

WORSHIP HANDOUT  
February 7, 2021



OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

CALL TO WORSHIP

**God comes into a world filled with uncertainties and darkness.**

**God seeks out the voids of belief and conviction.**

**God embraces the wounded and broken.**

**God knocks down the walls of division and strife.**

**God is the candle shining in the darkness of our days.**

**God is the light of our lives.**

**God is the one who makes all things new.**

**Praise be to God, now and forevermore!**

— based on materials by Peter K. Perry, and posted on Richard Fairchild's [Kir-shalom](#) website.

HYMN

God of Love and God of Power

UMH #578

TIME OF PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER

**God, we wait, we watch, we long for you. Renew our powers, refresh our spirits, restore our well being; for you give new strength to the faint and power to the powerless. May your church be found working among those who lack resources or rights. May we seek to care for those who cannot care for themselves. We pray for the lowly and the humiliated. We**

**pray for relief organizations, especially.... God, be to them a tower of strength.**

**We pray for the great powers of the world, the strong nations, and mighty governments. May their power be used properly that the poor are protected, the weak are not exploited, and no one is oppressed. We pray too for multinational corporations who often wield more power than many governments, that in their relentless pursuit of profit they may take those steps of compassion and concern which will benefit them as well as those powerless to stop them.**

**We give thanks for all who have cared for us in times of weakness; for those who have uplifted our spirits and given us new hope. We pray for our friends and families, especially any who are finding life difficult at the moment. We pray for any in our community that may feel neglected or rejected.**

**We pray for all who are in weakness of body, mind or spirit, all who have come to the end of their tether. We think of all who are losing their mobility or agility, those who are losing their memories, and all who have lost their grip on reality; of those who no longer trust in anyone, and those who doubt the love of God; we think of all who are caring for loved ones in illness.**

**We give thanks that Christ is our healer and our companion on the Way; he will not allow us to be lost. We pray for loved ones departed who are renewed and refreshed in the love and light of God. May the Light of the world truly be that lamp set out on the lampstand to them. Amen.**

~ written by Rev. Fraser Macnaughton, of the St. Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall. Posted on the Church of Scotland's [Starters for Sunday](#) website.

**SILENT AND PASTORAL PRAYER (MUSIC)**

## 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 now and  
forever. Amen.

## HYMN

There is a Balm in Gilead

UMH #375

## CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

LESSON I

CEB

I Corinthians 9:16-23

**<sup>16</sup> If I preach the gospel, I have no reason to brag, since I'm obligated to do it. I'm in trouble if I don't preach the gospel. <sup>17</sup> If I do this voluntarily, I get rewarded for it. But if I'm forced to do it, then I've been charged with a responsibility. <sup>18</sup> What reward do I get? That when I preach, I offer the good news free of charge. That's why I don't use the rights to which I'm entitled through the gospel. <sup>19</sup> Although I'm free from all people, I make myself a slave to all people, to recruit more of them. <sup>20</sup> I act like a Jew to the Jews, so I can recruit Jews. I act like I'm under the Law to those under the Law, so I can recruit those who are under the Law (though I myself am not under the Law). <sup>21</sup> I act like I'm outside the Law to those who are outside the Law, so I can recruit those outside the Law (though I'm not outside the law of God but rather under the law of Christ). <sup>22</sup> I act weak to the weak, so I can recruit the weak. I have become all things to all people, so I could save some by all possible means. <sup>23</sup> All the**

things I do are for the sake of the gospel, so I can be a partner with it.

**May God add a blessing to this reading.**

LESSON 2

CEB

Mark 1:29-39

<sup>29</sup> **After leaving the synagogue, Jesus, James, and John went home with Simon and Andrew. <sup>30</sup> Simon's mother-in-law was in bed, sick with a fever, and they told Jesus about her at once. <sup>31</sup> He went to her, took her by the hand, and raised her up. The fever left her, and she served them.**

<sup>32</sup> **That evening, at sunset, people brought to Jesus those who were sick or demon-possessed. <sup>33</sup> The whole town gathered near the door. <sup>34</sup> He healed many who were sick with all kinds of diseases, and he threw out many demons. But he didn't let the demons speak, because they recognized him.**

<sup>35</sup> **Early in the morning, well before sunrise, Jesus rose and went to a deserted place where he could be alone in prayer. <sup>36</sup> Simon and those with him tracked him down. <sup>37</sup> When they found him, they told him, "Everyone's looking for you!"**

<sup>38</sup> **He replied, "Let's head in the other direction, to the nearby villages, so that I can preach there too. That's why I've come." <sup>39</sup> He traveled throughout Galilee, preaching in their synagogues and throwing out demons.**

**L:** This is the Word of God for all people.

**P:** Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

"Not about the crowds"

## HYMN

When Jesus the Healer Passed Through Galilee    UMH #263

## OFFERTORY

### \*DOXOLOGY

UMH #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise Him, all creatures here below;

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.  
Amen.

## UNISON PRAYER

Almighty God,  
giver of every good and perfect gift,  
teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are,  
that we may praise you not with our words only,  
but with our whole lives.

## BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE

Song of Hope

TFWS #2186

## POSTLUDE