

TLC In-Home Worship (Personal/Family)

Note from PM: Greetings from TLC! My family and I miss you deeply. We are praying for you and asking for your prayers in return. Until we can safely meet in the sanctuary again, here is a service for you to use in your home. While at-home worship is a bit different to be sure, it is a very good thing to practice for all of us. I hope you find it to be a blessing for your faith and life with Jesus Christ!



Opening Prayer: O God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, thank You for this day You have made! As we come to worship, please open our hearts to all Your great mercies that are new with each morning, that we may turn from our sins, trust in Christ our Savior, and grow in grace and holiness. In Jesus' name. Amen!

(Make a sign of the cross (nose, belly button, nose, left ear, right ear, nose) to remember your baptism. Having water available to dip your hand(s) is also a good practice at this time. Remember always: You are a child of God!)

Leader: In the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. **All: Amen.**

Leader: This is the day the Lord has made! **All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

Leader: From the rising of the sun to the place of its setting: **All: the name of the Lord is to be praised!**

(Take a moment in quiet reflection to confess your sins. Remember that silence is a great blessing for time with God.)

Leader: Let us confess our sins to God our Father:

All: Almighty God, please have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.

Leader: Because of God's great mercy, Jesus Christ was sent in order to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus, He gives the grace to become His own children and grants them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord continue His good work within us! **All: Amen. Thanks be to God!**

Refrain: Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

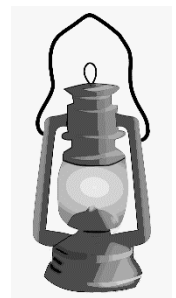
Thy Word is a lamp unto my feet and a light unto my path.

*When I feel afraid, think I've lost my way, still You're there right beside me,
And nothing will I fear as long as You are near. Please be near me to the end. Refrain*

Now I will not forget Your love for me and yet my heart forever is wandering.

Jesus, be my guide and hold me to Your side, and I will love you to the end. Refrain

(Thy Word, All God's People Sing #247)



(Feel free to slow down with the Ten Commandments & Apostles' Creed as an opportunity to work on memorization or specific application of one of the commandments / sections of the creed. These are fundamentals of our faith. Christians have always believed that they cannot be "overdone"- the more we focus on them, the better!

All: 1. You shall have no other gods. 2. You shall not take God's name in vain. 3. Remember the Sabbath day by keeping it holy. 4. Honor your father and your mother. 5. You shall not murder. 6. You shall not commit adultery. 7. You shall not steal. 8. You shall not give false testimony against your neighbor. 9. You shall not covet your neighbor's house. 10. You shall not covet anything else that belongs to your neighbor.

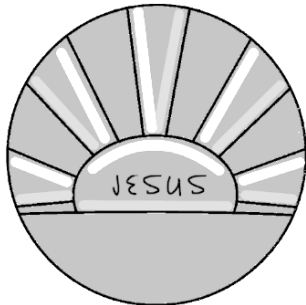
All: I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth. And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From there He will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Leader: Let us pray a blessing on God's Holy Word:

All: Lord, thank You for the gift of grace that is Your Word. Help us to listen, learn, and grow. Holy Spirit, You are welcome here! Please accomplish Your work in us today. We pray this in Jesus' name. Amen.

(Open your Bible(s) and read JOHN 1:1-18. If gathered as a family, consider each person read verse-by-verse.)

Think/Talk About It



The light shines in the darkness...

1. What do we learn about Jesus (called "The Word") here from this passage? See if you can identify (at least) three different answers.
2. Why do you think so many people are afraid of the dark? What are some different sources of light that help us see?
3. Who was John and what was his job?
4. What does this passage say about HOW and WHY Jesus came into the world?
5. Look up John 8:12. How does following Jesus help us see life more clearly when we feel like we're surrounded by so much darkness?

All: Lord, we give You today what is already Yours, because You have given Your all for us. Help us to give our lives in return- our time, talents, and treasures- out of love for You and the sake of Your work in the world. Help us be cheerful givers today. In Jesus' name. Amen. (TLC-Medford members: see note below)

(Take a moment to pray to God. Remember the "2 Best Prayers We Know: 'Thank You for...'" and 'Please help...'.") If gathered as a family, consider giving every person an opportunity to pray. Go around multiple times if you'd like!

All: 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

Leader: God is good!

All: All the time!

Leader: And all the time-

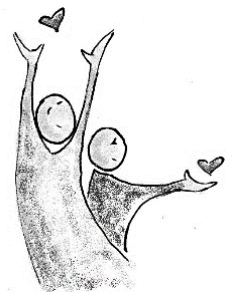
All: God is good!

Leader: Let us bless the Lord!

All: Thanks be to God!

***Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.***

Common Doxology



Optional Activity: Shine a Little Light

Gather a candle and a match (parents, please help if needed) and come together in one room of your house. Draw the shades, shut the blinds and turn off lamps to make the room as dark as possible. Then go ahead and light the candle. How did the darkness make you feel? What happened to the darkness when the candle was lit, and how did the light make you feel? Talk again about how God is described as the Light of the world and how His light is always shining in the darkness and what that means for our lives of faith. Say a prayer of thanksgiving to Him and ask for His continued guidance and protection.