



In Preparation for Worship

“Start where you are. Use what you have. Do what you can.” – Arthur Ashe

Gathering Prayer

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

At this time, please take a moment to let us know you are worshiping online with us by sharing your name in the “comments” on our video feed.

Call to Worship

Leader: Wherever two or three gather we are the church! By the connecting power of the Holy Spirit we are the church! There are many parts, but one body of Christ. We are the church! As we worship today may we remember that, through Christ, we are the church.

The Light of the Hour

Music

Oceans Hillsong United

Sydney Sloan

Prayer for the Community

Leader: Let us pray...

God we are the people of God. As we grow in faith, water and feed us. As we live in uncertainty, transition, prolonged “goodbyes” and new “hellos,” grant us patience, love, and encouragement. Transitions can be hard and exciting all at the same time. Help us to live in the tension between certainty and uncertainty; comfort and apprehension. Help us to be solid in faith, honest with you, and grow with you. You love us, care for us, teach us, and move us. May we continue to do so even as we yearn to see more of you in our lives. And now we offer space for silence to breath in your mercies, to be filled with your love, so that we might be blessings to this world. *(Silence is kept for personal reflection.)*

Leader: Lord, in your mercy,

People: Hear our prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Song of Praise

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise Christ, all people here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; praise Triune God whom we adore. Amen.

Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Reading

Romans 12:2, 9-18

Leader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Where Do We Go From Here?

Phil Brown

Affirmation of Faith

Compiled from Class of 2020's Confirmation Statements of Faith

I see God when the sun rises. God has put beauty on this earth. I see God when my parents hold hands and the strength of their love amazes me. God created love and I was created out of the love my parents have. God is my creator.

Jesus knows me. This is love.

One of the most exciting days of church was when I was able to take the class that taught me it was okay to take any size bread I want and only to drink from the outer ring of the little cups of "wine". I was so excited for the first time of communion and now it seems like no big deal. Sometimes I remember how excited I was when I went for my first time and I get excited again. Churches are vessels in which God works. I have found this from seeing churches all around the world helping others.

I believe God has a plan for everyone, even if you can't see it now. No matter how much you sin or stray from God's path, God always loves you and stays with you no matter what happens. I think that God is always trying to help those turning away from him. I believe that God helps us everyday, but our faith changes. Everyday we face new challenges and surprises. We can use any part of scripture and interpret it to want we need. We use scripture to help and heal us. We also use scripture to guide us and say the things we cannot.

I know God is always there, even if it doesn't seem like it. The way God works, is complicated. But I believe through it all, no matter what God will always be there. I believe that God is here not only to give hope, but also to help us make the best out of every situation we are in.

Charge and Blessing

Let us unite our hearts in prayer
and entrust to the hands of the Lord
those who will be graduating.
May God who began this good work in you
carry it through to completion,
enabling you to use your talents to the fullest.

May God give you the grace to make wise choices
and to be faithful to your commitments,
always confident in the support of those who love you.

May God bless you with discomfort at easy answers,
half-truths, and superficial relationships,
so that you will live deep within your heart.
May God bless you with anger at injustice,
oppression, and exploitation of people,
so that you will work for justice, equality, and peace.

May God bless you with tears to shed for those who
suffer from pain, rejection, starvation, and war,
so that you will reach out your hand
to comfort them and change their pain into joy.

May God bless you with the foolishness to think
that you can make a difference in the world,
so that you will do the things
which others tell you cannot be done.

May your integrity be a gift to the world
and may the Spirit of God be with you always.
Amen.

- Fr. Michael Graham SJ, Offered at Baccalaureate Mass at Xavier
University 2015

Music

Lean on Me

Will Pile

Benediction

Blessing from Church Members

Postlude