



SUNDAY WORSHIP GUIDE

March 22, 2020

Though we can't gather during this time, we do hope this worship guide facilitates your personal or family worship today.

Included:

- **Sermon:** Pastor Conley chose a sermon from our Heaven series (2017) for this week. You'll find discussion questions at the end of this guide.
- **Songs:** Pastor Coleman chose songs that fit the sermon theme, which we'd encourage you to sing before or after you listen to the sermon. Some of these songs we sang back in 2017. Also included are links to YouTube if you want to play them and sing along.
- **Prayers:** A couple of our pastors wrote out prayers of confession, praise, and intercession which you can use as you desire, to facilitate and direct your prayers.
- **Resources:** Several other resources are included at the end, including a link to sign up for an encouraging group of daily readings, and a way to sign up to serve others in our body. Resources for children were included in Pastor Wooster's Weekly Ministry Update.

While this Sunday (and next) will be distinctly different, we do pray that this resource helps facilitate your continued worship of God during this time. Our hearts need this. Let's pursue God together, though separate.

With love,
Your HPBC Pastors

GREETING FROM PASTOR CONLEY

[Click here](#) to watch this week's greeting.

PRAYER

- Prayer of Confession and Repentance
- Prayer for the Nations
- Prayer Praise and Thanksgiving
- Prayer of Petition and Intercession

SCRIPTURE AND SONGS

Genesis 2:7-15; 3:22-24

- *I Sing the Mighty Power of God* ([click to listen](#))
- *To the Praise of His Glorious Grace* ([click to listen](#))

Revelation 22:1-5

- *The Sands of Time* ([click to listen](#))
- *Before the Throne of God Above* ([click to listen here](#), [here](#), or [here](#))

PREACHING

Listen to this sermon: [Heaven, Heart for Home](#)

DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION

Questions are included on the last page of this guide.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION AND REPENTANCE

Father who sees all things, We confess that we are prone to wander.
We feel the pull of the world, of our flesh, and of the Devil himself
that would lead us away from you.
We often feel weak, unable to put up a fight.
We often end up defeated by our sin and feeling condemned.
We often are discouraged by our choices to do the things that
we've said we do not want to do.

But we didn't sin this past week because you were not with us to help us.
We didn't sin because your Spirit had left us by ourselves.
We didn't sin because you had removed your grace from our lives.
We didn't sin because other people forced us to.
We sinned when we were drawn away by our own lusts and
enticed.

We sinned because we chose to trust that the fleeting moment of
satisfaction was better than you, the fountain of living water.
We sinned because we chose to believe that the brief feeling of
power would gain us more significance than humility or service or
forbearance.
We sinned this past week because we chose to put ourselves in
your place, making ourselves god, choosing for ourselves what we
thought was best, rather than trusting what you in your love have
told us is best.
Some of us even tried to justify our sin or hide our sin or make
excuses for our sin.

But you call us out of the darkness and into the light.
You call us to acknowledge our sin, confess our sin,
and repent of our sin.

So, we confess our sin to you this morning, kind and gracious Father.
We are broken in need of healing; we are contrite in need of grace;
we are humbled in need of your mercy yet again.

Let us see your kindness and forbearance and patience this morning, and
let that lead us to repentance in Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE NATIONS: ERITREA



Eritrea is a country of about 4.5 million people located in the Horn of Africa and on the Red Sea, just north of Ethiopia. According to OpenDoorsUSA.org, it ranks #6 on their list of countries with the greatest persecution of Christians. They say that “the government still sees evangelical Christians as spies who want to wreak havoc in the country.” About 2% of Eritreans profess to be evangelical Christians.

Within the last year, hundreds of Christians that are not part of state-sanctioned churches have been arrested. They are often forced to work long hours or are held in shipping containers. Some estimates say that there are more than 3,000 Christians currently imprisoned because of their faith. According to Operation World, “since 2002, almost all foreign aid workers, Christian or otherwise, have been expelled or forced to leave.”

At Operation World you can [find more information about Eritrea](#).
At OpenDoors [you can find more information about the persecution of Christians in Eritrea](#).

We encourage you to pray that our Eritrean brothers and sisters would be bold to speak the truth of the gospel in the face of persecution; that God would grow His church in the face of persecution; that God would open up opportunities for Christians to go to Eritrea and countries like it to proclaim the message of the gospel.

PRAYER OF PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

Father, we praise You for You are the One, that by the power of Your word, brought the entire universe into existence. You spoke and all things came to be. We praise You that You are not only Creator of all, but also the Sustainer of all. We praise You for Your sovereign rule over all of life. Your power is so immense. There is nothing outside of Your control. Nothing that thwarts Your plans. Your wisdom is so vast. There is nothing that comes from Your hand that is not good. Your power, Your thoughts, Your ways are all so much greater than ours. In all of this, in You, we behold a God that is everything we lack, everything we need. And we praise You, that though there is such a great gap between us, You bridged that gap by sending Your Son Jesus, so that we could be brought near to you. Thank you that through the perfect sacrifice of Your Son, You poured out the riches of Your grace on us and made us Your children. Though we were once far off, You made us Your friends. Thank You for Your sustaining grace that is sufficient for every trial and difficulty we face in this life. Thank You that through Your Son we find rock solid hope, not only in this life, but also in life eternal. We pray all of this in the name of Your Son, Jesus. Amen.

PRAYER OF PETITION AND INTERCESSION

Father, we thank You that You are a God that meets us in our need, that cares for us in ways that are always sufficient, and that gives us new mercies each morning.

We rejoice together with James and Katrina Gass over the birth of their daughter, Cecily Jeannette. As they raise this precious child, we pray that she would early hear the truth of the gospel from her parents and regularly see its transforming power displayed in their lives.

We mourn together with Harriet Love over the death of her granddaughter, Emily Parker Sims. We pray that You would encourage and strengthen Harriet and her family during this time of loss.

We pray for Travis Summerlin's great-nephew, Sawyer, who at age 7 has just been diagnosed with Stage 4 brain cancer. God, grant Sawyer and his family Your peace that exceeds anything we can understand. We pray that you might heal this young child and that You would be brought glory through all that You do in Sawyer's life.

We lift up the country of Eritrea before you, a country that has experienced so much conflict and strife. We pray that our Eritrean brothers and sisters would be bold to speak the truth of the gospel in the face of persecution; that through the proclamation of the gospel many Eritreans would come to know the peace that passes all understanding through Your Son Jesus Christ; that You would grow Your church in the face of persecution; that You would open up opportunities for some from among our body to go to Eritrea and limited-access countries like it to proclaim the message of the gospel.

We pray for our gospel partners all over the globe. We ask that You would protect them. We ask that you would give them new and expanded opportunities this week to display the love of Christ and to speak the message of the gospel to others. We pray the same for each of us here in Greenville.

We pray for those in our body and in our community serving in the medical field, that You would protect them and give them strength as they treat those in need. Father, give us eyes to see and hands quick to meet the needs of others in our body and our community. Give parents among us the wisdom they need to lead their families well through these days. May we be people that redeem these days and these new opportunities You have given us.

We pray that You would use this time in our lives to grow our dependence on You, deepen our love for the body gathered at Hampton Park, and expand our heart for non-Christians around us.

We pray all of this in the name of Your Son, Jesus, Amen.

QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION AND REFLECTION

1. We were created for Eden and Eden for us. What do you see in your life and in your world even now that still reflects the goodness of God that was expressed in the original creation? Talk about the good you can see.
2. Our hearts want to create an existence as close to Eden as possible. What does the current pandemic force us to recognize about our best efforts to do so?
3. If we will let it do so, our brokenness can turn our minds and hearts to the only sure way of recovering paradise—Jesus Christ our Redeemer, the Way, the Truth, and the Life. In what ways can you use this time to spend more time meditating on and communing with Him?
4. During this time of social distancing, unusual limitations, and altered schedules, how can you still “drink deeply from what is still right?”
5. What do you think focusing instead on all that’s wrong will do to you and to those whose lives you touch?
6. Satan’s lie to Adam and Eve attacked God’s good intent toward them. In what ways can you fight this original lie in these days and hold fast to God’s love for you and to His promise that He is still working “all things together for good to them who love Him and are the called according to His purpose” (Romans 8:28)?
7. How can knowing believers are destined for paradise change your heart regarding the present difficulties?
8. Since heaven is more about the presence of God than just a place He built, how can you bring some heaven into your earthly existence today?
9. What are some ways you can encourage others with these truths this week?

GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

CORONAVIRUS AND CHURCH PLANS

All church events are canceled through March 31. We’ve set up a [special page on our website](#) where you can stay up-to-date with current information regarding our plans.

LADIES’ FACEBOOK PAGE

One way to stay connected is through social media. Our ladies’ [Facebook](#) page is a great place for our female members and regular attenders to interact with each other, request prayer, encourage each other, and share things we are learning. This is a private group, so things posted here are only visible to the group.

SERVING EACH OTHER

Are you interested in running errands for those in our congregation who may not be able to get out right now? If so, [click here](#) to let us know when you are available.

ENCOURAGEMENT

Are you interested in receiving a daily email with a God-focused, comfort-themed reading over the next week and a half? If so, [click here](#) to register.

HAMPTON PARK OFFICE HOURS

While our offices are not officially open, we do have many of our office staff who are continuing to work here, at least for now. If you have any needs, we would welcome you to call our church office or email anyone on staff. Our email addresses consist of our first and last name, followed by @hamptonpark.org. If for some reason you call the church office and no one answers, feel free to call 864-385-4748.