



Liturgy for a Stormy Sunday

... that the saints of Sylvania Church may worship together, though separated by a winter storm.

Plain words are for someone to read aloud to everyone else, while bold words are for reading aloud together (if everyone is able to see them).

Consider letting kids read some of the Scripture portions.

If there's a father in the home, he can gather the family in the Call to Worship and give the Benediction.

Call to Worship: Psalm 148

Praise the LORD!

Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise Him in the heights!

Praise Him, all His angels; praise Him, all His hosts!

Praise Him, sun and moon; praise Him, all you stars of light!

Praise Him, you heavens of heavens, and you waters above the heavens!

Let them praise the name of the LORD, for He commanded and they were created.

He also established them forever and ever; He made a decree which shall not pass away.

Praise the LORD from the earth, you great sea creatures and all the depths;

Fire and hail, snow and clouds; stormy wind, fulfilling His word;

Mountains and all hills; fruitful trees and all cedars;

Beasts and all cattle; creeping things and flying fowl;

Kings of the earth and all peoples; princes and all judges of the earth;

Both young men and maidens; old men and children.

Let them praise the name of the LORD,

For His name alone is exalted;

His glory is above the earth and heaven.

And He has exalted the horn of His people, the praise of all His saints—

Of the children of Israel, a people near to Him.

Praise the LORD!

Opening Prayer

At this point, anyone who would like may offer an opening prayer of praise to God.

Consider praising God for truths we saw in Psalm 148.

"Praise to the Lord, the Almighty"

Words: Joachim Neander; Transl.: Catherine Winkworth

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!
All ye who hear, now to his temple draw near,
Join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so wondrously reigneth,
Shelters thee under his wings, yea, so gently sustaineth!
Hast thou not seen how thy desires e'er have been
Granted in what he ordaineth?

Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee!
Surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee;
Ponder anew what the Almighty will do,
If with his love he befriend thee.

Praise to the Lord, who with marvelous wisdom hath made thee,
Decked thee with health, and with loving hand guided and stayed thee.
How oft in grief hath not he brought thee relief,
Spreading his wings to o'ershade thee!

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!
Let the amen sound from his people again;
Gladly fore'er we adore him.

Call to Confession: Isaiah 1:16-20

"Wash yourselves, make yourselves clean; put away the evil of your doings from before My eyes.
Cease to do evil, learn to do good; seek justice, rebuke the oppressor;
Defend the fatherless, plead for the widow.
"Come now, and let us reason together," says the Lord,
"Though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be as white as snow;
Though they are red like crimson, they shall be as wool.
If you are willing and obedient, you shall eat the good of the land;
But if you refuse and rebel, you shall be devoured by the sword"; for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Let's all take a moment to examine our hearts and to consider the ways we have not concerned ourselves with those things that God has called us to be concerned with – loving our neighbor, doing good, and returning always to Christ.

Confession of Sin

Lord God, You have made the way for us to return to You with open hearts,
That we may forsake our sins and be cleaned through Christ.

We confess to You that though we know this glorious Gospel, yet we have not loved one another.

We have been self-consumed, and we have not left our sins behind and hungered and thirsted for righteousness.

Have mercy on us and make us clean! Wash us, and we will be whiter than snow.

Through Your Son we pray. Amen.

Each person can take a moment for individual confession of specific sins in his or her heart.

The Gospel: 1 Corinthians 6:11, 14, 19-20

But you were washed, but you were sanctified, but you were justified in the name of the Lord Jesus and by the Spirit of our God.... And God both raised up the Lord and will also raise us up by His power.... Or do you not know that your body is the temple of the Holy Spirit who is in you, whom you have from God, and you are not your own? For you were bought at a price; therefore glorify God in your body and in your spirit, which are God's.

Song of Rejoicing: "Rock of Ages"

Augustus Montague Toplady and Thomas Hastings

Rock of Ages, Cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee
Let the water and the blood from Thy wounded side which flowed
Be of sin the double cure; save from wrath and make me pure

Not the labors of my hands can fulfill Thy law's demands
Could my zeal no respite know, could my tears forever flow
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone

Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to the cross I cling
Naked, come to Thee for dress, helpless, look to Thee for grace
Foul, I to the fountain fly – wash me Savior, or I die

While I draw this fleeting breath, when mine eyes shall close in death
When I soar to worlds unknown, see Thee on Thy Judgment Throne
Rock of Ages, Cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee

Scripture Reading: Psalm 29

Sermon: "Jesus Calms the Storm"

Mark 4:35-41 | Dr. Alistair Begg

We're stuck at home this morning because of a winter storm. If you're able (power and internet availability included), gather all worshipers around a smart TV, a smartphone, or a computer, and listen to Dr. Alistair Begg preach Mark 4:35-41, where Jesus calms the storm. Copy and paste this link to be taken to the webpage for the sermon, where you can either listen on audio or watch video:

<https://www.truthforlife.org/resources/sermon/jesus-calms-the-storm/>

Song of Response: "It Is Well With My Soul"

Horatio G. Spafford and Philip P. Bliss

When peace like a river attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, "It is well; it is well with my soul"

It is well – with my soul

It is well, it is well with my soul

Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come let this blest assurance control
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate and has shed His own blood for my soul

My sin—O the bliss of this glorious thought—my sin, not in part, but the whole
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more praise the Lord, praise the Lord, O my soul

O Lord, haste the day when my faith shall be sight the clouds be rolled back as a scroll
The trump shall resound and the Lord shall descend even so, it is well with my soul

Benediction: Numbers 6:24-26

The LORD bless you and keep you;
the LORD make His face shine upon you, and be gracious to you;
the LORD lift up His countenance upon you, and give you peace.