Guide for Home Worship September 6, 2020

Opening Prayer

(select someone from your group to open your service in prayer)

Call to Worship

Psalm 97:1-6 (NIV)

LEADER: The LORD reigns, let the earth be glad; let the distant shores rejoice. Clouds and thick darkness surround him; righteousness and justice are the foundation of his throne.

CONGREGATION: Fire goes before him and consumes his foes on every side. His lightening lights up the world; the earth sees and trembles.

LEADER: The mountains melt like wax before the LORD, before the Lord of all the earth.

CONGREGATION: The heavens proclaim his righteousness, and all the peoples see his glory.

Songs and Liturgy

(sing as a group and/or sing along to recorded versions)

HOW FIRM A FOUNDATION

(John Rippon, Joseph Funk, 1787)

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, To you who for refuge to Jesus have fled.

Fear not, I am with thee, O 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 overflow;
For I will be with thee, thy trouble to bless,
And sanctify to thee thy deepest distress.

When through fiery trials thy pathways shall lie, My grace, all sufficient, shall be thy supply; The flame will 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 will not desert to his foes;
That soul, though all hell should endeavor to shake,
I'll never, no never, no never forsake!

PUBLIC DOMAIN

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 34:8-18 (NASB)

LEADER: O taste and see that the LORD is good; how blessed is the man who takes refuge in Him!

CONGREGATION: O fear the LORD, you His saints; for to those who fear Him there is no want.

LEADER: The young lions do lack and suffer hunger; but they who seek the LORD shall not be in want of any good thing.

CONGREGATION: Come, you children, listen to me; I will teach you the fear of the LORD.

LEADER: Who is the man who desires life and loves length of days that he may see good?

CONGREGATION: Keep your tongue from evil and your lips from speaking deceit.

LEADER: Depart from evil and do good; seek peace and pursue it.

CONGREGATION: The eyes of the LORD are toward the righteous, and His ears are open to their cry.

LEADER: The face of the LORD is against evildoers, to cut off the memory of them from the earth.

CONGREGATION: The righteous cry, and the LORD hears and delivers them out of all their troubles.

LEADER: The LORD is near to the brokenhearted and saves those who are crushed in spirit.

AMAZING GRACE

(John Newton, 1779)

Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.

Through many dangers, toils, and snares,
I have already come;
'Tis grace that brought me safe thus far,
And grace will lead me home.

When we've been there ten thousand years,
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we first begun.
PUBLIC DOMAIN

Prayer Time

(You may have an open time of prayer or select someone to pray)

- Pray for our nation that the good news of Jesus Christ would draw people to know God genuinely and personally.
- Pray for those suffering from the ongoing spread of the coronavirus.
- Pray for those experiencing racial injustices; specifically, that God would bring hope, reconciliation, and restoration through the good news of His Son.
- Pray for those in authority at every level in our country, that they would govern wisely and justly.

Listen to Sermon

"Having a Heart of Hope"

preached by Robert Moore

Psalm 42

- ¹ As the deer pants for streams of water, so my soul pants for you, my God.
- ² My soul thirsts for God, for the living God. When can I go and meet with God?
- ³ My tears have been my food day and night, while people say to me all day long, "Where is your God?"
- ⁴ These things I remember as I pour out my soul: how I used to go to the house of God under the protection of the Mighty One with shouts of joy and praise among the festive throng.
- Why, my soul, are you downcast?
 Why so disturbed within me?
 Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.
- ⁶ My soul is downcast within me; therefore I will remember you from the land of the Jordan, the heights of Hermon—from Mount Mizar.
- ⁷ Deep calls to deep in the roar of your waterfalls; all your waves and breakers have swept over me.
- ⁸ By day the Lord directs his love, at night his song is with me—a prayer to the God of my life.
- ⁹I say to God my Rock,
- "Why have you forgotten me? Why must I go about mourning,

Oppressed by the enemy?"

¹⁰ My bones suffer mortal agony as my foes taunt me,

saying to me all day long, "Where is your God?"

Why, my soul, are you downcast?
Why so disturbed within me?
Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

Psalm 43

- Vindicate me, my God, and plead my cause against an unfaithful nation.
 Rescue me from those who are deceitful and wicked.
- You are God my stronghold. Why have you rejected me? Why must I go about mourning, oppressed by the enemy?
- ³ Send me your light and your faithful care, let them lead me; let them bring me to your holy mountain, to the place where you dwell.
- ⁴ Then I will go to the altar of God, to God, my joy and my delight. I will praise you with the lyre, O God, my God.
- Why, my soul, are you downcast?
 Why so disturbed within me?
 Put your hope in God, for I will yet praise him, my Savior and my God.

Confession of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism (1563) Lord's Day 15

LEADER: What do you understand by the words "He suffered"?

CONGREGATION: That during his whole life on earth, but especially at the end, Christ sustained in body and soul the anger of God against the sin of the whole human race. This he did in order that, by his suffering as the only atoning sacrifice, he might set us free, body and soul, from eternal condemnation, and gain for us God's grace, righteousness, and eternal life.

Sharing Time

(have everyone share one thing that struck them from the sermon)

Song

(sing as a group and/or sing along to recorded versions)

IT IS WELL WITH MY SOUL

(Horatio G. Spafford & Philip P. Bliss, 1873)

When peace like a river attendeth my way,
When sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say,
It is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul.

Tho' Satan should buffet, tho' trials should come,
Let this blest assurance control,
That Christ hath regarded my helpless estate,
And hath shed His own blood for my soul.
It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul.

My sin, O the bliss of this glorious thought
My sin, not in part but the whole,
Is nailed to the cross, and I bear it no more;
Praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul!
It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul.

And, Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight,
The clouds be rolled back as a scroll:
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend,
Even so, it is well with my soul.
It is well (It is well) with my soul (with my soul)
It is well, it is well with my soul.

PUBLIC DOMAIN

Benediction

(The leader or individual should read this aloud relishing in the confident assertion that Christ has conquered.)

Luke 12:29-32

LEADER: Do not seek what you are to eat and what you are to drink, nor be worried. For all the nations of the world seek after these things, and your Father knows that you need them. Instead, seek his kingdom, and these things will be added to you. Fear not, little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom.

PEOPLE: Amen!