

## **Order of Worship for at Home Use Senior Sunday, May 17, 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.

Today, as the joyful people of God, we continue to worship our Risen LORD, separate, but together, as God's family. Today is the Sixth Sunday in the Easter season, AND worship is presented in large part by our graduating High School Seniors. In this time of separation, we continue to be God's family, and as we gather we celebrate with and for one another in life's hallmark moments.

May You be blessed by God's grace as we worship together.

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3-5bfZc4gk8>

Thank you to our Seniors and to Rhonda Reeves for your hard work on the worship service. We hope that you will take a moment to watch the video of the senior's biographies as we recognize all of our graduates. To watch, please click this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1NxzWij3KZo>

## We Gather as God's Family to Worship

Prelude "Duo" A Boely  
Dr. David Dorway, organist  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BbT--5TvmYM>

Welcome Pastor Dana Pope  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cFYf-MEJ9uA>

Call to Worship from Psalm 66  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-36NRUn82P8>

Praise God, O peoples,  
let the sound of His praise be heard;  
He has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping.  
God has surely listened and heard our voices.  
Praise be to God, who has not rejected us  
or withheld His love from us!  
Let us Worship God!

Hymn "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"  
Lisa Elliott and Dr. David Dorway  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OqU4EUTfVWk>

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!*

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer Jack Kotchka-Smith  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ygSjEzYEqtw>

*We pray these things as Jesus 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>

Children's Message

Rhonda Reeves

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vVxM0gHxFEI>

Special Music

“Oceans”

Jennifer Brinkley, Dana Pope, and Dr. David Dorway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V6dzTOx7WZc>

Reading of the Word

Acts 17:22-31

Jack Kotchka Smith

<https://www.youtube.com/video/DsIzfqLI0bU>

<sup>22</sup>Paul then stood up in the meeting of the Areopagus and said: "People of Athens! I see that in every way you are very religious. <sup>23</sup>For as I walked around and looked carefully at your objects of worship, I even found an altar with this inscription: to an unknown god. So you are ignorant of the very thing you worship-and this is what I am going to proclaim to you. <sup>24</sup>"The God who made the world and everything in it is the LORD of heaven and earth and does not live in temples built by human hands. <sup>25</sup>And he is not served by human hands, as if he needed anything. Rather, he himself gives everyone life and breath and everything else. <sup>26</sup>From one man he made all the nations, that they should inhabit the whole earth; and he marked out their appointed times in history and the boundaries of their lands. <sup>27</sup>God did this so that they would seek him and perhaps reach out for him and find him, though he is not far from any one of us. <sup>28</sup>'For in him we live and move and have our being.' As some of your own poets have said, 'We are his offspring.' <sup>29</sup>"Therefore since we are God's offspring, we should not think that the divine being is like gold or silver or stone-an image made by human design and skill. <sup>30</sup>In the past God overlooked such ignorance, but now he commands all people everywhere to repent. <sup>31</sup>For he has set a day when he will judge the world with justice by the man he has appointed. He has given proof of this to everyone by raising him from the dead."

Message

“To Whom Shall You Bow Down?”

Pastor Jim Houston-Hencken, Alexis Cline, Katherine Fine

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UMn5FdROlh0>

This morning we are continuing our study of Acts of the Apostles, the book of the Bible that chronicles the birth and life of the Church of Jesus Christ. It is the story of how the good news of God's grace spread to the world. It is the story of the lives of those who chose to follow Jesus Christ from the earliest days.

I know what you are thinking, "isn't this graduation Sunday? Let us get on with it and let the grads speak.!" That is why you are online with us. I know it but I also know that this text, this story of the early church is a great challenge to us and to our graduates. So, let me take just a moment to make the connection for you.

In today's story the Apostle Paul has traveled to Athens and he stands in the great square where philosophers and teachers would gather, and where people would worship. He looks around this educated and erudite community and notices that the culture worships many things. He notes that they even have a statue dedicated to the unknown God. Literally meaning in the Greek language, the God we do not know of but might be out there so let us worship it just in case we have missed one.

Paul sees this and basically, he says, let me tell you about the God you have missed. He then tells the story of Jesus and introduces the Greek and Roman elites to the grace and goodness of God. The implied question here is, with all these things the world worships, follows and bows down to, which one will you choose?

That is the challenge of today isn't it? We are celebrating our graduates today. These are high school grads, college grads, master's degree earners and a newly Christened Doctor of Musical Arts. We celebrate with these students and we recognize that they face the same question of those in this morning's text. With all the things our world worships and bows down to, what will you do with your education, who will your worship and to whom will you bow down?

I can tell you that I know these graduates and you can be assured that through the ministry of this church, they have all been introduced to the grace of God. These are exceptional students and the future looks bright because of them and what God is doing in their lives. You just heard one of our grads, Jack Kotchka Smith read this morning scripture. For me it seems like yesterday when Jack was baptized in our church. He was young, not an infant, more of a toddler. I will never forget because Jack is the only child I ever baptized that, when taken down the aisle, he reached out and high fived every member in the center aisle who would put their hand up. Truly a great baptism and I know God was smiling that day.

Now you will hear from two more of our high school grads, Alexis Cline and Katherine Fine. Listen to their stories. These are exceptional young women who have become leaders of our youth program. As you listen you will be moved by the fact that they have been touched by Grace and they know who they will worship and serve, these two are great examples of Children of God.

**We Respond to the Voice of God**

Tithes & Offerings

Pastor Dana Pope

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x7hq7XJXQsg>

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

“Be Thou My Vision”

Dana Pope and Dr. David Dorway

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z\\_4dkHuO3Po](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z_4dkHuO3Po)

Offertory Prayer

Pastor Dana Pope

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=takqpW7QB8s>

*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

“Because He Lives”

Lisa Elliott and Dr. David Dorway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=out0e0Q99wg>

Benediction

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

**For the Graduates**

Dr. Suess

“And will you succeed?  
Yes! You will, indeed!  
(98 and  $\frac{3}{4}$  perfect guaranteed.)

**KID, YOU’LL MOVE MOUNTAINS!**

So...  
Be your name Buxbaum, or Bixby or Bray  
or Mordecai Ali Van Allen O'Shea,  
you're off to Great Places!  
Today is your day!  
Your Mountain is waiting  
So...*get on your way!*

A benediction **for all of us**

*May the road rise up to meet you.  
May the wind be always at your back.  
May the sun shine warm upon your face;  
the rains fall soft upon your fields  
May you live to see your children's children  
and until we meet again,  
may God hold you in the palm of His hand.*

Postlude

“Trumpet Tune”

J. Stanley

Dr. David Dorway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QOhYxUZsl9o>

**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*)

Judy Aitken, Becky Aldridge, Alice Black, Bill Carlston, Bob Clark,  
Carol Daniel, Ann Donithan, Rosamaria Duenas, Pennie Everhart,  
Joice Franklin, Mary Gafford, 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, Lynne Zenier, Kathy Koch.

### ***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  
Bill Franklin 5/4/2020  
Greg Holt 5/7/2020