

# An Order of Worship for the Home

July 12, 2020

Ezekiel: Visions of Hope – week 2

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*This service is written for two speakers. Ideally, family members can speak and declare God's grace to one another following this format. For those who live alone, this worship outline can be followed with a brother or sister in Christ over the phone. You may call on a friend to fill this role, or your elder or pastor can worship with you by phone.*

*There is an "offering prayer" included in this outline. As we shelter in place, please continue to worship through giving. You can mail offering envelopes and checks to Calvary or visit [www.calvaryslz.org](http://www.calvaryslz.org) to give online.*

## **Invocation**

*I will remove the heart of stone from their flesh and give them a heart of flesh, that they may walk in my statutes and keep my rules and obey them. And they shall be my people, and I will be their God. (Ezekiel 11:19b-20)*

Reader 1: The Lord has promised to be our God.  
Reader 2: The Lord has promised to make us His people.  
Reader 1: We gather in the name of the Lord...  
Reader 2: The God who is Father, Son and Spirit.  
Together: Amen.

## **Psalm 99:1-5**

<sup>1</sup> The Lord reigns,  
let the nations tremble;  
he sits enthroned between the cherubim,  
let the earth shake.  
<sup>2</sup> Great is the Lord in Zion;  
he is exalted over all the nations.  
<sup>3</sup> Let them praise your great and awesome name—  
he is holy.

<sup>4</sup>The King is mighty, he loves justice—  
you have established equity;  
in Jacob you have done  
what is just and right.

<sup>5</sup>Exalt the Lord our God  
and worship at his footstool;  
he is holy.

### **Confession & Absolution**

*Make sure each person present has opportunity to confess to a brother or sister in faith. Go through both parts as many times as needed to accommodate all who are gathered.*

*“Repent and turn from all your transgressions, lest iniquity be your ruin. Cast away from you all the transgressions that you have committed, and make yourselves a new heart and a new spirit! Why will you die, O house of Israel? For I have no pleasure in the death of anyone, declares the Lord God; so turn, and live.” (Ezekiel 18:30b-32)*

Christian Confessing: I confess that I have a stone heart. I don't love as I should. As a result, I don't act as I should. I don't speak as I should. I've hurt others. I've failed to help when given opportunity. Lord, forgive me and heal this heart of stone.

Christian Responding: Hear this promise: *I will sprinkle clean water on you, and you shall be clean from all your uncleannesses, and from all your idols I will cleanse you. And I will give you a new heart, and a new spirit I will put within you. And I will remove the heart of stone from your flesh and give you a heart of flesh. And I will put my Spirit within you, and cause you to walk in my statutes and be careful to obey my rules. (Ezekiel 36:25-27)* You are loved and forgiven! All these promises spoken through Ezekiel are yours in Jesus.

Together: Amen.

### **Matthew 28:16-20**

Now the eleven disciples went to Galilee, to the mountain to which Jesus had directed them. <sup>17</sup> And when they saw him they worshiped him, but some doubted. <sup>18</sup> And Jesus came and said to them, “All authority in heaven and on earth has been given to me. <sup>19</sup> Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit, <sup>20</sup> teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age.”

### **Apostles' Creed**

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

### **Ezekiel 9:1-11**

Then he cried in my ears with a loud voice, saying, “Bring near the executioners of the city, each with his destroying weapon in his hand.” <sup>2</sup> And behold, six men came from the direction of the upper gate, which faces north, each with his weapon for slaughter in his hand, and with them was a man clothed in linen, with a writing case at his waist. And they went in and stood beside the bronze altar.

<sup>3</sup> Now the glory of the God of Israel had gone up from the cherub on which it rested to the threshold of the house. And he called to the man clothed in linen, who had the writing case at his waist. <sup>4</sup> And the Lord said to him, “Pass through the city, through Jerusalem, and put a mark on the foreheads of the men who sigh and groan over all the abominations that are committed in it.” <sup>5</sup> And to the others he said in my hearing, “Pass through the city after him, and strike. Your eye shall not spare, and you shall show no pity. <sup>6</sup> Kill old men outright, young men and maidens, little children and women, but touch no one on whom is the mark. And begin at my

sanctuary.” So they began with the elders who were before the house. <sup>7</sup> Then he said to them, “Defile the house, and fill the courts with the slain. Go out.” So they went out and struck in the city. <sup>8</sup> And while they were striking, and I was left alone, I fell upon my face, and cried, “Ah, Lord God! Will you destroy all the remnant of Israel in the outpouring of your wrath on Jerusalem?”

<sup>9</sup> Then he said to me, “The guilt of the house of Israel and Judah is exceedingly great. The land is full of blood, and the city full of injustice. For they say, ‘The Lord has forsaken the land, and the Lord does not see.’ <sup>10</sup> As for me, my eye will not spare, nor will I have pity; I will bring their deeds upon their heads.”

<sup>11</sup> And behold, the man clothed in linen, with the writing case at his waist, brought back word, saying, “I have done as you commanded me.”

## **Reflection**

### **Chosen and Marked**

As you consider the marking placed on people in Ezekiel’s vision, how does this connect with the way in which God marked you at your baptism?

The word translated “mark” in Ezekiel 9:4 actually refers to the Hebrew letter *tau* which in its ancient script was made of two intersecting lines – much like an English X or a cross. How has your life been “marked” by the cross of Jesus?

## **Offering Prayer**

*If you have an offering present as you worship, you may place your hands over it during the offering prayer.*

Reader 1: With thankful hearts we receive from you, O Lord.

Reader 2: With thankful hearts we respond.

Reader 1: Receive our thanks and praise.

Reader 2: Receive our offerings.

Together: Receive us as your own.

## **Prayers and the Lord's Prayer**

*Share prayer requests with one another. Pray over the requests shared, then pray the Lord's Prayer together.*

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.

### **Blessing** *(adapted from Ezekiel 34:30-31, 23)*

Reader 1: The Lord our God is with us.  
Reader 2: We are His people.  
Reader 1: We are His sheep.  
Reader 2: He is our Shepherd.  
Together: We will not be afraid. Amen.

*As applicable, please share this resource with others who would benefit. An electronic version is available at [www.calvaryslz.org](http://www.calvaryslz.org). We can also add friends to our mailing list if that is preferred.*

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