

Church closed? Here is another option, wherever you are.

Opening Hymn to recite or sing:

We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator,
In grateful devotion our tribute we bring.
We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
We bless your holy name; glad praises we sing.

Or:

All people that on earth do dwell,
Sing to the Lord with cheerful voice;
Him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell;
Come ye before him and rejoice.

Confession and Absolution: (L=Leader, P=People)

L: Father and Lord, we come to you just as we are, in all our brokenness, asking for forgiveness.

P: Out of the depths we cry unto you.

Lord, hear our voice!

Let your ears be open to our plea for mercy!

If you, Lord, should keep track of sin,

Who could stand before you? (Psalm 130:1-3a)

L: Lord Jesus,

P: We are caught in sin.

Whatever we try to do ends up in spiritual pride or spiritual despair.

We are broken,

In all that we do, and in all that we fail to do.

Though our sins are like scarlet,

Make them as white as snow (Isaiah 1:18).

L: There is no condemnation for those who are in Christ Jesus (Romans 8:1).

In him your sin is forgiven.

He has called you by name. You are his (Isaiah 43:1b).

God's Son has made you free! (John 8:36)

P. Amen!

Scripture readings:

- 1 Timothy 2:1: "First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for all men."
- 1 Cor 1:11: "You also must help us by prayer, so that many will give thanks on our behalf for the blessings granted us in answer to many prayers."
- Philippians 1:19: "Yes, and I shall rejoice. For I know that through your prayers and the help of the Spirit of Jesus Christ this will turn out for my deliverance."

Gospel message:

Dear Christian friends, grace, mercy, and peace to you from God our Father and our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ.

The gospel for today and every day is this message: God in Christ died and rose for you and me. Let us preach this Word to each other now: **God in Christ died and rose for you and me.** Ten words. This we believe. Now may the peace of God which passes all understanding, guard and keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, our Lord. Amen.

Thanksgiving

L: The Lord be with you.

P: **And also with you.**

L: Lift up your hearts.

P: **We lift them to the Lord.**

L: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

P: **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

L: It is indeed right and salutary that we should at all times and places offer thanks and praise to you, O Lord, holy Father, through Christ our Lord; who on this day overcame death and the grave, and by his glorious resurrection opened to us the way of everlasting life. And so, with all the Church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn...

P: **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Prayer of the Church

L: Let us pray:

Lord, you have been our dwelling place in all generations.

Before the mountains were brought forth,

Before you had formed the earth and the world,

From everlasting to everlasting you are God.

For a thousand years in your sight are but as yesterday when it is past, (Psalm 90:1-4)

Lord in your mercy,

P: **Hear our prayer.**

L: Continue to uphold your creation by the power of your Word –

In our homes, in our schools, and in our government,

In work and at play,

In all calamities and disasters. Lord in your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

L: Continue to uphold your church through your Word and sacraments.

Send us out into the world to live and to speak, free to serve others.

Continue to send your Spirit to open hearts, to bring healing, to guide us, to help us against the Evil One. Lord in your mercy,

P: **Hear our prayer.**

L: We as your church lift up most particularly before you _____, and anyone who has a special sorrow, need, or difficulty, that you would pour out an extra measure of your comfort and hope and strength. Keep them in the hollow of your hand. Lord in your mercy,

P: **Hear our prayer.**

L: Keep each one of us, in all the fragility and brokenness of this life, now and at the end.
Lord, your steadfast love never ceases.
Your mercies never come to an end.
They are new every morning.
Great is your faithfulness.
You have made me your own,
therefore I will hope in you. (Lamentations 3:22-24)

Lord's Prayer

L: Let us pray together the Lord's Prayer:

**P: 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 thy is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

Benediction

L: "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, equip you with everything good that you may do his will, working in you that which is pleasing in his sight, through Jesus Christ; to whom be glory for ever and ever. Amen" (Hebrews 13:20-21).

Closing Hymn

God be with you till we meet again,
By His counsels guide, uphold you,
With His sheep securely fold you,
God be with you till we meet again.
Till we meet, till we meet,
Till we meet at Jesus' feet;
Till we meet, till we meet,
God be with you till we meet again.