

An Outline for In-Home Worship on Sunday, May 31

First Reformed Church of South Holland

Worship Service Element	Explanation
<p style="text-align: center;">Prepare</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>At 9:25am on Sunday, please begin with the Prelude & Welcome Video.</i></p>	<p><i>Today is Pentecost Sunday. The Old Testament Hebrews celebrated Pentecost as the 50th day after Passover on which God gave the Israelites the Law. As Christians, we, too, celebrate God's provision for His people, as we remember the 50th day after Easter on which God gave us His Holy Spirit.</i></p> <p><i>It is this Holy Spirit Who aids us as we worship today and serves as our "tour guide" through the liturgy, bringing these words and actions to resurrection life.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">God Calls Us To Worship</p> <p>LEADER: God of life, all creatures on earth look to You. PEOPLE: When you send your Spirit, they are created; and you renew the face of the ground. LEADER: O Lord, how manifold are Your works! In wisdom You have made them all; the earth is full of Your creatures. PEOPLE: I will sing to the Lord as long as I live; I will sing praise to my God while I have being. LEADER: May my meditation be pleasing to you, O God, for I rejoice in the Lord. PEOPLE: Bless the Lord, O my soul. Praise the Lord! LEADER: Let us worship God!</p>	<p><i>Based on Psalm 104, this divine Call to Worship comes to us through the mouths of children this morning, reminding us that God calls each of us, from the least to the greatest, from the biggest to the smallest, from the joyful to the downtrodden, to join our voices in worship!</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Greeting One Another & The Passing of The Peace</p>	<p><i>Speaking words of peace accompanied by a handshake or hug is a simple yet profound gesture. As we practice this ritual together every Sunday, our hearts are shaped to be more like Christ's. For how can our handshakes of peace turn to fists of frustration with one another? Or how can they be used to take selfishly from those to whom we just offered Christ's peace? May this</i></p>

	<p><i>simple gesture remind us of God's desire for our divisions to cease.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">“Sing Praise To The Father”</p> <p>Sing praise to the Father, Creator and King, whose mercy has taught us a new song to sing; Who made us, and loved us, though rebels and lost, and planned our redemption at infinite cost.</p> <p>Bless the Lord, bless the Lord, bless the Lord, O my soul, for the grace that redeems, for the love that makes whole; O come and adore Him, His glories proclaim, and worship before Him – the Lord is His name.</p> <p>Sing praise to the Savior, Redeemer and Friend, for grace past all telling, for love without end; Who stripped off His glory, put on mortal sin, and died in our stead, full atonement to win.</p> <p>Sing praise to the Spirit, the gift of God's love, Who quickens our hearts with new life from above, Who woos us, subdues us, and seals us His own, and faultless presents us before the White Throne.</p> <p>Sing praise to the Father, sing praise to the Son, sing praise to the Spirit, great God Three in One; The God of salvation, of glory, of grace, Who wrought our redemption – my soul, sing His praise!</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“Lord Most High”</p> <p>From the ends of the earth (from the ends of the earth), from the depths of the sea (from the depths of the sea), from the heights of the heavens (from the heights of the heavens), Your name be praised! From the hearts of the weak (from the hearts of the weak), From the shouts of the strong (from the shouts of the strong), From the lips of all people (from the lips of all people), This song we raise Lord!</p> <p>Throughout the endless ages You will be crowned with praises, Lord Most High! Exalted in every nation, sovereign of all creation, Lord Most High! Be magnified!</p>	<p><i>On this Pentecost Sunday, we begin our sung worship by recognizing the work of our Triune God – Father, Son, and Spirit. Our worship this morning is offered to God the Father, through Jesus the Son, and by the power of the Holy Spirit. Praise God for empowering us to do what we are unable to do on our own!</i></p> <p><i>As God's Holy Spirit dwells within us, we are empowered and emboldened to testify to God's greatness and goodness. So our worship continues with the celebration that God's name will be exalted across all time and in all places!</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">❖ TRY SOMETHING NEW: <i>Before singing “Lord Most High,” pick out a motion or a gesture for each line that you can perform as you sing. Use this gesture as a physical expression of the words You are singing this morning, and offer them as praise to God.</i></p> <p><i>If you are musical and would like to play along with us, chord charts are attached to the Worship Resources email or can be downloaded by clicking here.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Prayer of Confession <i>Please pray this prayer of confession together in your homes.</i></p> <p>Most gracious heavenly Father, on this Pentecost Sunday we rejoice that there is new life all around us. And we admit that despite this new life, we still cling to old ways.</p>	<p><i>Our weekly ritual of confessing our sins and accepting God's forgiveness is also a heart-forming practice. For as we embed the rhythms of confession and grace in our relationship with our heavenly</i></p>

<p>Instead of Your promises, we seek self-assurance. Instead of trusting Your Word, we accept our own counsel. Instead of spreading Your grace, we hold others in our judgment. Instead of surrendering to You, we create fortresses of selfishness in our hearts. For these things and more, Lord, we confess our sins, and ask that You would hear now our silent prayers of confession.</p> <p><i>Spend a few moments in silent reflection and confession.</i></p> <p>Loving God, by Your Holy Spirit you give order to chaos, You enliven our existence, and You awaken our hearts to the dawning of a new eternal era. May Your Spirit dispel the darkness of our doubt, and draw us into closer communion with You and with one another. May Your Spirit continue to enliven and embolden us as we seek to leave behind this life of the flesh, and to follow Your will and Your Word. We pray this all in the name of Jesus, through the power of the Holy Spirit, amen.</p>	<p><i>Father, we practice to reflect those same rhythms of honesty and forgiveness in our relationships with others.</i></p> <p><i>As we take this time to practice reconciliation with God, think about whom else in your life you need to practice reconciliation with. Consider pursuing that conversation right now, before continuing to the Scripture reading.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Song of Assurance</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Click here to begin the Song of Assurance Video.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">“All Who Are Thirsty”</p> <p>All who are thirsty, all who are weak, come to the fountain – dip your heart in the stream of life; Let the pain and the sorrow be washed away in the waves of His mercy as deep cries out to deep.</p> <p>Come Lord Jesus come (4x)</p> <p>Holy Spirit come (4x)</p>	<p><i>Jesus said “It is not the healthy who need a doctor, but the sick” (Luke 5:31). It is wonderful to know that we do not have to come to God “all cleaned up,” but that He welcomes us to come to Him as we are, to find help and healing.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Scripture Reading <i>Acts 2:1-13</i></p> <p>When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them.</p> <p>Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. Utterly amazed, they asked: “Aren’t all these who are speaking Galileans? Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!” Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, “What does this</p>	<p><i>Our human tendency is to forget. After all, that’s why we have “to-do” lists and calendar apps that are full of reminders! In His goodness, God has given us His Word to remind us of who we are and how we are to live.¹ Our Scripture this morning reminds us of these two very things – the identity and mission of the Church.</i></p> <p><i>Even if you are alone in your home this morning, we encourage you to read these words aloud as a part of our proclaiming the Scriptures</i></p>

¹ Bible Project, *Public Reading of Scripture* (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BO1Y9XyWKTw>), accessed May 18, 2020.

<p>mean?"</p> <p>Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."</p>	<p>together.</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Sermon</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>"Pentecost: The Mission of God Goes Forward"</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">Pastors Jim Oord & Corey Buchanan</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Click here to begin the Sermon Video.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Congregational Prayer</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Please spend a few moments praying for these prompts together in your home.</i></p> <p>-Genesis 1 says that during God's act of Creation, the Holy Spirit was "hovering over the waters," bringing order out of chaos. Psalm 104 says that the Spirit is still involved in renewing and bringing life to this Creation. Pray for the Spirit to use us to join in His work of protecting and caring for this creation.</p> <p>-John 17 and Ephesians 4 tell us that the Holy Spirit is involved in bringing unity to the Church. Pray for the Spirit to bring unity to the churches in South Holland (especially pray for the work of the South Holland Ministerial Association). Pray for unity in the churches and denominations around the world (especially pray for the work of the World Council of Churches, Christian Churches Together, and the World Communion of Reformed Churches, groups to which we belong that work for church unity).</p> <p>-John 15-16 tells us that the Holy Spirit's main role is to show us Jesus. Pray that you would see Jesus clearly and in new ways. Pray for a fresh vision of all His mercy, grace, love, and comfort.</p> <p>-Galatians 5 tells us that the Holy Spirit is at work to fight sin and bring forth fruit in believers' lives. Pray that the Spirit would reveal sins in your heart that need attention. Pray for fresh fruit to be brought forth in your life - love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.</p> <p>-Ephesians 6 tells us that the Spirit is involved in spiritual warfare. Pray for His protection and guidance in times of trial and temptation.</p> <p>-The book of Acts shows us that the Spirit equips and sends the Church out on God's mission. Pray for opportunities to show up in your life to speak Christ's peace, to show Christ's hospitality, to work Christ's justice, to demonstrate Christ's mercy, and to extend Christ's Kingdom.</p> <p>-Pray for Chad and Dara VandenBosch, missionaries in Mozambique. Pray for God's protection and blessing in their work to share God's Word and feed the hungry.</p> <p>-Pray for Chicagoland Prison Outreach (Pastor Corey's ministry). Their work has been limited due to this</p>	<p><i>As we pray for the needs of our families, our church, and our world, we find that our worship and our work are intricately intertwined. If you have ever wondered what Sunday worship has to do with your life on Tuesday night, look no further than the purpose of this prayer. It is here that we bring the needs of our world to God, and it is from here that we carry gospel hope back into our world.</i></p> <p><i>Once again, if you are worshipping together with others this morning, please encourage different members to pray specifically for these different items.</i></p> <p><i>For more items to pray about this morning, please call our prayer line at (708) 333-8150.</i></p> <p><i>When you have concluded your prayers, please click in the left-hand column below to play the Lord's Prayer video.</i></p>

<p>pandemic. Pray for the good news of true freedom to shine in the prisons. Pray for CPO to continue to find creative ways to speak. Pray for the safety and health of the prisoners.</p> <p>-Pray for anyone and anything the Spirit puts in your heart at this time.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Click here to begin the Lord's Prayer Video.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">Offering of Our Tithes</p> <p>Thank you for your continued generous support of the mission and ministry of First Reformed Church. We are grateful for your partnership in the ministry God is doing through our church, and for your steadfast support during this difficult time.</p> <p>To give to God's ministry through First Reformed Church online, click here. Alternatively, take a few moments to fill out your offering envelope and mail it to the church at 15924 South Park Ave., South Holland, IL 60473. If you would like to drop off your offerings directly to church, there is a secure black mailbox outside the main office door. Envelopes can be placed in the box at any time of the day or night.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">❖ TRY SOMETHING NEW:</p> <p><i>Pause for a moment and reflect upon the many blessings God has poured out in your life – not least of which is the gift of His indwelling Spirit. Our offerings are a response of gratitude to this generosity. May we be moved to give in measure to this gratitude.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">“Doxology”</p> <p>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.</p>	<p><i>Where the name of the Lord is known, the name of the Lord is praised! As we give back to God we are reminded of His constant goodness and provision.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Prayer Over Our Gifts</p> <p>God of wind, word, and fire, we bless your Name this day for sending the light and strength of your Holy Spirit. We give you thanks for all the gifts, great and small, that you have poured out on us. Accept these gifts, and help us to give our whole being to be living praise and a witness to Your love throughout all the earth. Through Jesus Christ, who lives with You in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever. Amen.</p>	<p><i>The same God who multiplied the loaves and the fish can use our meager offerings for His glory and our good. This prayer thanks God for His good gifts and asks Him to continue to use us as gifts of His love to others.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Benediction & Charge</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Click here to begin the Benediction Video.</p>	<p><i>We leave worship today in the power and presence of the Triune God. God gives us His Spirit to embolden and enliven our Christian witness in the world. Go forth this week allowing this mighty power to work in and through you.</i></p> <p><i>Our service today concludes for the last time with a musical gift from several of our church members. As you listen, please let the blessing of these lyrics take root in your heart</i></p>

