



**Sovereign Grace
Reformed**
Presbyterian Church (OPC)

Family Worship Guide

Sunday, October 4, 2020

Opening Scripture: Psalm 5:11–12

- ¹¹ But let all who take refuge in you rejoice;
let them ever sing for joy,
and spread your protection over them,
that those who love your name may exult in you.
- ¹² For you bless the righteous, O LORD;
you cover him with favor as with a shield.

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn of Praise: A Mighty Fortress Is Our God – TPH #244

Reading of the Law of God: Exodus 20:12

- ¹² Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.

Confession of Sin: Psalm 86

- ¹ Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me,
for I am poor and needy.
- ² Preserve my life, for I am godly;
save your servant, who trusts in you—you are my God.
- ³ Be gracious to me, O Lord,
for to you do I cry all the day.
- ⁴ Gladden the soul of your servant,
for to you, O Lord, do I lift up my soul.
- ⁵ For you, O Lord, are good and forgiving,
abounding in steadfast love to all who call upon you.
- ⁶ Give ear, O LORD, to my prayer;
listen to my plea for grace.
- ⁷ In the day of my trouble I call upon you,
for you answer me.
- ⁸ There is none like you among the gods, O Lord,
nor are there any works like yours.
- ⁹ All the nations you have made shall come
and worship before you, O Lord,

and shall glorify your name.

¹⁰ For you are great and do wondrous things;
you alone are God.

¹¹ Teach me your way, O LORD,
that I may walk in your truth;
unite my heart to fear your name.

¹² I give thanks to you, O Lord my God, with my whole heart,
and I will glorify your name forever.

¹³ For great is your steadfast love toward me;
you have delivered my soul from the depths of Sheol.

¹⁴ O God, insolent men have risen up against me;
a band of ruthless men seeks my life,
and they do not set you before them.

¹⁵ But you, O Lord, are a God merciful and gracious,
slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love and faithfulness.

¹⁶ Turn to me and be gracious to me;
give your strength to your servant,
and save the son of your maidservant.

¹⁷ Show me a sign of your favor,
that those who hate me may see and be put to shame
because you, LORD, have helped me and comforted me.

Assurance of Grace and Pardon: 1 Peter 3:18a

¹⁸ For Christ also suffered once for sins, the righteous for the unrighteous, that he might bring us to God...

Doxology: TPH #567

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him, above, ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Supplication: See the prayer sheet to pray with and for each other.

First Reading of God's Word: Isaiah 52:13–53:12

¹³ Behold, my servant shall act wisely;
he shall be high and lifted up,
and shall be exalted.

¹⁴ As many were astonished at you—
his appearance was so marred, beyond human semblance,
and his form beyond that of the children of mankind—

¹⁵ so shall he sprinkle many nations.
Kings shall shut their mouths because of him,
for that which has not been told them they see,
and that which they have not heard they understand.

^{53:1} Who has believed what he has heard from us?
And to whom has the arm of the LORD been revealed?

- ² For he grew up before him like a young plant,
and like a root out of dry ground;
he had no form or majesty that we should look at him,
and no beauty that we should desire him.
- ³ He was despised and rejected by men,
a man of sorrows and acquainted with grief;
and as one from whom men hide their faces
he was despised, and we esteemed him not.
- ⁴ Surely he has borne our griefs
and carried our sorrows;
yet we esteemed him stricken,
smitten by God, and afflicted.
- ⁵ But he was pierced for our transgressions;
he was crushed for our iniquities;
upon him was the chastisement that brought us peace,
and with his wounds we are healed.
- ⁶ All we like sheep have gone astray;
we have turned—every one—to his own way;
and the LORD has laid on him
the iniquity of us all.
- ⁷ He was oppressed, and he was afflicted,
yet he opened not his mouth;
like a lamb that is led to the slaughter,
and like a sheep that before its shearers is silent,
so he opened not his mouth.
- ⁸ By oppression and judgment he was taken away;
and as for his generation, who considered
that he was cut off out of the land of the living,
stricken for the transgression of my people?
- ⁹ And they made his grave with the wicked
and with a rich man in his death,
although he had done no violence,
and there was no deceit in his mouth.
- ¹⁰ Yet it was the will of the LORD to crush him;
he has put him to grief;
when his soul makes an offering for guilt,
he shall see his offspring; he shall prolong his days;
the will of the LORD shall prosper in his hand.
- ¹¹ Out of the anguish of his soul he shall see and be satisfied;
by his knowledge shall the righteous one, my servant,
make many to be accounted righteous,
and he shall bear their iniquities.
- ¹² Therefore I will divide him a portion with the many,
and he shall divide the spoil with the strong,
because he poured out his soul to death
and was numbered with the transgressors;

yet he bore the sin of many,
and makes intercession for the transgressors.

Psalm of Preparation: I Lift My Eyes Up to the Hills – TPH #121A

Second Reading of God's Word: Acts 17:1–15

¹ Now when they had passed through Amphipolis and Apollonia, they came to Thessalonica, where there was a synagogue of the Jews. ² And Paul went in, as was his custom, and on three Sabbath days he reasoned with them from the Scriptures, ³ explaining and proving that it was necessary for the Christ to suffer and to rise from the dead, and saying, “This Jesus, whom I proclaim to you, is the Christ.” ⁴ And some of them were persuaded and joined Paul and Silas, as did a great many of the devout Greeks and not a few of the leading women. ⁵ But the Jews were jealous, and taking some wicked men of the rabble, they formed a mob, set the city in an uproar, and attacked the house of Jason, seeking to bring them out to the crowd. ⁶ And when they could not find them, they dragged Jason and some of the brothers before the city authorities, shouting, “These men who have turned the world upside down have come here also, ⁷ and Jason has received them, and they are all acting against the decrees of Caesar, saying that there is another king, Jesus.” ⁸ And the people and the city authorities were disturbed when they heard these things. ⁹ And when they had taken money as security from Jason and the rest, they let them go.

¹⁰ The brothers immediately sent Paul and Silas away by night to Berea, and when they arrived they went into the Jewish synagogue. ¹¹ Now these Jews were more noble than those in Thessalonica; they received the word with all eagerness, examining the Scriptures daily to see if these things were so.

¹² Many of them therefore believed, with not a few Greek women of high standing as well as men. ¹³ But when the Jews from Thessalonica learned that the word of God was proclaimed by Paul at Berea also, they came there too, agitating and stirring up the crowds. ¹⁴ Then the brothers immediately sent Paul off on his way to the sea, but Silas and Timothy remained there.

¹⁵ Those who conducted Paul brought him as far as Athens, and after receiving a command for Silas and Timothy to come to him as soon as possible, they departed.

Preaching of God's Word: “The World Turned Upside Down” – Pastor Jeffrey Carter

Point: Into the darkness of this present evil age, the light of the gospel shines through the lives of those who are loyal to Christ.

Outline:

1. **Light for the Darkness:** As Christians, we are bearers of light in this dark world, the ‘kingdom of darkness’ (1 Pet. 2:9). We bear this light through believing the gospel, witnessing to it, and living by it. This is true of those specially called to minister for Christ (like Paul and others), and for every individual Christian (like Jason and the godly Thessalonians, 1 Thess. 1:9–10).
2. **Loyalty to the King:** Christ is the true King of kings and Lord of lords who reigns over an eternal kingdom. Those who belong to his kingdom are ultimately loyal to him, despite what persecution the lesser kings of this world send their way. Like the Christians in Thessalonica and Berea, we’re to be loyal to Christ always, especially in wisely responding to antagonism from this world and desiring the good of our neighbors.
3. **Zeal according to Knowledge:** Both the Thessalonian (Rom. 10:1–4) and Berean Jews are zealous for God, but the fruit of their zeal is wildly different. The Thessalonians end up siding with the forces of darkness, while the Bereans seek the light of God’s word and find the true knowledge of Christ and

his grace. Their godly zeal is an example to all who love the truth and are loyal to Christ the King. May we all have such a zeal for the kingdom of Christ!

Hymn of Response: When I Survey the Wondrous Cross – TPH #338

Closing Scripture: Hebrews 13:20–21

²⁰ Now may the God of peace who brought again from the dead our Lord Jesus, the great shepherd of the sheep, by the blood of the eternal covenant, ²¹ equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in us that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ, to whom be glory forever and ever. Amen.