



ZION UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

WORSHIP @ HOME

www.zionuccindy.net/worshipathome

The 5th Sunday of EASTER
May 10, 2020

A Mother's Day Prayer of Thanksgiving – Today we give God thanks for the mothers and mother-figures in our lives who have nurtured us along the way. We acknowledge that this is a hard day for some—mothers who have known deep loss, those who miss their mothers, those who had challenging and hurtful relationships with their mothers, mothers and children who are estranged, those who have longed to be mothers—and on this Mother's Day we hold you in our hearts, too. We give thanks that ours is a God who mothers us, giving us the good, spiritual milk, we need to grow, as our scripture in 1 Peter for today says.

Lord, we remember the mothers who have gone before us.

For their love, sacrifice, struggle and joy, we thank you.

Lord, we remember the mothers of Scripture who are part of our story as we are a part of your story.

For their courage, faith, love and fierceness, we thank you.

Lord, we remember those who have not given birth to us, but are mothers to us.

For their gift of themselves that they have given, we thank you.

For the women who struggle with fertility, for those women whom society labels as less in their childlessness, for those women who have lost children; for their tears, for their strength, for their wisdom, for their lives, we thank you.¹

Happy Mother's Day for all those who celebrate this day!

Prelude

Lord, I Lift Your Name on High, Martha Main

We are Called to Worship

One: Once we were not a people,

Many: but now we are God's people.

One: Once we were alone,

Many: but together we are the household of God.

One: Here in this time of worship, and later when we go forth to serve,

Many: Christ is our cornerstone, strengthening us for the journey.

One: In our living and in our dying,

Many: Christ is our sure foundation, strengthening us along the way.~

Gathering Prayer - Shine your face upon us, O God. Help us see your face in one another and hear your voice in the words that are spoken. Through your grace, make us holy, that we may offer spiritual sacrifices that honor and glorify your holy name. Amen.~

Song 1

We Are Your People, 547, YouTube

Sharing Our Joys and Concerns

A Time of Prayer

You are welcome to send prayer requests to Pastor Sarah. Spend a few moments connecting with God and lifting up your prayers.

The Lord's Prayer (unison)

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.

Anthem

No One Ever Cared for Me Like Jesus, Martha Main

We Hear God's Word

1 Peter 2:2-10

²Like newborn infants, long for the pure, spiritual milk, so that by it you may grow into salvation— ³if indeed you have tasted that the Lord is good.

⁴Come to him, a living stone, though rejected by mortals yet chosen and precious in God's sight, and ⁵like living stones, let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ. ⁶For it stands in scripture:

'See, I am laying in Zion a stone,
a cornerstone chosen and precious;
and whoever believes in him will not be put to shame.'

⁷To you then who believe, he is precious; but for those who do not believe,
'The stone that the builders rejected
has become the very head of the corner',

⁸and
'A stone that makes them stumble,
and a rock that makes them fall.'

They stumble because they disobey the word, as they were destined to do.

⁹ But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people, in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvellous light.

¹⁰ Once you were not a people,
but now you are God's people;
once you had not received mercy,
but now you have received mercy.

Song 2

Sanctuary, 482, YouTube

Meditation

Living Stones

Spiritual Practice of the Week

LIVING STONES

LIKE LIVING STONES,
LET YOURSELVES BE
BUILT INTO A
SPIRITUAL HOUSE
1 PETER 2:5



Find a stone. It could be from your garden, your driveway, or one you happen upon on a walk. Maybe you have one in your house already. A photo or drawing would work, too. Place it somewhere that you will notice it this week. May it be a reminder for you to live into the identity Christ has given you to be living stone in this world. If you're feeling adventurous and have the supplies on hand, you might decorate your stone with a happy picture or a kind word and leave it out in the world for someone to find.

We Respond to God's Word with Our Giving

Offertory

Friends, we may not be together in person today as we worship, but the ministry of our church goes on. During this time when we are apart, we are still in need financial support for our ministry.

You're invited to take out your checkbook in these moments. As you write out your offering, be prayerful with each letter and number. In times such as these, when money becomes tight and our economy is under strain, God invites us to be generous and give what we can. These are gifts we freely give, as we are able and as we are called.

We ask that you please mail in your offerings to our office.

Zion United Church of Christ
8916 E. Troy Ave.
Indianapolis, IN 46239

You can now submit your offerings on our website through a secure PayPal donation button. Please know that PayPal receives at 2.2% processing fee and a \$0.30 transaction charge. You are able to set up reoccurring, monthly payments. Check it out on our website at www.zionuccindy.net/donate.

***The Doxology** (Please sing the version that is most meaningful to you)

Version 1

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Version 2

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit One. Amen.*

***We Give Thanks** (unison) – **O God, our fortress and our rock, may these offerings be acceptable to you. In a world facing profound need, they seem insignificant, but we know that in your hands, even small things become great. Use these gifts, and use our very lives, to make this world a home where all are sheltered, nourished and cherished. Amen.~**

Song 3

We Are the Church, 550, YouTube

We Are Sent Forth with a Blessing

One: Once we weren't a people, but now we are God's people.

Many: **God's face shines on us. God's faithful love saves us.**

One: This news is too good to keep to ourselves.

Many: **Everywhere we go, we will share the good news of God's amazing grace.**

One: Go forth this day to love and serve the LORD. Amen.~

Postlude

Benediction Medley, Martha Main

Worship Notes:

1. A prayer by Clair Schoepp <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2017/04/a-prayer-for-mothers-day.html?m=1>

~Abingdon Worship Annual