



# REDEMPTION PEORIA | LITURGY FOR THE LORD'S DAY

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May 10, 2020 | The Fifth Sunday of [Easter](#), Good Shepherd Sunday!

**GREETING** | [CLICK HERE](#) for a greeting from Josh

People of God,

Although we cannot be together as our normal practice allows, we have an exciting (and oddly packaged) opportunity to join together in spirit with one another and with the early church by worshiping as they worshiped: in our homes with those closest to us. We encourage you to use the following liturgy (simply translated as *"the work of the people"*) to worship with your household. This is a guide, not a rule. You may feel free to change anything to fit your abilities as worshipers.

Those with gifts for music, prayer, speaking, etc. are encouraged to lead as they are able. If there is a musician in the household, they are especially encouraged to lead; this would be preferred over the provided recordings. Or, perhaps you read the lyrics together, utilizing them for the poems that they are. Those words may jump out differently than they do when you sing them.

And much like our early church brothers and sisters – use the gifts available to you. Lead as skillfully as you are able. Be creative. Glorify God. Seek to be formed into the image of Christ.

In other words: **WORSHIP.**

We suggest that you gather with a group of no more than 10 individuals if possible, or perhaps alone or with your family. Of course, if you have had known contact with anyone who has tested positive for COVID-19, or if you are experiencing symptoms of any kind, we ask that you refrain from gathering with anyone outside your household. In terms of how to proceed with this liturgy, feel free to assign parts depending on your circumstances. However, we would make the following suggestion: Select a leader who will read all the "LEADER" parts. Everyone else should read the "ALL" parts. For our usual Sunday feel, think of them as "Y'ALL" parts, even. If you're alone, remember that you're not alone. You have the Father, Son, and Spirit with you as you're guided by them through the Word.

## **NOTE**

Before you jump in, take a few moments to listen to this and remember you're not alone.

**[LISTEN](#)**

## **A COLLECT FOR COVID-19**

**ALL:** Almighty and merciful God, whose blessed Son our Savior Jesus Christ healed lepers, the blind, the lame, and the deaf, and who calmed the storm:

Grant healing for those who have been infected with COVID-19, protection for those who have been exposed, and comfort for all who have fears and anxieties, that we might know his loving presence and make him known: who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit.

One God, for ever and ever. Amen.

*\* COVER ART – "TRINITY" BY SCOTT ERICKSON*

# GOD CALLS US TO WORSHIP

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*We begin our time with a call to worship to remember together that worship starts with God, not us.*

## **CALL TO WORSHIP** | *Psalm 95:1-2, 6-7 NLT*

**LEADER 1:** Come, let us sing to the LORD! Let us shout joyfully to the Rock of our salvation.

**ALL:** Let us come to him with thanksgiving. Let us sing psalms of praise to him.

**LEADER 2:** Come, let us worship and down down. Let us kneel before the LORD our maker, for his is our God. We are the people he watches over, the flock under his care.

**ALL:** If only we would listen to his voice today!

## **HYMN** | **"COME THOU FOUNT OF EVERY BLESSING"** | [LISTEN & SING](#)

**ALL:** Come, thou Fount of ev'ry blessing; tune my heart to sing Thy grace  
Streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of loudest praise  
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above  
Praise the Mount, I'm fixed upon it; Mount of Thy redeeming love

Here I raise my ebenezzer, hither by Thy help I've come  
And I hope, by Thy good pleasure, safely to arrive at home  
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wand'ring from the fold of God  
He to rescue me from danger, interposed his precious blood

O to grace, how great a debtor, daily I'm constrained to be  
Let Thy goodness, like a fetter, bind my wand'ring hear to Thee  
Prone to wander, Lord, I feel it; prone to leave the God I love  
Here's my heart, Lord, take and seal it; seal it for Thy courts above

## **PRAYER OF ADORATION**

**PROMPTS:** Praise God for his power, mighty works.

Thank God for His presence when we gather to worship.

Praise God for His faithfulness to His people, no matter the circumstance.

# CONFESSION, LAMENT & RENEWAL

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*A healthy reorientation to the reality that God is holy, we are sinners. and Jesus saves us.*

*We recognize on a day like today that everything in God's creation isn't as it should be. Sin has broken families and caused deep pain and heartache, and suffering in creation has led to suffering in the flesh – some who long to be parents are unable to experience that joy. Some who long to be cared for lose their parents. Some parents have recently lost children.*

*We recognize on a day like today that everything in God's creation isn't as it should be. Let's pray and lament this together, knowing that God hears us in our pain and sadness.*

## A MOTHER'S DAY LAMENT

LEADER 1: Lord, Creator and giver of every good gift, we recall your creation isn't as it should be. Sin has broken what was good and inflicted pain.

On this day, we lift up to you the hearts that ache for healing in their family; who long to be mothers, but mourn the absence of new life within them; who have conceived, but suffered loss through miscarriage or abortion; who have given birth, but endured the tragedy of burying a child. Their grief is often hidden from us or neglected on this day of celebration, and we pray that they may experience healing in this church family.

LEADER 2: We also grieve with those who have lost their mothers – from physical death to physical and/or emotional abandonment. Bring comfort, O Lord.

LEADER 3: And for mothers with strained relationships with their children. We pray for reconciliation that only you can make a way for. Bring healing, O Lord.

**ALL: How long, O Lord, must sin and death get its way? How long must joy be deferred or interrupted by such cruel sorrow?  
Risen Lord of life, grant comfort and peace, and breathe in us all the breath of new life – through Jesus Christ, who defeated sin and death. Amen.**

## HYMN | "GUIDE ME, O THOU GREAT JEHOVAH" | [LISTEN & SING](#)

**ALL:** Guide me, O Thou Great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land  
I am weak, but Thou art mighty; hold me with Thy powerful hand  
Bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore (repeat)

Open now, the crystal fountain, whence the healing waters flow  
Let the fiery, cloudy pillar lead me all my journey through  
Strong Deliverer, be Thou still my strength and shield (repeat)

When I tread the verge of Jordan, bid my anxious fears subside  
Death of death, and hell's destruction; land me safe on Canaan's side  
Songs of praise, I will ever give to Thee (repeat)

Oh, to finally say goodbye! Bid my anxious fears, bid my anxious fears  
Land me safe on Canaan's side, bid my anxious fears goodbye!

## **ASSURANCE OF PARDON IN THE GOSPEL** | *Revelation 21:3-5*

*Jesus promises a day that's coming when our tears will be wiped away and everything is set right once and for all. He gave this vision to John – hear it and respond with hope.*

**LEADER:** I hear a loud shout from the throne, saying, "Look, God's home is now among his people! He will live with them, and they will be his people. God himself will be with them.

**ALL:** He will wipe every tear from their eyes, and there will be no more death or sorrow or crying or pain. All these things are gone forever."

**LEADER:** And the one sitting on the throne said, "Look, I am making everything new!"

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE** | *God doesn't just reconcile us to Himself, but also to each other.*

## **[HERE'S A GREAT WAY TO PASS THE PEACE NOW, ESPECIALLY IF YOU'RE ON VIDEO](#)**

## **PREPARATION FOR THE WORD** | *based on Psalm 119:105*

**LEADER:** Your Word, O Lord, is a lamp to our feet;

**ALL:** Without it we cannot see.

LEADER: And your Word, O Lord, is a light upon our path;

ALL: **Without it we lose our way.**

## HEARING GOD'S WORD

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*"Do you want to hear God speak? Read the Bible out loud." – John Piper*

### SCRIPTURE READING | *Romans 14:10*

LEADER: Why do you pass judgment on your brother? Or you, why do you despise your brother? For we will all stand before the judgment seat of God;

LEADER: This is the Word of the Lord!

ALL: **Thanks be to God!**

### SERMON | ["UNITY OF HEART"](#) | SEAN MYERS

FAMILY RESOURCES | [CLICK HERE](#) for a greeting from Summer  
[CLICK HERE](#) for this week's Story Time  
[CLICK HERE](#) for this week's Parent Pack  
[CLICK HERE](#) for this week's coloring page

### QUESTION OF RESPONSE

What's one thing that caught your attention about our passage today?

### PRAYER OF OUR CORPORATE COMMUNION FAST

*Lord Jesus, you so graciously give yourself to your church in the sacrament of Holy Communion. We lament that we cannot at this time partake of your precious body and blood. And we pray that through this unwilling fast, you would increase in us a deeper longing for you, until that day when, with all the saints, we join again around your table, to remember you as the answered feast to all we could ever hunger for, by faith and with thanksgiving. Amen.*

**OFFERING** | *We are still able to give online or by mail (if you write checks).*

*We are still able to give online, friends. If you prefer to write a check you can still mail it to our central church address, but at this time online giving would be preferred. Your generosity is needed now more than ever with the many opportunities to serve our neighbors during this time. Please [CLICK THIS LINK](#) below to give online.*

*If you would like to mail a check, please make checks out to "Redemption Church" with "Redemption Peoria" written clearly in the memo line. Then mail checks to: REDEMPTION CHURCH: 1820 WEST ELLIOT RD. GILBERT, AZ 85233*

**PROFESSION OF FAITH** | *Heidelberg Catechism, Q & A 1*

**LEADER:** What is your only comfort in life and in death?

**ALL:** That I belong – body and soul, in life and in death – not to myself, but to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ, who at the cost of His own blood has fully paid for all my sins and has completely freed me from the dominion of the devil; that He protects me so well that without the will of my Father in heaven not a hair can fall from my head; indeed, that everything must fit His purpose for my salvation. Therefore, by His Holy Spirit, He also assures me of eternal life, and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for Him.

**SONG** | **"WE WILL FEAST IN THE HOUSE OF ZION"** | [LISTEN & SING](#)

**ALL:** **We will feast in the house of Zion; we will sing with our hearts restored**  
**"He has done great things!", we will say together**  
**We will feast and weep no more**

We will not be burned by the fire – He is the Lord, our God  
We are not consumed by the flood – upheld, protected, gathered up (chorus)

In the dark of night, before the dawn – my soul, be not afraid  
For the promised morning, O, how long? O God of Jacob, be my strength (chorus)

Every vow we've broken and betrayed – You are the faithful One  
And from the garden to the grave – bind us together, bring shalom (chorus)

**DOXOLOGY** | [LISTEN](#) *to our congregation sing this from a night of worship a few years ago.*

**ALL:** Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him, all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost  
Amen.

## BENEDICTION

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*A blessing for the road, or even into social distancing/sheltering in-place.*

**CLOSING BLESSING** | *our benediction for a good bit, y'all.*

LEADER 1: As you depart from this meeting today,  
may the strength of God pilot you,  
the power of God uphold you,  
and the wisdom of God guide you.

LEADER 2: May the eye of God look before you,  
the ear of God hear you,  
and the Word of God speak for you.

LEADER 3: May the hand of God protect you,  
the way of God lie before you,  
the shield of God defend you,  
and the host of God save you.

LEADER 4: May Christ shield you today.  
Go in the knowledge that Christ is with you and walk in the Spirit.  
Peace be with you!

**ALL:** **And also with you!**



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