

## **Worship @ Home Guide – Oct 11, 2020**

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



### **RECONNECT**

**Gathering Music/Announcements**

*“Spirit of God”*

**Welcome**

**Call to Worship**

The Lord is good!

*Ps. 106:1*

**God’s steadfast love endures forever.**

**Opening Prayer**

Ever-present God,  
you never leave us.

*Exod. 32:1–4*

Help us to stay with you when we are tempted to flee,  
and keep us seeking after that which is true,  
that all may know that you are the Lord, our God,  
a tenacious presence in whatever our reality.  
Through Christ, our Lord. **Amen.**

**Hymn**

**There's a Wideness in God's Mercy**

## READ

### Scripture Reading

### Matthew 22:1-14

Once more Jesus spoke to them in parables, saying: <sup>2</sup> "The kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who gave a wedding banquet for his son. <sup>3</sup> He sent his slaves to call those who had been invited to the wedding banquet, but they would not come. <sup>4</sup> Again he sent other slaves, saying, 'Tell those who have been invited: Look, I have prepared my dinner, my oxen and my fat calves have been slaughtered, and everything is ready; come to the wedding banquet.' <sup>5</sup> But they made light of it and went away, one to his farm, another to his business, <sup>6</sup> while the rest seized his slaves, mistreated them, and killed them. <sup>7</sup> The king was enraged. He sent his troops, destroyed those murderers, and burned their city. <sup>8</sup> Then he said to his slaves, 'The wedding is ready, but those invited were not worthy. <sup>9</sup> Go therefore into the main streets, and invite everyone you find to the wedding banquet.' <sup>10</sup> Those slaves went out into the streets and gathered all whom they found, both good and bad; so the wedding hall was filled with guests.

<sup>11</sup> "But when the king came in to see the guests, he noticed a man there who was not wearing a wedding robe, <sup>12</sup> and he said to him, 'Friend, how did you get in here without a wedding robe?' And he was speechless. <sup>13</sup> Then the king said to the attendants, 'Bind him hand and foot, and throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.' <sup>14</sup> For many are called, but few are chosen."

## REFLECT

### Message

*See also - Lk 14:12-24*

## RESPOND

### Affirmation of Faith & Confession – from the Confession of 1967

The Church believes that:

"The reconciliation of humankind through Jesus Christ makes it plain that enslaving poverty in a world of abundance is an intolerable violation of God's good creation.

**Because Jesus identified himself with the needy and exploited,  
the cause of the world's poor is the cause of his disciples.**

The church cannot condone poverty, whether it is the product of unjust social structures, exploitation of the defenseless, lack of national resources, absence of technological understanding, or rapid expansion of populations. "

**We confess that we have often neglected and ignored poverty and the poor.**

"The church calls [all people] to use  
[their] abilities, [their] possessions,  
and the fruits of technology  
as gifts entrusted to [them] by God  
for the maintenance of [their] family and the advancement of the common welfare."

**We give thanks to God for the resources we have, and re-commit ourselves to God's intent for their use.**

The Church encourages raising "people's hopes for better conditions and providing them with opportunity for a decent living."

**We confess our indifference to poverty, our evasion of responsibility in economic affairs, and our expectation of gratitude for our beneficence to others.**

We seek the true worship of God and to be true disciples of Christ,

**Whose reconciliation of humankind makes it plain that enslaving poverty in a world of abundance is an intolerable violation of God's good creation.**

## **Offering**

### **INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

Beloved, do not worry about anything,  
but in everything let your requests be made  
known to God.

And the peace of God, which passes  
all understanding,  
will guard your hearts and your minds  
in Christ Jesus.

In the assurance of this promise,  
let us confidently offer ourselves to God,  
knowing that God has already provided  
all that we need.

## **Musical Offering**

**In Christ Alone sung by David Wesley**

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Creator God, you are our provider.**

**We offer all that we have  
and all that we are to you,  
because we belong to you.**

**Bless these gifts, and empower us, your church,**

that through the work of your Spirit  
we may be a refuge for the needy in their distress,  
a shelter from the storm,  
and a shade from the heat.  
Through Christ, our shield and our stronghold. Amen.

## **RETURN**

### **Charge & Benediction**

### **Sending Hymn    “God is So Good”**

*Special Thanks to:*

*Hal & Pat Ladehoff*

*Hymns from Glory to God.*

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