



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

Family Worship Guide

Sunday, August 9, 2020

Opening Scripture: Psalm 107:1–3

- ¹ Oh give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever!
- ² Let the redeemed of the LORD say so,
whom he has redeemed from trouble
- ³ and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn of Praise: Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing – TPH #429

Reading of the Law of God: Exodus 21:1–17

- ¹ And God spoke all these words, saying,
- ² "I am the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery.
- ³ "You shall have no other gods before me.
- ⁴ "You shall not make for yourself a carved image, or any likeness of anything that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth. ⁵ You shall not bow down to them or serve them, for I the LORD your God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers on the children to the third and the fourth generation of those who hate me, ⁶ but showing steadfast love to thousands of those who love me and keep my commandments.
- ⁷ "You shall not take the name of the LORD your God in vain, for the LORD will not hold him guiltless who takes his name in vain.
- ⁸ "Remember the Sabbath day, to keep it holy. ⁹ Six days you shall labor, and do all your work, ¹⁰ but the seventh day is a Sabbath to the LORD your God. On it you shall not do any work, you, or your son, or your daughter, your male servant, or your female servant, or your livestock, or the sojourner who is within your gates. ¹¹ For in six days the LORD made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, and rested on the seventh day. Therefore the LORD blessed the Sabbath day and made it holy.
- ¹² "Honor your father and your mother, that your days may be long in the land that the LORD your God is giving you.
- ¹³ "You shall not murder.
- ¹⁴ "You shall not commit adultery.
- ¹⁵ "You shall not steal.
- ¹⁶ "You shall not bear false witness against your neighbor.

¹⁷ “You shall not covet your neighbor's house; you shall not covet your neighbor's wife, or his male servant, or his female servant, or his ox, or his donkey, or anything that is your neighbor's.”

Confession of Faith: Dan. 9:4–5; Ps. 6:1–5; Ps. 16:11

O LORD, the great and awesome God,
who keeps covenant and steadfast love
with those who love him and keep his commandments,
we have sinned and done wrong
and acted wickedly and rebelled,
turning aside from your commandments and rules.
O LORD, rebuke me not in your anger,
nor discipline me in your wrath.
Be gracious to me, O LORD, for I am languishing;
heal me, O LORD, for my bones are troubled.
My soul also is greatly troubled.
But you, O LORD—how long?
Turn, O LORD, deliver my life;
save me for the sake of your steadfast love.
For in death there is no remembrance of you;
in Sheol who will give you praise?
You make known to me the path of life;
in your presence there is fullness of joy;
at your right hand are pleasures forevermore.

Assurance of Grace and Pardon: Jeremiah 31:31–34

³¹ “Behold, the days are coming, declares the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah, ³² not like the covenant that I made with their fathers on the day when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt, my covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, declares the LORD. ³³ For this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, declares the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts. And I will be their God, and they shall be my people. ³⁴ And no longer shall each one teach his neighbor and each his brother, saying, ‘Know the LORD,’ for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, declares the LORD. For I will forgive their iniquity, and I will remember their sin no more.”

Gloria Patri: TPH #572

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and every shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Supplication: See the prayer sheet to pray for one another and Christ's Kingdom.

First Reading of God's Word: Jeremiah 29:1–14

¹ These are the words of the letter that Jeremiah the prophet sent from Jerusalem to the surviving elders of the exiles, and to the priests, the prophets, and all the people, whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon. ² This was after King Jeconiah and the queen mother, the eunuchs, the officials of Judah and Jerusalem, the craftsmen, and the metal workers had departed from Jerusalem. ³ The letter was sent by the hand of Elasah the son of Shaphan and Gemariah the son of Hilkiyah, whom Zedekiah king of Judah sent to Babylon to Nebuchadnezzar king of Babylon. It said: ⁴ “Thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel, to all the exiles whom I have sent into exile from Jerusalem to Babylon: ⁵ Build houses and live in them; plant gardens and eat their produce. ⁶ Take wives and have sons and daughters; take wives for your sons, and give your daughters in marriage, that they may bear sons and daughters; multiply there, and do not decrease. ⁷ But seek the welfare of the city where I have sent you into exile, and pray to the LORD on its behalf, for in its welfare you will find your welfare. ⁸ For thus says the LORD of hosts, the God of Israel: Do not let your prophets and your diviners who are among you deceive you, and do not listen to the dreams that they dream, ⁹ for it is a lie that they are prophesying to you in my name; I did not send them, declares the LORD.

¹⁰ “For thus says the LORD: When seventy years are completed for Babylon, I will visit you, and I will fulfill to you my promise and bring you back to this place. ¹¹ For I know the plans I have for you, declares the LORD, plans for welfare and not for evil, to give you a future and a hope. ¹² Then you will call upon me and come and pray to me, and I will hear you. ¹³ You will seek me and find me, when you seek me with all your heart. ¹⁴ I will be found by you, declares the LORD, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, declares the LORD, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.”

Psalm of Preparation: With All My Heart My Thanks I Bring – TPH #138A

Second Reading of God's Word: 1 John 4:1–6

¹ Beloved, do not believe every spirit, but test the spirits to see whether they are from God, for many false prophets have gone out into the world. ² By this you know the Spirit of God: every spirit that confesses that Jesus Christ has come in the flesh is from God, ³ and every spirit that does not confess Jesus is not from God. This is the spirit of the antichrist, which you heard was coming and now is in the world already. ⁴ Little children, you are from God and have overcome them, for he who is in you is greater than he who is in the world. ⁵ They are from the world; therefore they speak from the world, and the world listens to them. ⁶ We are from God. Whoever knows God listens to us; whoever is not from God does not listen to us. By this we know the Spirit of truth and the spirit of error.

Preaching of God's Word: Pastor Jeffrey Carter – *“What You Need to Grow as a Christian”*

Point: Christian maturity rests on having a discerning ear, a fortified heart, and a firm foundation.

Outline:

1. A Discerning Ear
 - a. The need for this discernment
 - b. The standard for this discernment
 - c. The fruit of this discernment
2. A Fortified Heart
 - a. Assured of your relationship to God

- b. Assured of your relationship to the world
- 3. A Firm Foundation
 - a. The Apostolic word
 - b. The community that word creates

Hymn of Response: God, in the Gospel of His Son – TPH #170

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.