

WORSHIP GUIDE FOR SUNDAY, MARCH 22

the Fourth Sunday in Lent

Setting Your Space

Worshipping from home means you can do it really however you want - stand and sit on your own impulse, sing as loudly or as quietly as you like, pray with your eyes closed or your hands raised, let your bare feet touch the holy ground of your kitchen floor. It might be nice to gather some objects that help you connect with the sacred - a Bible, an icon, a flower, a special gift that reminds you of how loved you are. You might want to light a candle at the beginning of our time together, or as we join in prayer. You might want to have a special cloth you bring out each week to lay on a nearby table - your own at-home altar. It can be as simple or as elaborate as you like.

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Lenten Song

Kyrie, kyrie eleison. Kyrie, kyrie eleison.
Christe, Christe eleison. Christe, Christe eleison.
Kyrie, kyrie eleison. Kyrie, kyrie eleison.

Gathering Song: *Be Thou My Vision*

Be Thou my vision, O God of my heart
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art
Thou my best thought, by day or by night
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light

Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true word
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord
Thou my Creator, I Thy true child
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one

Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise
Thou mine inheritance, now and always
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart
Ruler of Heaven, my treasure Thou art

Ruler of Heaven, my victory won
May I reach Heaven's joys, O bright Heav'n's Sun
Heart of my own heart, whate'er befall
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all

Communal Prayer *by Christina Cleveland*

Our Father, Mother, who are in the world and surpass the world, blessed be your presence, in us, in animals and flowers, in still air and wind. May justice and peace dwell among us, as you come to us. Your will be our will; You will that we be sisters and brothers, as bread is bread, water is itself, for our hunger, for quenching of thirst. Forgive us. We sometimes walk crookedly in the world, are perverse, and fail our promise. But we would be human, if only you consent to stir up our hearts. Amen.

Scripture: Matthew 19:16-26

Someone came up to Jesus and asked, "Teacher, what good must I do to inherit eternal life?"

Jesus replied, "Why do you ask me about what is good? There is only One who is good. But if you wish to enter Life, keep the commandments."

"Which ones?" the youth asked.

Jesus replied, "No killing. No committing adultery. No stealing. No bearing false witness. Honor your parents. Love your neighbor as yourself."

The youth said to Jesus, "I have kept all of these. What more do I need to do?"

Jesus said, "If you want to be perfect, go and sell what you own and give the money to poor people, and you will have treasure in heaven. Then come and follow me." Upon hearing this the youth, whose possessions were many, went away sadly.

Jesus said to the disciples, "The truth is, it is difficult for a rich person to enter the kingdom of heaven. I'll say it again – it is easier for a camel to pass through the Needle's Eye gate than for the wealthy to enter the kingdom of heaven."

When the disciples heard this, they were astonished. "Then who can be saved?" they said.

Jesus looked at them and said, "For mortals it is impossible, but for God everything is possible."

Response Song: We Have Come

We have come by way of struggle; we have come by way of pain;
We have come by all your steadfast love, O revive our souls again.

We have come to lay our burdens down; we have come to shed our shame;
We have come to taste your boundless grace and to rise as people changed.

We have come to spread your ways of peace; we have come to break the chains;
We have come to stand with Jesus; lead us on into your reign.
Lead us on into your reign. Lead us on into your reign.

Going Forth Song: *Joy of the Lord*

Though the tears may fall,
my song will rise,
My song will rise to you.
Though my heart may fail,
my song will rise,
My song will rise to you.
While there's breath in my lungs,
I will praise you, Lord.

In the dead of night,
I'll lift my eyes,
I'll lift my eyes to you.
When the waters rise,
I'll lift my eyes,
I'll lift my eyes to you.
While there's hope in this heart,
I will praise you, Lord.

The joy of the Lord is my strength
The joy of the Lord is my strength
In the darkness I'll dance
In the shadows I'll sing
The joy of the Lord is my strength

When I cannot see you
with my eyes,
Let faith arise to you.
When I cannot feel
your hand in mine,
Let faith arise to you.
God of mercy and love,
I will praise you, Lord.

Benediction

One:...may the peace of Christ be with you.
All: And also with you.

Oh, you shine with glory,
Lord of light,
I feel alive with you.
In your presence now
I come alive,
I am alive with you.
There is strength when I say,
"I will praise you, Lord."

The joy of the Lord is my strength
The joy of the Lord is my strength
In the darkness I'll dance
In the shadows I'll sing
The joy of the Lord is my strength

When sorrow comes my way,
You are the shield around me
Always you remain,
Like courage in the fight.
I hear you call my name –
Jesus, I am coming,
Walking on the waves,
Reaching for Your light!

The joy of the Lord is my strength
The joy of the Lord is my strength
In the darkness I'll dance
In the shadows I'll sing
The joy of the Lord is my strength