

WORSHIP HANDOUT

Sunday June 29th

OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*SONG OF WELCOME Open Doors

*CALL TO WORSHIP

“Jesus set his face toward Jerusalem.” (Luke 9:51)

**Our Lord is on a journey,
and the way leads through opposition and misunderstanding.**

Jesus invites us to follow him.

**This journey leads through the shadows of betrayal,
the night of Gethsemane,
the afternoon darkness of Golgotha.**

“Then Jesus told his disciples,

‘If any want to become my followers,

let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.

For those who want to save their life will lose it,

and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.” (Matt. 16:24-25)

Our Lord is on a journey.

**May we have the grace to follow this Christ,
and to give to him our very lives.**

**For in giving away our lives, we find them,
and in dying we live.**

— from a Palm Sunday order of worship at First Baptist Church, Carrollton, Georgia. Posted on the [Cooperative Baptist Fellowship Georgia](#) website.

OPENING PRAYER

Our God, you have given us in your word

the stories of persons who needed to leave their homelands—
Abraham, Sarah, Ruth, Moses.

Help us to remember
that when we speak of immigrants and refugees,
we speak of Christ.

In the One who had no place to lay his head,
and in the least of his brothers and sisters,
you come to us again, a stranger seeking refuge.

We confess that we often turn away.

You have chosen that the life of Jesus be filled
with events of unplanned travel and flight from enemies.

You have shown us through the modeling of Jesus
how we are called to relate to persons from different nations and
cultures.

You have called us to be teachers of your word.

We ask you, our God, to open our minds and hearts
to the challenge and invitation
to model your perfect example of love.
Amen.

~ adapted from Justice for Immigrants, "Prayer and Liturgy Suggestions," originally posted on the **Justice for Immigrants** website. <https://justiceforimmigrants.org/>
Available now on the **NC Council of Churches** website.
<https://www.ncchurches.org/lectionary/httpwww-ncchurches-orgp19454/>

SONG AS CHILDREN GATHER
CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Jesus Loves Me

TIME OF PRAYER

SILENT AND PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

PRAYER HYMN Blessed Assurance UMH 369

LESSON I Galatians 5:1,13-25 CEB

Christ has set us free for freedom. Therefore, stand firm and don't submit to the bondage of slavery again.

¹³ You were called to freedom, brothers and sisters; only don't let this freedom be an opportunity to indulge your selfish impulses, but serve each other through love. ¹⁴ All the Law has been fulfilled in a single statement: *Love your neighbor as yourself.* ¹⁵ But if you bite and devour each other, be careful that you don't get eaten up by each other!

¹⁶ I say be guided by the Spirit and you won't carry out your selfish desires. ¹⁷ A person's selfish desires are set against the Spirit, and the Spirit is set against one's selfish desires. They are opposed to each other, so you shouldn't do whatever you want to do. ¹⁸ But if you are being led by the Spirit, you aren't under the Law. ¹⁹ The actions that are produced by selfish motives are obvious, since they include sexual immorality, moral corruption, doing whatever feels good, ²⁰ idolatry, drug use and casting spells, hate, fighting, obsession, losing your temper, competitive opposition, conflict, selfishness, group rivalry, ²¹ jealousy, drunkenness, partying, and other things like that. I warn you as I have already warned you, that those who do these kinds of things won't inherit God's kingdom.

²² But the fruit of the Spirit is love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, ²³ gentleness, and self-control. There is no law against things like this. ²⁴ Those who belong to Christ Jesus have crucified the self with its passions and its desires.

²⁵ If we live by the Spirit, let's follow the Spirit.

May God add a Blessing to this reading.

*LESSON 2 Luke 9:51-62 CEB

51 As the time approached when Jesus was to be taken up into heaven, he determined to go to Jerusalem. 52 He sent messengers on ahead of him. Along the way, they entered a Samaritan village to prepare for his arrival, 53 but the Samaritan villagers refused to welcome him because he was determined to go to Jerusalem. 54 When the disciples James and John saw this, they said, "Lord, do you want us to call fire down from heaven to consume them?" 55 But Jesus turned and spoke sternly to them, 56 and they went on to another village.

57 As Jesus and his disciples traveled along the road, someone said to him, "I will follow you wherever you go."

58 Jesus replied, "Foxes have dens and the birds in the sky have nests, but the Human One has no place to lay his head."

59 Then Jesus said to someone else, "Follow me."

He replied, "Lord, first let me go and bury my father."

60 Jesus said to him, "Let the dead bury their own dead. But you go and spread the news of God's kingdom."

61 Someone else said to Jesus, "I will follow you, Lord, but first let me say good-bye to those in my house."

62 Jesus said to him, "No one who puts a hand on the plow and looks back is fit for God's kingdom."

