

Order of Worship for at Home Use

June 21, 2020

Welcome to worship with Grace@Home!

We are GLAD YOU are HERE!

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=dIxxnU3ouXw>

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

Even as our world is hurting and divided, as the joyful people of God, we continue to worship our Risen LORD. We are separate, but by the mystery of faith, we are also together, a part of God's family and united in Christ. In this time of separation and unrest, we remember that God has called us to be His people. That calling that began with Abram and Sarai extends through the generations to us. It is within that calling to be a part of God's family that we find our purpose - our individual callings as the children of God. I pray blessings will be abundant as we enter into God's grace together in worship, and that Holy Spirit fills each of us with holy fire and a real sense of God's presence, purpose, and peace.

In the love of Christ,

Pastor Dana

We Gather as God's Family to Worship

Prelude "Faith of our Fathers" arr M. Burkhardt
Dr. David Dorway, organist
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=zhYhcuc-ohM>

Welcome Pastor Dana Pope
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=p6KCyYWTdfQ>

Call to Worship from Psalm 86
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9Ovd3aYN0gc>

**We are poor and needy - hungry for more than this world can give
Let us gather around God's throne of grace.
We trust in You to guard our lives
We praise Your holy name.
We call to You and You answer
You are our God. We worship You.
We seek Your face and Your hand
You give us purpose and life abundant
Let us gather our hearts and let us worship our God.**

Hymn "10,000 Reasons (Bless the Lord)" M. Redman
Kathy Koch, Savannah Scarlett & Family
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ttr2XJnDxk8>

Sharing the Peace of Christ

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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WWL-ZzdWC2A>

In this time of social distancing and unrest it is important for us to remember that in Christ we are united with all who believe in Jesus in every time and place. As Christians we share the peace of Christ as a way to offer hope and joy and connection to one another through Christ. So, as we worship today we use the familiar words, "The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all ... 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 family of faith.

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

Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3f5Jgkd3P94>

Holy God, Father of us all, we come to You today grateful for Your calling on our lives, for Your hand of provision and guidance and love. We carry many things in our hearts and minds as we gather together to pray on this day. Now, in Your presence we lay all of our praises and prayers, our petitions and worries at Your feet. Thank You for being ever more ready to hear, than we are to pray.

God we plead with You to work in our nation and this world - bring forth understanding and unity, bring forth justice and peace. We ask that you work in mind or body or circumstance in our lives and for those known to us. So many are struggling, are sick, are lonely. We ask for Your hand to be upon all who suffer today. Send Your Holy Spirit to minister to them, healing and providing in their time of need. God we ask for deliverance and salvation for all who are lost, we pray for Your shalom to permeate our lives and grant us peace that passes all understanding. In that shalom, we pray that You would make us instruments of peace and reflections of the light of Jesus Christ.

God, You are our generous Father, Abba, gracious and holy, perfect and loving. On this father's day weekend we ask that You would bless all of those among us who are living into their calling as fathers, grandfathers and great-grandfathers. Help them to be even more like Christ as they balance demands of work and marriage and raising children. We pray Your hand would be upon them as they strive to be good role models and teachers, coaches and encouragers. Help them to share their faith and the gospel message with their children.

God, we acknowledge that, like all of humanity, sometimes fathers get turned around and make mistakes, wound others and do harm. We pray for reconciliation, for forgiveness and for redemption. We pray God for second chances and for grace. As we pray we ask that You would touch old wounds and broken places with Your healing hand and mend them in Your great mercy and love.

Today O God, we pray for men who long to be fathers but instead are called to mentor others and work to inspire both adults and children that are not their own. Help them to know that they are a blessing. We lift up men who are new to fatherhood - with sleepless nights and delight in first laughs and steps. Grant them grace to live well in these days.

We lift up fathers who have lost children to death or estrangement.
Give them peace.

We praise You for fathers who are raising young men and women in their teenage years. Grant them an extra measure of discernment, patience and wisdom.

We pray for our fathers who are struggling, infirm, ill or aging. Grant them grace and healing and mercy.

Today we praise You for our faith filled fathers who have died, and who now live on in our memories. Help us to share their stories and live into their legacy of faith and service.

Today, great God, we ask that Your hand would be upon all of us. That Your Spirit would speak to us and spark in us a fire for living into our calling as Your children. Speak to us of our purpose and fill us with a desire to follow Your leading and live boldly into our calling.

We pray these things in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord, Who 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

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=pZzQry7iTpM>

Today ask your children who they want to be when they grow up and what choices they must make to become the grown-up they want to be. In the children's sermon the children are shown a map that demonstrates that if we want to arrive at a destination we must make choices about our direction. The children are further challenged to make good decisions that help them follow God and lead them on the journey that ends with them becoming the person God wants.

Special Music

“Give Thanks”

D. Moen

Kathy Koch & Savannah Scarlett

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fuHVXP_nmE4

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R598kOnu7Tg>

²⁷ This is the account of Terah's family line. Terah became the father of Abram, Nahor and Haran. And Haran became the father of Lot. ²⁸ While his father Terah was still alive, Haran died in Ur of the Chaldeans, in the land of his birth. ²⁹ Abram and Nahor both married. The name of Abram's wife was Sarai, and the name of Nahor's wife was Milkah; she was the daughter of Haran, the father of both Milkah and Iskah. ³⁰ Now Sarai was childless because she was not able to conceive.

³¹ Terah took his son Abram, his grandson Lot son of Haran, and his daughter-in-law Sarai, the wife of his son Abram, and together they set out from Ur of the Chaldeans to go to Canaan. But when they came to Harran, they settled there.

³² Terah lived 205 years, and he died in Harran.

¹ The LORD had said to Abram, "Go from your country, your people and your father's household to the land I will show you.

² "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing."^[a]

³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."^[b]

⁴ So Abram went, as the LORD had told him; and Lot went with him. Abram was seventy-five years old when he set out from Harran. ⁵ He took his wife Sarai, his nephew Lot, all the possessions they had accumulated and the people they had acquired in Harran, and they set out for the land of Canaan, and they arrived there.

⁶ Abram traveled through the land as far as the site of the great tree of Moreh at Shechem. At that time the Canaanites were in the land. ⁷ The LORD appeared to Abram and said, "To your offspring^[c] I will give this land." So he built an altar there to the LORD, who had appeared to him.

Message

"Father Abraham"

Pastor Jim Houston-Hencken

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=4Fl-qUWjH2Q>

As you know, we have been looking at the book of Genesis for the past couple of weeks and the theology of the Christian faith that finds its foundations in the beginning, at creation. As we began, back in the beginning, we learned that the Bible teaches that there is a God and that God has a relationship with creation. This is the doctrine of God. We also learned that God is a creator God and that what God creates is good. Additionally, we learned from the earliest scriptures that there is nothing in creation that is greater than the creator. We learned that creation is good because God says it is good and that human beings are created in God's image. This is the doctrine of creation. The Bible reveals this in its first two chapters of the holy scriptures.

After learning about God and creation, we learn about human beings. We saw that, after being made by God, humankind has used its free will to turn from God and seek independence. These actions led to the fall from grace and the curse. Throughout history human beings have turned their back on God and there have been consequences. The book of Genesis gives us many stories to illustrate our fall from grace. Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel, the Tower of Babel, and Noah are just a few in the early chapters of Genesis. Together, we have learned that we fail in what we do, what we do not do, in how we treat others and in the corporate actions; we take within the groups we participate. We skipped this story, but that is as the story of Noah when the Bible tells us that when God looked at the people he created, humankind, he saw that every inclination of their hearts was evil.

The story of Noah, however, does not leave us with judgment and destruction that the earth and human beings deserved after rebellion, rather the story of Noah ends with promise, rainbows and grace. Because God finds righteousness in one man, Noah, the world is saved from the destruction it deserves and God makes a promise, a covenant that He will not destroy all life again. God begins a new phase of Human history with Noah.

Now we come to Abraham. Abraham is the beginning of the history of the Jewish people as a people, and Christians for that matter. It is from the line of Abraham that Jesus will come. It is from the Jewish people that the promise of God to save the world comes to all who would follow God.

So here is the deal. Abraham lived around 1900 years BC. Maybe even further back than that. We do believe, however, that he lived in the middle bronze age. He lived in Ur of the Chaldean and was called both a Hebrew and an Aramean. The Arameans lived in

the region around Ur. Ur was in Mesopotamia, in the area that is now called Iraq between the Tigris and Euphrates rivers. Abraham was first called Abram and he was a nomadic shepherd who was born to a man named Terah. His people worshipped many Gods of nature and Gods created out of idols. They were a religious people but their religious loyalty did not go deep as they would worship the Gods of whoever was strongest.

The times in which Abram lived were difficult. There was neither central government nor any social welfare. If you could feed yourself, you lived. If you could not work or fell on hard times, well, you probably died. All the people had was their possessions and their families. In fact, family was the only social network to help you out in need. These were difficult times.

Now, we know from the previous stories of Genesis that the world had gone bad. The people were not faithful. They followed their own desires. They exercised their freewill for personal gain and selfishness. The world was being populated, as God commanded, but not by people who sought after God's will.

In Abraham, we see God's plan in history to begin to take shape. It is in the context of a world that had turned evil and people had only family to rely on that God calls Abram who will become Abraham. God says leave your home, your family, your people and all that is comfortable to you. Leave home and trust me God says to Abram.

In this process Abram gets a new name. Abram means exalted father while Abraham means father of multitudes. And this is the first promise Abraham gets from God.

² "I will make you into a great nation, and I will bless you; I will make your name great, and you will be a blessing.^[a]³ I will bless those who bless you, and whoever curses you I will curse; and all peoples on earth will be blessed through you."^[b]

So, what we see with the story of Abram or Abraham is that it is God who calls and God who blesses. Abraham was no hero. He was a man who betrayed his wife --twice. He was a man of his culture, but he was not a hero. Yet, God calls him and the one thing he does well, is that he goes when he is called. Abram was faithful in the beginning of this story. In fact, Abraham struggles with his faith yet he never gives it up. He is an average guy who simply does what God asks.

God's promise to Abraham is not fulfilled in its entirety until David is King and the Kingdom of Israel reaches its Zenith. Nevertheless, Abraham is faithful. God calls, Abram responds.

Abraham teaches us that God calls ordinary people. with all our brokenness God still calls us to extraordinary things that can change history. In each of us there is the potential to do good things and bad. God can redeem the bad and bless the good. What it requires is the simple faithfulness of Abraham.

Abram was faithful. He did not see the conclusion of the plan that God had laid out for him. He did however respond to the call that started God's great work of salvation. In that earliest call, God made a promise of a future, people, and a place. When Moses comes, God further explains the covenant. He adds the idea that God's called people will be His priests. Priests serve God by serving others. Abraham put all this in motion.

Today, God is still calling people. He is calling us to put our faith, our theology into practice. We believe that all people are created in the image of God. If we believe this, then we should treat each other accordingly. We believe that all human beings are fallen and capable of good and evil. If we believe this, we should seek to follow God's goodness and turn from human sin. This begins with us, the people called by God to make a difference. If we simply have the faith of Abraham, we can change the world and be part of healing its brokenness.

We Respond to the Voice of God

Tithes & Offerings

Pastor Dana Pope

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hh78isRINpE>

Giving is an act of faith, grace and trust. Giving is an action that faithful people take, in and by, their worship. So, as the people of God, in response to God's word and His blessings, and with the power of the Holy Spirit, we give back to God what He has generously given to us. Take this time to re-dedicate yourself to God's ministry and mission in the church and in the world. Take some time this week to practice living with open hearts and hands, to reach out in love with words of peace and justice and grace...and to return God's tithes and offerings to the church. Our online giving link:

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

Offertory

“O Lord, Be Merciful”

H. Bartlett

Dr. Lisa Elliott and Dr. David

Dorway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PBpTI-WDEFo>

Offertory Prayer

Pastor Dana Pope

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=W2h4JS7lxKo>

God, Who gives life and breath, bless us now as we offer ourselves, and these Your tithes and offerings - multiply all of it for Your purposes. We ask that Your world and Kingdom would be blessed by all we offer. Help us in these moments, and in the days ahead to work for peace and be bearers of love and grace in this world. In Jesus' name we pray that Your kingdom would come. Amen.

We Go with God to Love and Serve

Closing Song

“Faith of Our Fathers”

Dr. Lisa Elliott and Dr. David Dorway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O3hdNN75geE>

Benediction

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=1SerTK3N3cM>

The grace of Christ attend you
The love of God surround you
The Holy Spirit keep you
That you may live in faith
Abound in hope
And grow in love
Both now and forevermore

Postlude

“Trumpet Tune in D Major”

H. Purcell

Dr. David

Dorway

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8aLVauhEuT0>

We Go to God in Prayer

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

Dolores Harris (*Merrill Gardens*)

Judy Aitken, Becky Aldridge, Alice Black, Bill Carlston, Bob Clark,

Carol Daniel, Ann Donithan, Rosamaria Duenas, Pennie Everhart,
Joice Franklin, Mary Gafford, Mary Phillips, Kathy Koch, Pam Kodey,
Lara Kolberg, Dorell Koon, Carole McKinnis, Sherrie Miles, Beth More,
Pennie Everhart, Louis Ramero, Maggie O'Donnell, Alice & Gary Oiler,
Dodi Palmer, Russ & Pat Reid, Aminta & Jorge Santanilla, Marty
Swartout,
Nick Vogelzang, Sharon Wilson, and Dick Wohletz

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
Carol Mohr 5/25/2020