

March 7, 2021

In Preparation for Worship

"Friends, you've got mail. It's an invitation to dust off your shoes, to go deeper, to trust that you're worth it, to lose your keys and your faith, and then to find them both, along with your worth." – From "Invited" by Rev. Sarah Are

Gathering Prayer

Prelude

Hope Felix Mendelssohn

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, as well as filling out the [online friendship pad](#) at slpres.org.

The Light of the Hour

Worshippers are invited to light a candle with us, a reminder that we are connected by the Holy Spirit. #SaintLukesConnected

Hymn #5* stanzas 1, 3 and 4

God the Sculptor of the Mountains

*Hymns will be provided on the screen.

Call to Confession and Prayer of Confession

God of Justice,
We are guilty of building tables.
We have built tables that oppression dines on,
Sexism thrives on, and racism lives on.
We are guilty of forgetting where we are,
Of turning faith into a negotiation tool
And the church into a place for insiders.
We are guilty of ignoring the point;
For you taught that the temple was for worship
And your message was for all.
God of our hearts,
Be in our decision making.
Draw near to our choices.
Forgive our mistakes.
And as you do,
Flip every table, habit, belief, or point of view that needs adjusting.
With hope we pray for a better day.
Hear also our personal confessions that we offer in silence...
(Silence is kept for personal reflection.)

Leader: Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Song of Praise

Holy, Holy, Holy

Passing of the Peace of Christ

We encourage you to pass the peace with your fellow worshipers in the "comments" of the video feed and to take time today to reach out and share Christ's peace with your friends, neighbors and family.

Prayer for Illumination

Jacob Moebes

Scripture Reading

John 2:13-22

Leader: The Word of the Lord.
People: Thanks be to God.

Tell Us Our Story

Catherine Anne Thomas

Sermon

We Are Shown the Way

Shannon Dill

Musical Response

Blessed Jesus, at Your Word

Affirmation of Faith

from Sanctified Art

We believe in a God who knows holy rage—
A God who stands with the underdog,
Who passionately protects the suffering,
And who overturns systems of corruption.

We believe in a God who leads by example—
Feeding the hungry,
Welcoming the children,
Offering water to the Samaritan,
Eating with the tax collector,
Healing the sick,
Preaching from the mountaintop,
And offering second chances.

We believe in a God who knew that we would lose our way,
And still said, “This is my body broken for you.”

We believe in a God who knew our capacity for mistakes,
And still said, “I'm going to prepare a place for you.”

And because of this love,

We believe that God shows us the way,
Again and again and again.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Holy Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

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; and forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Words of Institution

Communion Music

Come, Thou, O Traveler Unknown

Festival Ringers

The Offering

Giving is a tangible sign of worship. During this interesting time in our world, we encourage you to continue to share your time, talent and treasure. You may also "Text to Give" to 73256. The body of the text needs to start with the keyword GIVETOSLPRES followed by the amount.

Hymn #402*

How Lovely, Lord

Benediction

Benediction Response

Postlude

The Fleecy Clouds Mendelssohn



SAINT LUKE'S

P R E S B Y T E R I A N C H U R C H

At-Home Virtual Communion

As part of our normal worship practice on the first Sunday of the month, and because we know that Jesus met people where they were and he continues to meet us where we are, our church family will celebrate At-Home Virtual Communion this Sunday.

During our online worship, the pastors will preside over the elements in their respective homes, offering the Invitation to the Lord's Supper, Prayer of Thanksgiving, and the Words of Institution. We are asking that each family then share the Lord's Supper together, using whatever elements you may have available, just as we often do on mission trips.

We encourage you to prepare for worship with the following ideas:

- Create a worship space, perhaps at the kitchen table or a coffee table. Feel free to place anything on the table that has special meaning for you, such as a special memento that reminds you of church or witnessing God in the world. Last week in worship, we talked about lighting a candle before worship each week as a reminder that God is with each of us wherever we are, therefore, we are all together through the Spirit.
- Remember how the pastors often say during the Lord's Supper, that Jesus uses ordinary things for extraordinary purposes? Well, this is one of those times that common things can represent God's grace to us. Please do not feel the need to purchase special bread or juice, we do not want to place that burden on you nor is it necessary. Use whatever you have in your home already – sliced bread, crackers, cookies, pretzels, any sort of juice, wine, water, or even a coke. You may consider placing the elements in cups and on a plate that is special to you.
- You may designate one person to serve or gather in a circle to pass the elements to one another. As you share the bread, you may say, "The bread of life" or "The body of Christ." As you share the cup, you may say, "The cup of salvation."

As Presbyterians, we believe that the Lord's Supper enacts and seals what the Word proclaims: God's sustaining grace offered to all people. The Lord's Supper is at once God's gift of grace, God's means of grace, and God's call to respond to that grace. Through the Lord's Supper, Jesus Christ nourishes us in righteousness, faithfulness, and discipleship. Through the Lord's Supper, the Holy Spirit renews the Church in its identity and sends the Church to mission in the world. This is what we celebrate when gather around the table – and in these days, though our tables are in many different places, our hearts and lives are bound together through Jesus's great love for each of us and all of us.

If you have any questions about celebrating the Lord's Supper in your home, feel free to reach out to one of the pastors.