

## **Worship @ Home Guide – Sept 20, 2020**

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



"Laborers in the Vineyard", Icon

## **RECONNECT**

**Gathering Music/ Announcements – “Every Time I Feel the Spirit”**

**Welcome**

**Hymn - The Bread and the Wine Are Here**

<https://youtu.be/wqTwR-D7ZkA>

**Call to Worship – theWorkofthePeople**

**“Breathe” A Benediction Inspired by Isaiah 65. By Kelly Hall. Music by The Brilliance.**

*People! Come, see what's new! breathe in a new day, rising up now, lightening the course of night...I AM giving life again. come out, and take in the air! See that it is fresh and new and Spirit filled! death has died! Wash the ash from your face, rinse the burial dirt from your mouth! Life is the last word! Come to your feet! Tear off the shroud, walk out of your entombment, sing with joy into vineyards, ripe and bursting! Leave your hearts open to Mine, be filled with the joy of My presence! I will sustain you, uphold you from My eternal source, always. I lift my hand over you, send you out with My blessing to love from eternal stores, to beautify all that you touch and encourage life when all seems lost— because LIFE always has the last word. Always.*

## Prayers

Let us pray for the needs of the world, saying,  
Lord in your mercy, hear our prayer.

Holy God, who hears our cries and pities our groans,  
you are ever faithful.  
We come to you with our petitions for ourselves  
and our community. . . .

For our church and its leaders—

that they be of open mind and open heart . . .  
that they might be the Christian leaders you

have called them to be . . .  
and that the church be an instrument of love,  
justice, and peace.  
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For our country and global community—

that all may be peaceful, fair, and respectful of all peoples  
no matter the religion, color, gender, or kind of government.  
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

For our local community—

*[concerns of the community may be named].*  
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

For those who are overlooked in our society—

the poor, the young, the old, the bereaved, and the oppressed—  
help us to see them and to be with them.  
Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer**

For the special intentions that we hold in our hearts.

*[A time of silence is kept.]*

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Gracious and loving God,

we know that you hear us and are always with us,  
and we thank you in Jesus' name. **Amen.**

## READ

## Scripture Reading

## Matthew 20:1-16

**20** "For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. <sup>2</sup> After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage,<sup>[a]</sup> he sent them into his vineyard. <sup>3</sup> When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; <sup>4</sup> and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. <sup>5</sup> When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. <sup>6</sup> And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' <sup>7</sup> They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' <sup>8</sup> When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' <sup>9</sup> When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>10</sup> Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage.<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>11</sup> And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, <sup>12</sup> saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' <sup>13</sup> But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?'<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>14</sup> Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. <sup>15</sup> Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?'<sup>[a]</sup> <sup>16</sup> So the last will be first, and the first will be last."<sup>[b]</sup>

## REFLECT

### Message "Healthy Eyes"

**Music** - All Who Love and Serve Your City - Harvard University Choir; Edward Elwyn Jones, conductor  
<https://youtu.be/MB1gvyoZigM>

*All who love and serve your city, all who bear its daily stress,  
all who cry for peace and justice, all who curse and all who bless,*

*In your day of loss and sorrow, in your day of helpless strife,  
honor, peace, and love retreating, seek the Lord, who is your life.*

*In your day of wrath and plenty, wasted work and wasted play,  
call to mind the word of Jesus, "I must work while it is day."*

*For all days are days of judgment, and the Lord is waiting still,  
drawing near a world that spurns him, offering peace from Calvary's hill.*

*Risen Lord! shall yet the city be the city of despair?  
Come today, our Judge, our Glory; be its name, "The Lord is there!"*

## **RESPOND**

### **Affirmation of Faith**

(Book of Order, W-5.0303).

God sends the Church to show compassion in the world:

**feeding the hungry, caring for the sick, visiting prisoners, freeing captives, sheltering the homeless, welcoming strangers, comforting those who mourn, and being present with all who are in need.**

These acts of compassion, done corporately or individually, are the work of the Church as the body of Christ.

**We are called to minister directly to people's immediate hurts and needs. We are also called to confront and challenge systems that perpetuate human misery. We participate in Christ's compassionate ministry through local acts of witness and advocacy, through the programs of the larger church, and in cooperation with other agencies and organizations committed to human welfare.**

In the Service for the Lord's Day, God's call to compassion is proclaimed in the Word and enacted through the Sacraments.

**We confess our complicity in oppressive structures, pray for those who are hurting, offer our resources to alleviate suffering, and commit our time and energy to care for those in need.**

Following the example of Jesus Christ,

**we pledge that we will respect the dignity of all, reach out to those judged undeserving, receive as well as give, and even risk our lives to show Christ's love.**

### **Offering**

#### **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

Whether we have much or only a little,  
we can share our daily bread so that all will be fed.  
As we have received,  
so now we give,  
in the vineyard of the Lord,  
our tithes and offerings.

#### **DOXOLOGY**

#### **PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING/DEDICATION**

God of the harvest,  
we are privileged to be counted among those whom you have called,  
graced to have been given your work to do,  
blessed to receive more than we will ever earn.

Accept, we pray, our thanksgivings and offerings,  
and do what you choose

with what already belongs to you.  
In Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

# RETURN

## Charge & Benediction

*Live your life in a manner worthy of the gospel of Christ, and stand firm in the Spirit.*

## Sending Hymn - O For a World

<https://youtu.be/UTC7EjciNnw>

## Sending Music – “God Be With You til we Meet Again”

*Special Thanks to:*

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