

Order for Home Worship
Platte Christian Reformed Church
March 22, 2020

Dear Platte CRC Family,

This is provided to you as a resource enabling us to continue worshipping ‘together,’ even if separately. It may be helpful to designate someone in your home, preferably the head of household, as the primary reader, but this is an excellent opportunity to involve everyone, especially children, in either reading Scripture or praying. Perhaps you could also invite a neighbor or some friends or extended family into your home as well. My hope and my prayer is that God might use this unusual time to do an unusual work of grace in your home as you seek Him together in this very different manner!

Pastor Drew

Praise of God

Pray for God’s presence and blessing:

*Almighty God,
to whom our hearts are open,
our desires are known,
and from whom no secrets are hidden:
cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the gracious power of Your Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love You
and worthily magnify Your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.*

Read Psalms 124:8 - “Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.”
Amen.

Songs of Praise: Here you could either make use of your own technology, singing along with various recordings, or you could also sing together the following lyrics of Psalm 100 to the familiar tune of the ‘doxology’:

*All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with mirth, His praise forth tell,
Come ye before Him and rejoice.*

*Because the Lord our God is good,
His mercy is forever sure;*

*His truth at all times firmly stood,
And shall from age to age endure.*

Testify to our faith by reading together Psalm 23.

Reconciliation with God

Read this **call to confession**:

Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, you hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness.
[Matthew 23:27-28]

Pray this **confession**:

*Almighty and most merciful Father,
we have erred and strayed from Your ways like lost sheep,
we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts, we have
offended against Your holy laws,
we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
and we have done those things which we ought not to have done, and so we are
helpless without You.
O Lord, have mercy upon us, miserable offenders, spare us, as we confess our faults,
according to Your promises declared to us in Christ Jesus our Lord, and grant, O most
merciful Father, for His sake,
that we may from now on live a godly, righteous, and devout life,
to the glory of Your holy name.
Amen.*

Read our **Guide for Thankful Living** from Exodus 20:3-17

*"You shall have no other gods before me.
"You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in
heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth.
You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous
God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth
generation of those who hate me, but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who
love me and keep my commandments.
"You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold
him guiltless who takes his name in vain.
"Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. Six days you shall labor, and do all your
work, but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any
work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or
your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. For in six days the LORD made*

heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day.
Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.
“Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.
“You shall not murder.
“You shall not commit adultery.
“You shall not steal.
“You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.
“You shall not covet your neighbor’s house; you shall not covet your neighbor’s wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor’s.”

Thanksgiving to God

Pray a prayer of your own, focusing on thanksgiving and our needs, or use the following:

*O God, the Creator and Preserver of all mankind:
We humbly intercede on behalf of all people, that You would be pleased to make Your ways known to them, Your saving grace to all nations. [Specific prayers may be added for missions / missionaries and church plants / church planters.]
More especially, we pray for the universal church, that it may be so guided and governed by Your Holy Spirit, that all who profess to be and call themselves Christians may be led into the way of truth and embrace the faith in the unity of the Spirit, in the bond of peace, and in righteousness of life.
Finally, we commend to Your fatherly goodness all those who are in any way afflicted or distressed in mind, body, or any other way. We especially pray for [specific needs are mentioned]. May it please You to comfort and relieve them, according to their particular needs, giving them patience in their sufferings and a blessed deliverance out of all their afflictions.
All this we ask for Jesus Christ’s sake. Amen.*

We are asking that you submit any **offering** to the church for either the General Fund (in corresponding envelopes) or for **the Gideons** by this coming Wednesday, March 25. Either drop them (a personal check, preferably) off in the ‘Deacons’ basket placed near the entryway of church, or send them via U.S. mail to P.O. Box 386.

Guidance from God

~ This message will be posted by Sunday morning on our church website at www.plattecrc.org/sermons. ~

Scripture Text: **Romans 8:15-39**

Sermon: Facing Our Fears [4] – “Anxiety About Suffering and Death”

Sending by God

Once again, make use of music in a way that would be most enjoyable for you. The hymn 'How Firm a Foundation' was originally planned here. If you'd like to sing together *a cappella* once again, an easy and familiar choice would be the hymn 'Amazing Grace.'

*Amazing grace! How sweet the sound,
That saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost, but now am found,
Was blind, but now I see.*

*'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,
And grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear
The hour I first believed.*

*When we've been there ten thousand years
Bright shining as the sun,
We've no less days to sing God's praise
Than when we'd first begun.*

Read 2 Corinthians 13:14 – "May the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen."