

— Worship at Home —

January 20th, 2019

Due to snow, wind, and frigid temperatures we are unable to gather together for worship. That doesn't mean you have to go without worship altogether. We've prepared this document for you to use individually or with whoever can gather in your home.

If you're doing this individually, you can simply pray all the prayers out loud. If in groups, you might read all the prayers together or have one person lead and all the others join in the bold font.

Blessings to you and enjoy a restful, snowy Sunday!

Centering Meditation

Take a few moments to sit quietly. Breathe deeply, slowly, and joyfully. Stand and stretch. Repeat the word *maranatha*, which means "Come, Oh Lord."

Call to Worship

This is the day the Lord has made.

We rejoice and are glad in it!

We lift up our hearts to You, Oh Lord.

Prepare them to receive Your love.

We give you our thanks and praise

Because we love you with everything we are.

In the name of Christ,

who lives and reigns with you.

One God. Forever and ever.

Amen.

Worship Hymns

You can sing along to versions of these songs by clicking the title. If you'd prefer to sing without the videos, lyrics are on pages 6 and 7.

- Take the World, Give me Jesus by Ascend the Hill
- Be Thou My Vision by Audrey Assad

Collect for the Day

**Father of Mercies,
You guided Israel out of Egypt,
and lifted Christ from the depths of hell.
Take us gently by the hand;
guide us with your loving council;
lead us into the fulness of your glory;
remind us that you are always with us.
Do all of this so that we might
never forget that though
our flesh and hearts might fail,
you are our strength
and our portion forever.
Through Christ our Lord,
by the power of the Holy Spirit.
Amen.**

— *Prayer based on Psalm 73.*

Confession of Sins & Assurance of Forgiveness

We know that nothing is able to separate us
from the love of God in Jesus Christ.
Let us in freedom confess the wrong we have done.

(Confess sins to in quiet or to one another.)

**Lord, have mercy,
Christ, have mercy,
Lord, have mercy.**

The Lord says,
“I will sprinkle clean water upon you,
and you shall be clean from your uncleannesses,
and from all your idols I will cleanse you.
A new heart I will give you,

and a new spirit I will put within you;
and I will remove from your body the heart of stone
and give you a heart of flesh" (Ezekiel 36:25-26).

**We have been made holy
through the sacrifice of the body
of Jesus Christ once for all.
This is God's gospel promise:
to forgive our sins and give us eternal life
by grace alone
because of Christ's one sacrifice
finished on the cross.
Glory to the Father,
and to the Son,
and to the Holy Spirit,
as it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.**

Prayer for Illumination

**Lord God,
May your word be a lamp to our feet
and a light to our path
through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.**

Scripture Reading

Now, when he saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, and he began to teach them, saying: blessed are the poor in Spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. Blessed are the merciful, for they will be shown mercy. Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called sons of God. Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you, and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

Homily

Watch Pastor Zen's homily by [clicking here](#).

Questions for Reflection

- As you read this passage, how do you imagine the disciples would have heard these words? Would they have been confused, encouraged, upset, or something else? Why do you think this?
- Which of the sayings stands out to you the most? Why do you think that is? What do you think the Spirit might be doing in you through this saying?
- In Pastor Zen's homily, he quotes Martin Luther King Jr., saying, "Whenever you take a stand for truth and justice, you are liable to scorn. Often you will be called an impractical idealist or a dangerous radical." What about your own faith might cause others to scorn you? What attitudes or actions might lead people to call you "impractical," "idealistic," "dangerous," or "radical"?
- Based on Jesus's sayings, how does God's love seem to flip the world upside down or turn it inside out? How have you experienced this in your own lives?

Prayer of Response

**Our Father,
Who art in Heaven,
Hallowed be Thy Name.
Thy Kingdom come,
Thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our debts
as we forgive our debtors.
Lead us not into temptation
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the Kingdom,
the power, and the glory
forever and ever.
Amen.**

Benediction

May the bless you and keep you,
wherever he may send you.

May he protect you in the wilderness;
may he guide you through the storm;
may he bring you home rejoicing
at the wonders he has shown you.

May he bring you home rejoicing
once again into our doors.

Amen.

Take the World, Give me Jesus

Verse 1.

Take the world, but give me Jesus,
All its joys are but a name;
But His love abideth ever,
Through eternal years the same.

Refrain.

Oh, the height and depth of mercy!
Oh, the length and breadth of love!
Oh, the fullness of redemption,
Pledge of endless life above!

Verse 2.

Take the world, but give me Jesus,
Sweetest comfort of my soul;
With my Savior watching o'er me,
I can sing though billows roll. *[Refrain]*

Verse 3.

Take the world, but give me Jesus,
Let me view His constant smile;
Then throughout my pilgrim journey
Light will cheer me all the while. *[Refrain]*

Verse 4.

Take the world, but give me Jesus;
In His cross my trust shall be,
Till, with clearer, brighter vision,
Face to face my Lord I see. *[Refrain]*

Be Thou My Vision

Verse 1.

Be Thou my Vision, O Lord of my heart;
be all else but naught to me, save that Thou art;
be Thou my best thought in the day and the night,
both waking and sleeping, Thy presence my light.

Verse 2.

Be Thou my Wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
be Thou ever with me, and I with Thee, Lord;
be Thou my great Father, and I Thy true son;
be Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

Verse 3.

Be Thou my Breastplate, my Sword for the fight;
be Thou my whole Armor, be Thou my true Might;
be Thou my soul's Shelter, be Thou my strong Tow'r,
O raise Thou me heav'nward, great Pow'r of my pow'r.

Verse 4.

Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
be Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
be Thou and Thou only the first in my heart,
O high King of heaven, my Treasure Thou art.

Verse 5.

High King of heaven, Thou heaven's bright Sun,
O grant me its joys, after vict'ry is won;
Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be Thou my vision, O Ruler of all.