

Call to Worship Psalm 99

The Lord is king; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim;
let the earth quake! The Lord is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples.
Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is God!
Extol the Lord our God, and worship at his holy mountain; for the Lord our God is holy.

Prayer of the Day

Holy God, you have made us in your image, and we belong to you alone. Therefore we offer ourselves to you, in service, love and praise. Use us for the glory of your realm and the good of your people; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Hymn “How Firm A Foundation” #529 UM Hymnal

Call to Confession

God does not regard us with partiality, but with the grace of Christ Jesus
deals with each of us according to our need.
With gratitude for this amazing grace, let us confess our sin.

Prayer of Confession

What a debt we owe to you, O God. You have given us all things in Christ and yet we withhold from you the honor and glory that are yours. Forgive us, O God, and by your grace restore in us the image of your face; through Christ Jesus our Lord. Amen. *(silence)*

Words of Assurance

Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice! Let the sea roar with laughter,
the fields shout in celebration, and the forests sing with joy;
in Jesus Christ we are forgiven. Thanks be to God!

Prayer of Illumination

Holy One, true and living God, through the message of the gospel and the power of your Spirit make us imitators of the Lord; Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

The Epistle Reading 1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

The Gospel Reading Matthew 22:15-22

Sermon

Invitation to our Offering

The Lord made the heavens, and all the earth belongs to God.
As Jesus taught us, let us give to God the things that are God's own.

Offertory Music

The Doxology

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All honor and majesty, strength and beauty are yours, Almighty God, maker of heaven and earth. Let these simple offerings we bring be a sign of the great glory that is due to your holy name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Prayers of Intercession

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. Amen.

Hymn "Take My Life and Let It Be" #399 UM Hymnal

Benediction

Go forth to declare God's glory among all the nations so that God's wonderful work maybe known to all. Grace to you and peace from God the Father, through the Lord Jesus Christ, in the Holy Spirit.

Postlude

+++

*The mission of the United Methodist Church
is to make disciples of Jesus Christ for the transformation of the world."*

Questions for reflection:

This week, set aside some time to take inventory of your life. Consider your spiritual gifts. How do you use them in the service of God and others? Consider your material goods. How do you make use of these possessions?

Household Prayer: Morning

*Lord God, giver of light and darkness, from the rising of the sun to its setting you have called me by name; there is no God besides you.
Go before me and guide me this day; bless and keep me forever. Amen.*

Household Prayer: Evening

Lord God, giver of darkness and light, from the setting of the sun to its rising

*you have called me by name; there is no God besides you.
Go before me and guide me this day; bless and keep me forever. Amen.*

Thank you for sending your offerings to church Consider what your offering will be this week, in your home, workplace, neighborhood and to God's world.
What signs of reconciliation and peace will you give?

Reprinted by permission of Westminster John Knox Press from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion. Copyright 2014

1 Thessalonians 1:1-10

Paul, Silvanus, and Timothy, To the church of the Thessalonians in God the Father and the Lord Jesus Christ: Grace to you and peace.

²We always give thanks to God for all of you and mention you in our prayers, constantly ³remembering before our God and Father your work of faith and labor of love and steadfastness of hope in our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴For we know, brothers and sisters beloved by God, that he has chosen you, ⁵because our message of the gospel came to you not in word only, but also in power and in the Holy Spirit and with full conviction; just as you know what kind of persons we proved to be among you for your sake.

⁶And you became imitators of us and of the Lord, for in spite of persecution you received the word with joy inspired by the Holy Spirit, ⁷so that you became an example to all the believers in Macedonia and in Achaia. ⁸For the word of the Lord has sounded forth from you not only in Macedonia and Achaia, but in every place your faith in God has become known, so that we have no need to speak about it. ⁹For the people of those regions report about us what kind of welcome we had among you, and how you turned to God from idols, to serve a living and true God, ¹⁰and to wait for his Son from heaven, whom he raised from the dead—Jesus, who rescues us from the wrath that is coming.

Matthew 22:15-22

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. ¹⁶So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. ¹⁷Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" ¹⁸But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. ²⁰Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" ²¹They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." ²²When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.