



May 3, 2020

To the church in Diaspora due to the Corona Virus, greetings from Pastor Jake & Kris Porter, our family and all of the church here in Hudsonville and elsewhere.

May we worship together today, May 3, wherever social distancing finds us.

Please gather on Facebook live or Zoom at 9:30 am to listen to a sermon and to have a time of prayer and then you can follow the rest of this liturgy in your home

Pledging our Allegiance:

Hear O People of God. The Lord is our God! The Lord alone. Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind and with all your strength. And love your neighbor as yourself. There is no commandment greater than these.

Time of Teaching:

Our scripture passage for today is Matthew 23:

<https://www.biblegateway.com/passage/?search=matthew+23&version=NIV>

YouTube link to the passage enacted:

<https://youtu.be/3SvdBiF3kN8>

If you are on Zoom, stick around to receive the blessing.

Prayer & Scripture:

Please do this in your home

Prayer

Lord, as we gather together, may you be active & present, hearing our cries & prayers.

May we hear you in a new and different way, now that our daily lives are so different.

You are good, Lord and your love endures forever, your faithfulness to all generations.

Bless us and help us be your hands and feet, the very Body of Christ. Amen.

Psalm 127

A song of ascents. Of Solomon.

¹ Unless the LORD builds the house,
the builders labor in vain.

Unless the LORD watches over the city,
the guards stand watch in vain.

² In vain you rise early
and stay up late,
toiling for food to eat—
for he grants sleep to ^[a] those he loves.

³ Children are a heritage from the LORD,
offspring a reward from him.

⁴ Like arrows in the hands of a warrior
are children born in one's youth.

⁵ Blessed is the man
whose quiver is full of them.

They will not be put to shame
when they contend with their opponents in court.

Children's Worship:

<https://youtu.be/0AFU7qwkNIY>

Time of Singing & Praise

Please feel free to sing along with the play list that was created, or sing some of your favorite hymns or songs. Sing sitting or standing or kneeling. And know that the God who created you is present and rejoices in the praises of His people.

Spotify Playlist:

<https://open.spotify.com/playlist/0iBSMxTNdy4O0aSQdNDL6S?si=y5zjvsKOTj2HbvowLQxOQ>

King of Kings is Jill Wiechel's favorite song, check out why!

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/17xl4rF2VVxJPMEhGoR8PMDosyJkXUhCQ/view?usp=sharing>

Confession + Assurance:

Take a few moments to confess to God the good and bad of this past week. It was hard and you probably didn't respond as God calls us to at points. Tell God, silently or aloud how much you need Him in this time of uncertainty and fear.

Assurance in Scripture:

Surely your goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the LORD
FOREVER.

PSALM 23:6

Time of Prayer:

Please also use the prayer prompts from previous weeks if you feel so led.

A Liturgy for the Labors of Community

Our lives are so small, O Lord, our vision so limited, our courage so frail, our hours so fleeting. Therefore give us grace and guidance for the journey ahead. We are gathered here because we believe that we are called together into a work we cannot yet know the fullness of. Still, we trust the voice of the One who has called us.

And so we offer to you, O God, these things: our dreams, our plans, our vision. Shape them as You will. Our moments and our gifts. May they be invested toward bright, eternal ends. Richly bless the work before us Father. Shepherd us well lest we grow enamored of our own accomplishment or entrenched in old habit. Instead let us listen for Your voice, our hearts ever open to the quiet beckonings of Your Spirit in this endeavor. Let us in true humility and poverty of spirit remain ever ready to move at the impulse of your love in paths of your design.

You alone, O God, by your gracious and life-giving Spirit have power to knit our imperfect hearts, our weaknesses, our strengths, our stories, and our gifts, one to another. Unite Your people and multiply our meager offerings, O Lord, that all might resound to Your glory.

May our acts of service and creation, frail and wanting as they are, be met and multiplied by the mysterious workings of Your Spirit who weaves all things together toward a redemption more good and glorious than we yet have eyes to see, or courage to hope for. May our love and our labors now echo your love and your labors, O Lord.

Let all that we do here, in these our brined lives, in this our brined moment to love, in this the work you have ordained for this community, flower in winsome and beautiful foretaste of greater glories yet to come.

O Spirit of God now shape our hearts,

O Spirit of God now guide our hands.

O Spirit of God now build Your kingdom among us. Amen.

#LOVEMOVES

--Kaitlin Verkaik, Love Inc.

A Blessing:

The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nxn6tmVSljU>