



We Gather in Spirit. ~ Worship

2/7/21

Please join us by phone by calling into the service using this number 1-929-436-2866,

Meeting ID: 684 366 329 Passcode: 322123

Welcome to Worship with Kingston Presbyterian Church

Prelude Let Us Break Bread Together, arr. Lani Smith

Call to Worship

Leader: God calls us . . .

People: into a life that finds purpose in God's grace.

Leader: We know what that grace is because of Jesus Christ . . .

People: who brought life out of death, creation out of nothingness, hope from despair.

Leader: We gather here to witness to Jesus . . .

People: to remind each other and everyone we meet that Jesus brings good news.

Leader: We gather to worship.

People: Let us worship God!

Time of Prayer ~*We Tell the Truth About Ourselves and We Turn to God*

Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

(Praying silently)...

Almighty, attentive God, thank you for being a personal Lord whom we can approach with honesty, with frustration, and with hope. We pray these things together, as your grateful people. Hear us now as we pray the prayer you taught saying, **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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

DISCIPLES LISTEN TO THE WORD OF THE LORD

Children's Time

Scripture & Sermon Mark 1:9-15 Again & Again God Meets Us

Pastor Sharyl

DISCIPLES RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Offering of Tithes & Gifts

Continuing our worship, we will give back to God our offerings, gifts, pledges, and tithes by mail or online with Tithely at <https://kingstonpresbyterian.org>. We offer God our hearts, hands, minds and money as an expression of gratitude and our love for God and as a marker of our partnership with God through our Kingston Presbyterian Church.

Saying the Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

**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.**

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Communion (Please gather the bread and cup before worship begins.)

Invitation

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Lift up your hearts. **We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

It is indeed right, our duty and highest joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to you, O holy Lord, almighty, everlasting God. ... Amen.

Words of Institution

Communion

Prayer after Communion

DISCIPLES ARE SENT AND BLESSED TO SERVE GOD

Hymn Our God, Our Help in Ages Past GTG 687

1 Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home:

2 Beneath the shadow of thy throne thy saints have dwelt secure;
sufficient is thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.

4 A thousand ages in thy sight are like an evening gone,
short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.

Benediction

Postlude Meditation for Worship, Franklin Ritter

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Merciful God, in your gracious presence we confess our sin and the sin of this world. Although Christ is among us as our peace, we are a people divided against ourselves as we cling to the values of a broken world. The profit and pleasures we pursue lay waste the land and pollute the seas. The fears and jealousies that we harbor set neighbor against neighbor and nation against nation. We abuse your good gifts of imagination and freedom, of intellect and reason, and have turned them into bonds of oppression. Lord, have mercy upon us; heal and forgive us. Set us free to serve you in the world as agents of your reconciling love in Jesus Christ.

(Praying silently)

As Your people, called to love one another, let us pray for the needs of the whole human family, and all the world. That as the faithful pray we may discover our unity in Christ and exercise our gifts in service of all. We pray that the earth may be freed from war, famine, and disease, and the air, soil, and waters cleansed of poison. We pray that those who govern and maintain peace in every land may exercise their powers in obedience to your commands. We pray that you will strengthen this nation to pursue just priorities so that all may be reconciled; the young, educated; and the old, cared for; the hungry, filled; and the homeless, housed; and the sick, comforted and healed. We pray that you will preserve all who live and work in this town, village, community, nation and world in peace and safety. We pray, O God, that you will comfort and empower those who face any difficulty or trial: the sick, the disabled, the poor, the oppressed, those who grieve and those in prison. We name now in our hearts those we are carrying and those we know need your love, healing, grace and mercy. Merciful God, as a

potter fashions a vessel from humble clay, you form us into a new creation. Shape us, day by day, through the cross of Christ your Son, until we pray as continually as we breathe and all our acts are prayer.

Lord, we pray to you now with hope. We have hope in the saving grace of Jesus Christ! We give you thanks for all the good we see even in these hard times. We give you thanks for our mission partners and lift them up to you. Be with them and may your Spirit encourage their work this week. Give strength and encouragement to our mission partners: close to home with the Presbytery of New Brunswick, The Desais (ISI) as they work alongside international students and the unknown of this coming academic year, Intervarsity Christian Fellowship, Committee on Religious Ministries (Princeton Hospital Chaplaincy), Young Life. Internationally we lift up - Katie Wolf (Haiti), The Kishores (New Life Associates-India), The Riddells (World Team), Karla Koll (Costa Rica), Medical Benevolence Foundation, The Levis (Operation Nehemiah-Africa), The Tebbes (Pakistan).

Thank you for the gift of partnership with you and with each other. We have hope because your Son is working in and through each of us! We have hope in your forgiveness! God, remind us of our hope, even in the midst of despair, heartbreak, and stressful situations. May we hold each other up, not only when we come together, but through daily reminders, prayers, and affirmations. Thank you, Lord, for your love for us made real in Christ and by your Spirit. May we embody Christ in all we do.

Almighty, attentive God, thank you for being a personal Lord whom we can approach with honesty, with frustration, and with hope. We pray these things together, as your grateful people. Hear us now as we pray the prayer you taught saying, **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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen**

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Scripture & Sermon Mark 1:9-15 Again & Again God Meets Us Pastor Sharyl

Questions

What stands out to you in these verses? Where did your heart catch on a verse?

When was a time you felt in the wilderness? Why?

When was a time you felt tempted? Why?

When was a time you felt like Jesus understood your struggles?

Where do you need God to meet you today?

How might you hold onto the truth that nothing separates us from God's love? Romans 8

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Sing the Doxology *Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

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.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty and most merciful God, from you comes every good and perfect gift.

We give you praise and thanks for all your mercies. Your goodness has created us, your bounty has sustained us, your discipline has drawn us back to you, your patience has borne with us, your love has redeemed us. Give us a heart to love and serve you, sow joy within us and enable us to show our thankfulness for all your goodness and mercy through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

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The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.