

WORSHIP HANDOUT

Sunday May 22nd
Presentation of Bibles



OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*Song of Welcome: Open Doors, by Chris McManus

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Light for the Path

(based on Psalm 119:105-112, 18, 34)

Your Word, O God, is a lamp for our feet and a light for our journey.
When everything around us is dark, and we can see no light at all,
may the light from Your Word show us the way to go.

When the future is uncertain, and we can't see what lies ahead,
may the light from Your Word show us the way to go.

When we feel abandoned or betrayed, and have no one to turn to,
may the light from Your Word show us the way to go.

When we are tempted to do what we know is wrong,
may the light from Your Word show us the way to go.

Open our eyes to see the wonderful truths in Your Word.

Give us understanding, that we may keep Your law, and put it into practice in our lives. Amen.

Opening Hymn: Ancient Words

PRESENTATION OF BIBLES

TIME OF PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER

Gracious God, help us to live in love and charity with others,
and, as we ask for your forgiveness, enable us to be forgiving.
Take from our lives the hidden grudges and concealed hate.
Forgive us that we have so often denied you;
that like lost sheep we have turned away from you;
that we have sung with our lips what we have not had the courage
to practice in our lives.

Forgive our sins, comfort our sorrows, calm our fears,
and take from us every proud thought.
So fill us with love and concern for others,
and make us ready to help and quick to forgive.

We thank you for every good thing in our lives
for home and friends and family;
for all the beauty and loveliness in the world about us
which has lifted our hearts and made us glad;
for life itself with all its promise and possibility.

We thank you that in every great experience of life,
when it seemed as if we were passing through water and fire
we are not alone, but you were there as companion and friend.

We thank you that we are yours, created for your glory;
that you have called us all by name,

that through Jesus Christ, the great Shepherd of the sheep,
who lived and died and rose again for us,
you have redeemed us;
and that your love will never finally let us go, or ultimately give us up.

We thank you that so often you have come to us
in the ordinary and everyday things of life, in our work and in our
leisure .

Help us there to seek you and find you and serve you,
as in Christ you have sought and found and served us.
We ask it for his sake. **Amen.**

— from *Companion to the Lectionary*, Volume 3, by Neil Dixon. Posted
on the <http://pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au/> website.

PASTORAL AND SILENT 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.

SONG AS CHILDREN GATHER Jesus Loves Me 191 v I

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANTHEM Sing On, Dance On!

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

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

LESSON I

Acts 16:9-15

CEB

⁹ A vision of a man from Macedonia came to Paul during the night. He stood urging Paul, “Come over to Macedonia and help us!” ¹⁰ Immediately after he saw the vision, we prepared to leave for the province of Macedonia, concluding that God had called us to proclaim the good news to them.

¹¹ We sailed from Troas straight for Samothrace and came to Neapolis the following day. ¹² From there we went to Philippi, a city of Macedonia’s first district and a Roman colony. We stayed in that city several days. ¹³ On the Sabbath we went outside the city gate to the riverbank, where we thought there might be a place for prayer. We sat down and began to talk with the women who had gathered. ¹⁴ One of those women was Lydia, a Gentile God-worshipper from the city of Thyatira, a dealer in purple cloth. As she listened, the Lord enabled her to embrace Paul’s message. ¹⁵ Once she and her household were baptized, she urged, “Now that you have decided that I am a believer in the Lord, come and stay in my house.” And she persuaded us.

May God add a blessing to this reading.

***LESSON 2**

John 5:1-9

CEB

After this there was a Jewish festival, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. ² In Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate in the north city wall is a pool with the Aramaic name Bethesda. It had five covered porches, ³ and a crowd of people who were sick, blind, lame, and paralyzed sat there. ⁵ A certain man was there who had been sick for thirty-eight years. ⁶ When Jesus saw him lying there, knowing that he had already been there a long time, he asked him, “Do you want to get well?” ⁷ The sick man answered him, “Sir, I don’t have anyone who can put me in the water when it is stirred up. When I’m trying to get to it, someone else has gotten in ahead of me.” ⁸ Jesus said to him, “Get up! Pick up your mat and walk.” ⁹ Immediately the man was well, and he picked up his mat and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath.

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

P: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Dedication to Practice

HYMN

We All Are One in Mission

TFWS #2243

BENEDICTION

UMH 364 Because He Lives, refrain only

POSTLUDE