind the restless wave,
Who bids the mighty ocean deep
Its own appointed limits keep;
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

2 O Savior, whose almighty word
The winds and waves submissive heard,
Who walked upon the foaming deep,
And calm amid the rage did sleep;
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

3 O Holy Spirit, who did brood
Upon the waters dark and rude,
And bid their angry tumult cease,
And give for wild confusion peace;
O hear us when we cry to Thee
For those in peril on the sea.

4 O Trinity of love and pow'r,
Your children shield in danger's hour;
From rock and tempest, fire, and foe,
Protect them where-so-e'er they go;
Thus, evermore shall rise to Thee
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.