

Bethel Church Worship Guide – May 24, 2020

View a recording of this worship service on Bethel's Facebook: or https://youtu.be/1M_HmiliQhU

Peace verse: Proverbs 12:18, 20 (NIV)

The words of the reckless pierce like swords,
but the tongue of the wise brings healing.
Truthful lips endure forever,
but a lying tongue lasts only a moment.
Deceit is in the hearts of those who plot evil,
but those who promote peace have joy.

Light a candle in your worship space to represent the peace of Christ in your midst today.

Call to Worship – Ken Shxnk

Welcome everyone to this time of worship. I truly miss seeing each and every one of you! I miss hearing our voices as we chat and as we each sing our part to fill the church with beautiful worshipful hymns.

In this time of isolation, I had to think of Rebecca's words several weeks ago when she wrote "In spite of vulnerability and loss, we can choose to act in ways that promote the welfare of our community and the well-being of future generations." There is much during this time to be negative about, but the other day I made a list of all the good things that are happening as well. I would like to share some of those things and I'm sure you could add to them.

1. Families are spending quality time together
2. I see more people out walking and exercising
3. More people are planting gardens
4. We are spending less money on gas, eating out at restaurants, etc
5. There are reports of wildlife returning to places humans have invaded
6. People in India are seeing mountain ranges for the first time because of the lack of air pollution
7. We are not hearing the annoying campaign ads on T.V.

It's as if God is trying to say 'Stop; Slow down and see what is important!'

May God be with you all until that great day when we can see each other again face-to-face or mask-to-mask here at Bethel.

Prelude – Wonderful, merciful Savior

Psalm Reading: Psalm 24

The earth is the Lord's and all that is in it,
the world, and those who live in it;

for he has founded it on the seas, and established it on the rivers.

Who shall ascend the hill of the Lord?

And who shall stand in his holy place?

Those who have clean hands and pure hearts,

who do not lift up their souls to what is false, and do not swear deceitfully.

They will receive blessing from the Lord, and vindication from the God of their salvation.

Such is the company of those who seek him, who seek the face of the God of Jacob.

Lift up your heads, O gates! and be lifted up, O ancient doors!

that the King of glory may come in.

Who is the King of glory?

The Lord, strong and mighty, the Lord, mighty in battle.

Lift up your heads, Oh gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors!

That the King of glory may come in.

Who is this King of glory?

The Lord of hosts, he is the King of glory.

Song: All people that on earth do dwell – Hymnal Worship Book #42

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=gAFJY6DKpEI>

All people that on earth do dwell, sing to the Lord with cheerful voice.

Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell, come ye before him and rejoice.

Know that the Lord is God indeed. Without our aid he did us make.

We are his flock, he doth us feed, and for his sheep he doth us take.

Oh, enter then his gates with praise. Approach with joy his courts unto.

Praise, laud, and bless his name always, for it is seemly so to do.

For why? The Lord our God is good. His mercy is forever sure.

His truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure. Amen.

Offering & Prayer:

You are the giver of all good things, and your Word makes clear that every good and perfect gift comes from you. We ask that you accept these gifts and use them to your glory. May these gifts bring shelter to the homeless, comfort to the sick, rest to the weary, and hope to the hopeless. Just as you multiplied the offering of fish and loaves that were freely given for others, we pray that you would multiply these, our offerings to you, and accomplish with them more than we could ask or imagine. Amen.

Scripture: Micah 4:1-7

Sermon: Hard times? Best times for new visions!

Response Song: Vine and Fig Tree

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PfZ4sWJMCxE>

And everyone 'neath their vine and fig tree, shall live at peace and unafraid. (x2)

And into plowshares turn their swords; nations shall learn war no more. (x2)

Intercessory Prayer: you are invited to offer your own prayers now, and/or join the Bethel group sharing and prayer time at 11:00 am by calling or logging in to GoToMeeting.

God of peace, you are making all things new.

We give you thanks for your goodness to us:

for your Word that inspires and guides our lives.
For the gift of Christian community – a network of love and prayer in times of joy & challenge.
Most of all, we give thanks for your son Jesus – for the hope & life we have through him.

We bring our needs before you:

We pray for the nations of the world, and for those who make policy decisions.

We pray for the church in all places, that we would glorify God in word and deed.

We pray for victims of injustice and oppression;

and that we would have courage to be peacemakers and advocates on their behalf.

We pray for the sick, the lonely.

On this Memorial Day weekend, we pray with and for those who are grieving the death of a loved one, whether that death was a long time ago or recently. We lament untimely deaths, and those brought by acts of violence. We give thanks for those whose lives and faith enriched our own. We contemplate our own mortality, remembering that Christ suffered death for our sake, and proclaiming by faith God's power to give abundant and eternal life.

Holy God, you exalt the humble and raise the lowly.

Give us grace to know the mind of Jesus,

that we may follow him through death and into new life.

We glorify your name. Amen.

Sending song: We will walk with God – Sing the Journey #78

Link: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=YKybxg99fUc>

Sizohamba naye, wo wo wo, sizohamba naye. (x2)

Ngomhla wenjabula sizohamba naye. (x2)

We will walk with God, my brothers, we will walk with God.

We will walk with God, my sisters, we will walk with God.

We will go rejoicing till the kingdom has come. (x2)

Benediction:

May we be made strong with all the strength

that comes from God's glorious power,

enduring everything with patience,

while joyfully giving thanks to the Father,

who has enabled us to share in the inheritance of the saints. Amen.

Thanks this week to:

Worship leader: Ken Shxnk

Speaker: Karla Kauffmxn

Peace Lamp: Cindy Kauffmxn

Video recording & editing: Tesa Jordxn

Prelude: Kathy Grabxr

Flower arrangement: Nellie Lindemxr