

**St. Paul's United Church of Christ
Woodstock, VA 22664**

March 15, 2020

Note: links for music can be accessed by “right clicking” on the link. Songs from YouTube may have ads. Please know that we have no interest (financial or otherwise) in what is being advertised. Please skip as you are able. The YouTube links may include the lyrics to the music, so that you can sing along. Imagine Christian Karaoke.

Feel free to follow the order of worship below, reading aloud the Call to Worship, Prayer of Confession, Assurance of Pardon, Apostle's Creed, Prayers of the People, and the Lord's Prayer.

THE CHURCH GATHERS

PRELUDE

(During the prelude, let us be in silence preparing our hearts for worship.)

SILENT PRAYER FOR MEDITATION

Loving and caring God, we come this morning in hope - hope that will sustain us in our trying times, our lonely times, our doubting times. Refresh us this morning with the living water of your presence and love. Open us to the possibilities of friendship - the possibilities of encountering you in unexpected ways, the possibilities of seeing the miraculous in everyday life. Amen.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

L: We have gathered in the presence of God our creator, who sets before us the ways of life and death.

P: We have gathered in the presence of Jesus the Christ, who calls us to accept the cost of discipleship that we may know its joy.

L: We have gathered in the presence of the Spirit, who sustains us in trial and rejoicing.

P: In our living and in our dying, we belong to God. In the shadow of God's wings we sing for joy. Let us worship God.

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN #655 “Come Away from Rush and Hurry”**

<https://www.sheetmusicplus.com/title/god-s-peace-sheet-music/19774252>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ApA-OHaNe-w> (ad free)

TO OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

***CALL TO CONFESSION**

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Patient and ever-faithful God, we come to you this morning confessing that we can be a grumpy and unsatisfied people. When things are not perfect in our eyes, we murmur and complain, and grumble and doubt. We lose hope in the people around us and, even worse, we lose hope in you. We challenge instead of accept. We put you to the test rather than trust your caring love. Forgive our doubts and complaining. Forgive our loss of hope. Let your healing, life-giving waters pour over us. Restore our souls. Amen.

***SILENT CONFESSION**

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

Because of God's great love for us, we have peace with God and access to God's grace all through Jesus Christ who, while we were still sinners, died to free us from the bondage of sin. Therefore, we may ask of Christ to give us the living water that quenches the dryness of our souls. In this we know we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

***GLORIA PATRI #73**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QpJPlfMtXPk> (ad free)

<http://woodstockucc.com/Music/Gloria%20Patri2.mp3>

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

TIME FOR CHILDREN

"Living Water"

ANTHEM

"Into the Woods My Master Went"

<https://www.jwpepper.com/sheet-music/media-player.jsp?&type=audio&productID=10661586>

<http://woodstockucc.com/Music/Into%20the%20Woods.mp3> (Layla Baker played this in 2017.)

SCRIPTURE

John 4:5-42

SERMON

"Spreading Love (not Viruses)"

TO RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

***HYMN #505 "All the Way My Savior Leads Me"**

<https://www.jwpepper.com/sheet-music/media-player.jsp?&type=audio&productID=10554058>

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BEOfFEs0Jos> (ad free)

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** The Apostles Creed

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

On the third day he rose again;

he ascended into heaven,

he is seated at the right hand of the Father,

and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,**

**the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Holy God, our shelter in times of trouble, we come to you in the midst of anxiety and fear from the threat of COVID 19.

We ask that you would be with all nations and their leaders, give them wisdom to act with foresight for the well-being of all those they are meant to serve. Give them humility to work together with others within their own countries and with the leaders of all nations. May their words be honest and their actions just and merciful.

We ask that our state and local leaders, as well as military personal and first responders would act with prudence as they serve together for the good of all. Protect them from harm, and be their source of strength.

We ask that medical personnel and scientists be blessed with the wisdom of the Great Physician, that they might develop treatments, help and comfort the sick, and also find refuge in you.

We ask that you would protect those who are at greatest risk, the elderly, the chronically ill, and those living on the edge, one pay check away from homelessness and hunger. May they be prudent about self-care, and assured of your love.

We ask that you would be with our schools, teachers, students, and the parents and others who are affected by temporary closures. Guide them as they discern how to balance care for their families and themselves with the financial burdens they bear. May their basic needs be supplied.

We ask that you would comfort those who have family members who are sick, or have died. Give them peace in the midst of their grief, release them from worry, and assure them of life everlasting in you.

Help us to hear anew your words through the prophet Isaiah, "Fear not, for I am with you, do not be afraid for I am your God." (Isaiah 41:10) And these words through your son, Jesus, "Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid." (John 14:27) Come to our aid now, that we might experience your healing presence and love. This we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

SILENT PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (using "debt and debtors")

PRAYER RESPONSE HYMN #490 "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BvwwsD1HB14> (ad free)

<http://woodstockucc.com/Music/Hear%20Our%20Prayer2.mp3>

TO OFFER OUR GIFTS TO GOD

MORNING OFFERING

Please fill out the attendance information on the pad found in the pew. Just leave the pad in the pew to be picked up after worship. Thank you!

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY MUSIC

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE HYMN** Doxology

https://hymnary.org/tune/gloria_patri_greatorex (ad free)

<http://woodstockucc.com/Music/Doxology2.mp3>

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

TO GO INTO THE WORLD TO SERVE

***CLOSING HYMN #436 Grace Alone**

<https://www.jwpepper.com/sheet-music/media-player.jsp?&type=audio&productID=10072050>

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CK_dwXcK86E (has an ad you can skip)

***BLESSING AND BENEDICTION**

***MUSICAL BENEDICTION**

*** POSTLUDE**