

An Order for Home Worship

Worship begins when all are gathered. Italicized words and bold titles are for instruction and/or edification, and not meant to be read aloud. The leader reads the regular font, and all read the bold font. If you are worshipping by yourself, remember that you are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses, including your congregation, and that the Spirit is with you.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Ever-living God, author of creation, we give you thanks for your gift of water that brings life and refreshes the earth. We bless and praise you, for by water and the Word we are cleansed from sin and receive everlasting life. Join us again this day to the saving death of Christ; renew in us the living fountain of your grace; and raise us with Christ Jesus to live in newness of life; for you are merciful, and you love your whole creation, and with all your creatures we give you glory, through your Son Jesus Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, now and forever. **Amen.**

Hymn

Hymns may be selected by the group based on ability. Hymns may include:

As with Gladness Men of Old (ELW 302)

This Is the Spirit's Entry Now (ELW 448)

Songs of Thankfulness and Praise (ELW 310)

Word of God, Come Down on Earth (ELW 510)

Let Streams of Living Justice (ELW 710)

Prayer

Prayers of the Day include:

January 3rd - Almighty God, you have filled all the earth with the light of your incarnate Word. By your grace empower us to reflect your light in all that we do, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

January 10th - Holy God, creator of light and giver of goodness, your voice moves over the waters. Immerse us in your grace, and transform us by your Spirit, that we may follow after your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

January 17th - Thanks be to you, Lord Jesus Christ, most merciful redeemer, for the countless blessings and benefits you give. May we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day praising you, with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

January 24th - Almighty God, by grace alone you call us and accept us in your service. Strengthen us by your Spirit, and make us worthy of your call, through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

January 31st - Compassionate God, you gather the whole universe into your radiant presence and continually reveal your Son as our Savior. Bring wholeness to all that is broken and speak truth to us in our confusion, that all creation will see and know your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. **Amen.**

Word

The readings come from the Revised Common Lectionary, including:

January 3rd – Jeremiah 31:7-14; Psalm 147:12-20; Ephesians 1:3-14; John 1:1-18

January 10th – Genesis 1:1-5; Psalm 29; Acts 19:1-7; Mark 1:4-11

January 17th – 1 Samuel 3:1-20; Psalm 139:1-6, 13-18; 1 Corinthians 6:12-20; John 1:43-51

January 24th – Jonah 3:1-5, 10; Psalm 62:5-12; 1 Corinthians 7:29-31; Mark 1:14-20

January 31st – Deuteronomy 18:15-20; Psalm 111; 1 Corinthians 8:1-13; Mark 1:21-28

Sermon or Discussion

Video of the service, including the sermon, can be found on the church website, trinityarendtsville.org, clicking on the “News & Online Content” tab, and clicking on our YouTube page.

Hymn

Hymns may be selected by the group based on ability. Hymns may include:

Arise, Your Light Has Come! (ELW 314)

Christ, When for Us You Were Baptized (ELW 304)

We Are Called (ELW 720)

You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore (ELW 817)

The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve (ELW 551)

Prayer

Words for prayer may include, but are not limited to:

Guided by Christ made known to the nations, let us offer our prayers for the church, the world, and all people in need.

*For all who share the gospel and proclaim freedom in Christ throughout the world: prophets, teachers, pastors, deacons, and lay leaders; for the church and its ministries, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.***

*For all God’s works in creation: plants and animals, water and soil, forests and farms; and for those tasked with protecting our natural resources and all that exists, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.***

*For government and leaders: cities and nations, rescue professionals and legal aid attorneys, elected officials and grassroots organizers; for all responsible for the well-being of civil society, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.***

*For those who suffer in mind, body, or spirit: those who are sick and hospitalized, those living with HIV/AIDS, those struggling with mental illness, those who are hungry or homeless, and all in any need, especially those on our prayer list, and those we name aloud or in our hearts; for caregivers, hospice workers, and home health aides, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.***

*For the concerns of this congregation: those who travel, those absent from worship, those celebrating birthdays or anniversaries; for the people of God in this place and for other needs in our community, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.***

*For the covenant God made with us in the waters of baptism, in thanksgiving for the baptized who have died in the Lord, let us pray. **Have mercy, O God.***

*Merciful God, hear the prayers of your people, spoken or silent, for the sake of the one who dwells among us, your Son, Jesus Christ our Savior. **Amen.***

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 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.**

Peace

The peace of Christ be with you always.
And also with you.

All are invited to share a sign of peace with one another, in an appropriate manner.

This is a resource developed for individuals, friends, and families to use when Sunday worship is unavailable or not an option.

Preparation for worship:

- *Let the ones you are going to worship with, including your own self, know when worship is going to be. It is best not to “spring” worship on unsuspecting people. The people of Trinity have been invited to worship on Sundays at 9am.*
- *Make a specific space for worship. This could be around a kitchen table, or a family room, or even outside in the sun or shade. Make sure everyone has a place to sit comfortably.*
- *Include a sign of light in the worship space. Use a candle (preferably unscented, but a scent all enjoy could be used as well), open curtains/blinds/shades, and/or turn on the lights. Find what works for the space.*
- *Include a sign of baptism in the space. This can be a plain bowl of water set in the middle of the table, the baptismal candle from one’s own baptism, or even some blades of grass with dew.*
- *Be sure to turn off or place in another room equipment that may be distracting, like televisions, phones, tablets, notifications, and other bells and whistles.*
- *If worshipping by yourself, say the words aloud nonetheless. While God certainly hears words spoken and unspoken, we as humans often experience spoken words differently than our own inner dialogue.*
- *Be gracious to one another, including yourself. Encourage one another as worship is lead.*
- *Leave space for silence. Not too fast, nor too slow, find a pace that works for you and your group.*