

**Order of Worship for at Home Use**  
**Second Sunday after Easter, April 26, 2020**

Welcome to worship with Grace@Home!

We pray that you are blessed as you worship, that God will provide you with all hope and mercy as you enter into His Presence.

*Christ is RISEN!*

*He is RISEN INDEED!*

Today, as the joyful people of God, we continue to worship our Risen LORD, separate, but together, as God's family. Today is the Third Sunday in the Easter season. As we worship today we remember (and ask again) the question asked during the day of Pentecost, by the disciples, "What shall we do?" The answer given by Peter: "repent, believe and be baptized" is what we consider today.

Again today as we worship we acknowledge that we are in fearful and uncertain times, however, we also turn our hearts back to God and renew our belief in Him. As we do we repent of our sins, and remember what it means to be baptized in the name of God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit.

As we begin you are invited to **prepare your worship space**. This week as we worship, you are invited to decorate your worship space with images of water, or perhaps a bowl of water that you can touch during the service. You might want to spend some time this morning in a prolonged time of repentance and confession. You might do so with a pen and paper handy that you can write down your failings and later burn or throw them away as an act of accepting God's forgiveness, and the "clean slate" He offers. By the way, does anyone have chalk, eraser and a chalkboard handy? That would work wonderfully as we participate together in worship.



If you wish to worship via the video click this link:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIDH9rh\\_C4k](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YIDH9rh_C4k)

## **We Gather as God's Family to Worship**

Prelude "Morning Has Broken" Dr. David Dorway  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UkMwnkscxAU>

Welcome Pastor Dana Pope  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4ZBaXCgVvOM>

Call to Worship Pastor Dana Pope  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O8Fa9LW2bQ8>

*Gather around God is calling.  
Look up! He comes wherever we are, and draws us into His presence.  
Come to the waters for Holy Spirit is here.  
We are sealed by water and spirit, sealed by the blood of Christ.  
Praise God, for Christ is Risen! He is Risen, Indeed!  
Let us worship God!*

Hymn "Baptized in Water"  
Lisa Elliott, Dr. David Dorway, Jill  
Usry-Taylor  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=7wdx0DHBIRo>

Sharing the Peace of Christ

***The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you...  
and also with you.***

*In this time of social distancing it is important for us to remember that in Christ we are connected to all who believe in Jesus in every time and place. As the world continues to be isolated, and many are feeling anxious, as Christians we share the peace of Christ as a way to offer hope and the joy of Christ. Again today we use the familiar words, "The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you... and also with you."*

*Now, or after your time of worship, reach out via text, email, phone or video call, to someone outside of your home extending the invitation to enter into the peace of Christ with our faith community.*

*Praise God, that His peace is with us, always!*



Gracious God, You are the air that we breathe, our very life and breath...it is in You that we live and move and have our being. Bless us now with Your presence and fill us with Your Holy Spirit as we pray.

As we come to this time of prayer we seek Your forgiveness. For even in this time of isolation, we choose to go our own way over Yours. We choose immediate gratification over long term health and well being, and we damage others by our short tempers, harsh comments, and actions taken out of our own disappointment and frustration. Holy God, forgive us. Help us to care for ourselves and others with love in our eyes and kindness in our touch. Help us to be a witness to Your love for all that You made.

As we come to You today, Holy God, we come with many people and situations on our hearts and minds. We are concerned for ourselves, friends and family. So many who are struggling and uncertain in these times. Loved ones that we cannot be with. We pray Your hand would be upon us to guide and help, Your Spirit would uphold us, and Your presence would comfort. We ask now that You would work in mind or body or circumstance and that in Your mercy You would provide, heal, draw near, reveal Yourself, and rain down Your blessings.

Today, once again we pray for our world. Even as the spring sun shines, our world continues in darkness.

Today, we plead with You, O God, asking for intervention... for health, for discernment, innovation, provision, prosperity, and peace.

We lift all who are dealing with loneliness and anger, anxiety or pain. Bless them with Your presence, shine brightly Your light of hope and grant them faith and courage to seek Your way and reach out for help and assistance. By Your Spirit we pray that You would guide us to those that need a gentle reminder of how very much You love them.

We lift the many in our midst and around the world that are struggling with finances today. We ask God that You would provide wisdom and discernment as they navigate this financial shut down. Provide help as so many are waiting for jobs to become available and life to move forward. Grant them peace and vision as they worry about food and rent and how to provide for their families, may they also see opportunities on the horizon. Grant us, as Your family, wisdom and willing hands and feet to be hands that help - providing for those without and caring in tangible ways for Your children in Jesus name.

Today we lift up all who grieve. A tragedy in Canada has taken many lives, we have lost our own friends and family to sickness, and under current circumstances, all are unable to celebrate their lives, grieve and say goodbye. Help us, O God to help one another grieve well, even in these circumstances. We thank you, Holy God, that you walk with us now, holding us as we hold one another, grieving together. We pray for Your balm to cover us and give us Your great comfort and peace.

We pray these things as Jesus Himself taught us to pray saying... 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever, amen.

### **We Listen to God's Word**

Hymn/Praise

Jesus Loves Me

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=C63z5hCd7bc>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gzzjssuCkcE>

Today's children's sermon is a discussion of baptism and what baptism means to followers of Jesus. The children are challenged to understand baptism as an act of washing to get clean. This is just like washing our hands, only baptism washes our hearts and souls. Baptism is an outward sign of an inward truth. This is to say, baptism is the way we wash our souls. The children are challenged to think of the things in their life they need to wash clean. They are challenged to remember they are children of God and God will always help them be clean in their hearts if they just follow Him.

Special Music "Was it a Morning Like This?"

Lisa Elliott, Dr. David Dorway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MvctjwCUi-U>

Reading of the Word Acts 2:14, 36-41

Stephen Taylor

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IRxYBF0mXA0>

*<sup>14</sup> Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say.*

*<sup>36</sup> "Therefore let all Israel be assured of this: God has made this Jesus, whom you crucified, both Lord and Messiah."*

*<sup>37</sup> When the people heard this, they were cut to the heart and said to Peter and the other apostles, "Brothers, what shall we do?"*

*<sup>38</sup> Peter replied, "Repent and be baptized, every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ for the forgiveness of your sins. And you will receive the gift of the Holy Spirit. <sup>39</sup> The promise is for you and your children and for all who are far off—for all whom the Lord our God will call."*

*<sup>40</sup> With many other words he warned them; and he pleaded with them, "Save yourselves from this corrupt generation." <sup>41</sup> Those who accepted his message were baptized, and about three thousand were added to their number that day.*

Message

“What Shall We Do?”

Pastor Jim Houston-Hencken

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alRbaOeuKCI>

*This is the second Sunday of Easter. As we journey through what the church calls Eastertide we have, for the last three weeks, been to the tomb where the body of Christ was laid after His crucifixion, we have been with Mary as the angel announced Christ's resurrection. We have also been in the upper room with the disciples as they hid in fear and Jesus came to show them the proof of resurrection and new life. Today we are looking at the next part of the story where the word gets out to the community, the gathered people.*

*So here is what is going on. It is 50 days after Jesus has been killed and basically 47 days after His resurrection on Easter. This is the first Pentecost Sunday. People are gathered in Jerusalem where the disciples were still staying. The disciples did not know what to do as they waited for direction from God. As they are in the room together the Spirit of God touches the believers and Peter knows the story of Jesus Christ must be told. Peter then stands up and tells the story of Jesus's death and resurrection and how this story proves Jesus was the awaited messiah. Peter proclaims the time has come to follow God Almighty through his chosen Son.*

*This is the story of Pentecost, and I realize this is not Pentecost Sunday. We will revisit this story with our focus on the work of God's Spirit on May 31<sup>st</sup>, the day of Pentecost. Today we are going to look closely at the people who were there and what happens when people encounter God in a very real way.*

*So here is what happens in this story. Peter preaches his first sermon and, in his words, reveals the true grace of God. In response to Peter's words the people say, “what shall we do?”*

*What shall we do? That is one of the big questions in life. Whenever you are faced with a great revelation of truth in your life the question is: what shall I do? The answer, of course, if it is the truth you are faced with, is obedience. If you know what is right, the right thing to do is obedience to the truth.*

*This has always been true in the Bible. Adam and Eve are confronted with the knowledge of good and evil, what shall we do? The right thing would have been obedience. The people of God in the Exodus follow Moses to the mountain, and they encounter God*



*almighty. Their response to God is “whatever God requires we will do.” God then gives them the ten commandments and they have trouble with obedience, but they try. Joshua, at the end of His life, when he faces death and the future of His descendants challenges his people with the words, “choose this day whom you will serve. As for me and my house, we will serve the LORD”. This is obedience. Story after story in the Bible teach us that the truth, good news requires obedience.*

*Hasn't this proven true in your life? When you are confronted with the truth, it is genuinely good news, does it not require obedience? Think about it, if you heard that you could buy Microsoft or Apple for \$4 per share would you not be challenged with obedience. If you are faithful and buy, you will be blessed. If you wait for a different revelation you will lose. When good news is revealed it requires action. Great marriages are created because a couple take action to claim the love that has embraced them. Great acts of heroism happen because the right thing to do was revealed in someone's heart. Good news and truth require action.*

*“What shall we do,” ask the people when they face the good news of Jesus Christ in Peter's first sermon. To this Peter says, “repent, believe and be baptized.”*

*Repent means to literally turn around and start in a different direction. What direction are you challenged to take? The direction of the good news. If you are not following God, start. If you are being ignorant, learn and put what you learn to work. If you are doing harm, stop and start healing the harm you have done. Repent, says Peter.*

*And be baptized. I know what you are thinking, “Wow repentance I get, but the baptism thing seems kind of churchy! I am not taking off my clothes for a swim at church, and I do not want you to mess up my hair with that sprinkling stuff.”*

*Well, let us take a look at this baptism thing for a moment so we all understand what Peter was getting at. Baptism is an action that is found from the earliest days in the Bible. Baptism comes from the idea of washing. In the Old Testament it literally means to get clean. Like taking a bath or washing your hands. In the New Testament Paul understands that getting clean before God is both internal and*



*external. Baptism is the washing of your outside just like the Spirit of God washes your inside, your heart.*

*Paul also recognizes the image of being immersed in water. You know if you are immersed too long you drown! Paul says this going under the water is symbolic of dying and rising with Christ.*

*The final image Paul gives us is one after washing and bathing. He says that we wash and then we put on new clothes, clean clothes, the clothes of Christ. When we are made clean by God we are dressed like Christ. We become more Christlike*

*These are highly symbolic statements, but folks, symbols have meaning. That is why they are symbols! St Augustine summarized this symbolic theology with the statement that Baptism is an outward sign of an inward reality. In baptism we die and rise with Christ and we are washed clean before God.*

*What shall we do? What shall we do when we encounter the grace and truth of God? We should repent, turn from the things that are not true, turn to the things that are true, the things of God. And we should be baptized, at least we should recognize the inward reality of God Almighty. He is already acting to give you grace.*

*All of us need a little outward sign to remind us of what God has done. And all of us need a little repentance in life. After all, nobody's perfect, but God is willing to help you wash.*

Hymn

“The Prayer”

Stephen and Katharyne Taylor, Dr. David Dorway

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stBt\\_atUdmc](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=stBt_atUdmc)

## **We Respond to the Voice of God**

Tithes & Offerings

Pastor Dana Pope

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1YtjcpSRfBA>

In these moments, remember and share ways that God has brought light and life, joy and other blessings into your life this past week. In addition, share ways you will offer yourself to God today and in the days ahead. Take this time to return your tithe to the church via mail or online giving, using text to give or the following link:

<https://onrealm.org/gracepclv/-/give/now>

Offertory "The Heart of Worship"  
Kathy Koch and Savannah Scarlett  
[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=\\_ArupvwoqRQ](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_ArupvwoqRQ)

Offertory Prayer Pastor Dana Pope  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dnJPchgTl-0>

*Please pray with me: God of all creation, bless us as we offer all that we have and all that we are, Your tithes and our offerings, our time, talents, and energies. We pray, Heavenly Father, that You would bless them and multiply them for the good of Your kingdom and for the salvation of the world. Help us this week to remember that because of Your love we have all that we need, and enough to share with the world. We pray in Jesus' name, Amen.*

### **We Go with God to Love and Serve**

Closing Song "What a Beautiful Name"  
Kathy Koch and Dana Pope  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=39modcqdQr8>

Benediction <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=5Z5Bxk4vaXo>

As people touched by grace, remember your baptism. For you have been washed clean and raised to new life. So therefore, put on the clothes of Christ and go into our world, and, for heaven's sake, make a difference.

Postlude Toccata on "Praise God From Whom All Blessings Flow"  
Dr. David Dorway  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=b7R4MbRh6UA>

**As you continue to worship this week, please keep the following people in prayer, and reach out to one another in word or deed.**

### **In Need of Prayer**

Dolores Harris (*Merrill Gardens* )

Mary Phillips (*Legacy House*)

Bill Franklin (*Summerlin Hosp.*)

Judy Aitken, Becky Aldridge, Alice Black, Bill Carlston, Bob Clark,  
Carol Daniel, Ann Donithan, Rosamaria Duenas, Pennie Everhart,  
Joice Franklin, Mary Gafford, Greg Holt, Pam Kodey, Lara Kolberg,  
Dorell Koon, Carole McKinnis, Sherrie Miles, Beth More, Don Neeley,  
Maggie O'Donnell, Alice & Gary Oiler, Dodi Palmer, Russ & Pat Reid,  
Aminta & Jorge Santanilla, Marty Swartout, Nick Vogelzang, Sharon  
Wilson, Dick Wohletz, and Lynne Zenier.

### ***In Memoriam:***

Jack Crockett 3/18/2020

Randy Innis 3/18/2020

Clark Trapp 3/18/2020

Ruthy Stull 3/19/2020

Ted Phillips 4/1/2020

Violet Cross 4/4/2020