



HOUSE WORSHIP LITURGY

MARCH 29, 2020

Invitation and Gathering

Consider lighting a candle to signal that worship has begun and that God is present wherever and whenever two or more gather in God's name. When we gather for worship we acknowledge that God is the one who gathers us together.

Worship live at gpch.org

Application Questions

- 1) In what ways have you been reminded this week of your need to trust in your Good Shepherd?
- 2) In light of Jesus' example of modeling hospitality to a broken world, what might modeling hospitality look like in your life this week?
- 3) What do you feel like needs to be celebrated in your life this week, rather than simply tolerated?

Call to Prayer

Psalm 62:1–3

God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change, though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea; though its waters roar and foam, though the mountains tremble with its tumult. Let's come before God our refuge and strength in prayer.

Prayer

O God, our great shepherd, you tenderly gather us as lambs,
carrying us with your all-embracing love.
Yet, like sheep, we wander from you:
following our own ways, ignoring your voice, distrusting your provisions.
Forgive our stubborn rebellion, our hardened hearts, our lack of trust.
Refresh us once again by your waters of mercy
and restore our souls by your redeeming love.
Guide our paths, that we might follow you more closely,
through Jesus Christ, our good shepherd, we pray ...

Brief time of silence

Prayers of the People

Jesus, you tell us to come to you when we are weary of carrying heavy burdens and you will give us rest. Hear us as we come to you this morning for our own needs, the needs of our community, and the needs of the world ...

(Speak aloud your prayers to God, who is with you and hears you)

—continued—

And now let us pray together the prayer Jesus taught us to pray saying,

The Lord's Prayer

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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Declaration of Faith

Heidelberg Catechism, Question and Answer #1

Question: What is your only comfort in life and in death?

Answer: **That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death—to my faithful Savior, Jesus Christ.**

He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil.

He also watches over me in such a way

that not a hair can fall from my head

without the will of my Father in heaven;

in fact, all things must work together for my salvation.

Because I belong to him, Christ, by his Holy Spirit,

assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Sending

We do not worship for ourselves alone, but for the sake of the world. God gathers us, speaks to us, and feeds us so that we might be formed into people who look and act like Jesus in our everyday lives.

Benediction

God go before you to lead you,

God go behind you to protect you,

God go beneath you to support you,

God go beside you to befriend you.

Do not be afraid.

May the blessing of God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you.

Do not be afraid.

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Amen.

Activity:

Think of one spiritual practice that you could do with your family or on your own this week to help keep your gaze on the Good Shepherd. Ideas could include specific prayer times, more intentional time in the Word, fasting, meditating every day on a passage of scripture, or perhaps celebrating each day one gift of God in your life. Choose one and commit to it for a week! Then keep a journal or draw pictures and put them around your house of how God uses that time for your good and for His glory.

Dig Deeper:

Listen to a few songs that speak to ways we can feast with the Good Shepherd:

We Shall Feast in the House of Zion by Sandra McCracken

Joy Is In Our Hearts by Sara Groves