

# An Outline for In-Home Worship on Sunday, April 26

First Reformed Church of South Holland

Worship Service Element	Explanation
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prepare</b></p> <p><i>Grab a Bible and something to represent your money (a pile of coins, your wallet, a piggy bank, a credit card). Place them next to each other. Ask yourself... which is worth more? Which better represents who you are? Which one makes you more valuable? Which one will last into eternity? Which says more about you? Which takes up more of your thoughts during the week?</i></p>	<p><i>The Church Father Tertullian called the 50 days of the Easter Season (those days stretching between Easter Sunday and Pentecost Sunday) the time of the church's "greatest joy." This joy does not come from the passing of winter's darkness or the promise of spring's new life, but from our eternal new life that burst forth from the empty tomb!</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>God Calls Us To Worship</b></p> <p><i>At 9:30am on Sunday, please begin with the <b>Welcome Video</b>.</i></p> <p><i>The artwork for today's reading of Psalm 147 was provided by some of our Sunday School and OASIS students (listed here in random order): Abby Veldboom, Aniyah Oord, Michael Oord, Gabe Capone, Joshua Capone, Elijah Capone, Bella VanderWoude, Brady Nyhanna, Joey Nyhanna, Mykah Lett, Jessica DeBok, Aydee Moes, Anton Zekveld, Izzy Veldboom, Emma Jabaay, Lucas Bolkema, and Nolan Bolkema.</i></p> <p><i>Together we thank God for their wonderful creative gifts!</i></p>	<p><i>No matter how many Zoom or Google Meet invitations you have received this week, and no matter how wonderful those meeting may have been, none even comes close to this invitation. For it is our Cosmic King who invites <b>us</b> to meet with <b>Him</b> today! What an amazing appointment to have on your calendar this week!</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Greeting One Another &amp; The Passing of The Peace</b></p>	<p><i>This worship action is not simply about <b>greeting</b> those around you. This exchanging of Christ's peace between us encourages us with the promise that Christ is present with us and brings us His abiding peace.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>"Holy, Holy, Holy"</b></p> <p>Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! Early in the morning our song shall rise to Thee. Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!</p> <p>Holy, holy, holy! All the saints adore Thee, casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea; Cherubim and seraphim falling down before Thee, which wert and art, and evermore shalt be.</p> <p>Holy, holy, holy! Though the darkness hide Thee, though the eye of sinful flesh Thy glory may not see,</p>	<p><i>Our singing this morning begins with a picture of the end, with this wonderful hymn rooted in Revelation. In times of trouble it is good for us to look backward – to be reminded of God's past faithfulness – and to look forward – to be reminded of God's future promises.</i></p>

<p>Only Thou art hold; there is none beside Thee, perfect in power, in love, and purity.</p> <p>Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty! All Thy works shall praise Thy name in earth, and sky, and sea; Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty! God in three persons, blessed Trinity!</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>“Praise The King”</b></p> <p>There's a reason why the curse of sin is broken, there's a reason why the darkness runs from light, there's a reason why we stand here now forgiven: Jesus is alive!</p> <p>There's a reason why we are not overtaken, there's a reason why we sing on through the night, there's a reason why our hope remains eternal: Jesus is alive!</p> <p>Praise the King! He is risen! Praise the King! He's alive! Praise the King! Death's defeated! Hallelujah, He's alive! Hallelujah, He's alive!</p> <p>There's a reason why our hearts can be courageous, there's a reason why the dead are made alive, there's a reason why we share His resurrection: Jesus is alive, O He's alive.</p> <p>The grave could not ignore it when all of heaven's roaring: Hell, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting? The world could not ignore it when all the saints are roaring: Hell, where is your victory? Death, where is your sting?</p>	<p><i>For the Christian, it is this backwards/forwards orientation that gives us comfort in our present circumstances.</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 <a href="#">here</a>.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prayer of Confession</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Please pray this prayer together in your home.</i></p> <p>Holy, holy, holy are You, Lord God of hosts, and the whole earth is full of Your glory!</p> <p>By Your Word You created all things, and You created all things to be good. But our sin has stained Your creation, and has broken what You made to be beautiful. Your good gifts have been corrupted and our use of them has become twisted. Instead of seeing Your gifts as blessings from Your hands, we focus on the gifts themselves. We seek fulfillment in the pleasure of material pursuits. We abuse the creation You have given us to steward. We neglect those around us who are also made in Your image. Our vision has become short-sighted, and we live in ways that make the here and now more important than our eternal reality. We do not always live into the message of hope and salvation You have given us through Jesus.</p> <p>Hear now our silent prayers of confession.</p> <p><i>Please spend a few moments offering silent prayers of confession.</i></p>	<p><i>In Isaiah 6, Isaiah hears the seraphs announce “Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts; the whole earth is full of His glory” (Is. 6:3). Isaiah’s immediate response is, “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips.”</i></p> <p><i>Like Isaiah, we acknowledge the gap that exists between God and us. Our confession and God’s assurance of pardon, then, restores this fractured relationship.</i></p>

<p>In Your mercy, Lord, hear this prayer we offer through the power of the Holy Spirit, and in the name of Jesus, covered by His blood, amen.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Words &amp; Song of Assurance</b></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Click here to begin the Assurance Video.</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>“I’ll Not Be Shaken”</b></p> <p>For God alone, I wait in silence; my soul is still before the Lord. He is my rock and my salvation, my fortress strong; I trust in Him.</p> <p><b>I’ll not be shaken! I’ll not be shaken, for all my hope is in His love. From God alone comes my salvation; I wait and trust His steadfast love!</b></p> <p>Put not your hope in gain of riches; seek not your rest in empty wealth. The rich are weak; the poor are mighty, who turn to God alone for help.</p> <p>Pour out your heart to God our refuge and trust in Him to hear you cry. No other hope will never fail you; no other love will not run dry.</p>	<p><i>Our assurance that God has forgiven our sins is rooted in our trust that He is faithful to do what He has said He will do.</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">❖ <b>TRY SOMETHING NEW!</b></p> <p><i>Before singing this song, read Psalm 62 – one of the Bible’s best psalms of trust. Focus specifically on verses 11 and 12, which give the reasons that our trust in God is so well-founded.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Scripture Reading</b> <i>James 1:9-11</i></p> <p>“Believers in humble circumstances ought to take pride in their high position. But the rich should take pride in their humiliation—since they will pass away like a wild flower. For the sun rises with scorching heat and withers the plant; its blossom falls and its beauty is destroyed. In the same way, the rich will fade away even while they go about their business.”</p>	<p><i>As we open God’s Word together this morning, we do not seek to simply learn more about God, but to hear God speak (to us!) and to submit ourselves to His voice.</i></p> <p><i>Before you read this passage aloud in your homes, ask God to change you through His Word for His glory and His kingdom.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Sermon</b> <i>“Love Dares Us To Change: Our Way Of Thinking About Money”</i> Pastors Jim Oord &amp; Corey Buchanan</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><a href="#">Click here to begin the Sermon Video.</a></p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Congregational Prayer</b></p> <p>-Praise God for whatever circumstance you find yourself in. God has exalted you through Jesus Christ, and He has humbled you to be fit for service in the Kingdom. Praise Him for the work He's done in your past. Count on Him to make sense of your future.</p>	<p><i>Having received the Word of God, we now have the opportunity to be further formed by that Word. Our community prayer is not primarily about God changing our circumstances, but about God</i></p>

<p>-Praise God for the ways He is equipping pastors and church leaders to reach their congregations even in these strange times. Praise Him for the technology we have available to us. Praise Him that by His Spirit we remain unified through the waters of baptism even when we are far apart.</p> <p>-Pray for Family Church, Pastor Corey's church plant in Chicago Heights, as they navigate these difficult times (and often watch the same sermons we're watching). Pray for courage, compassion, and spiritual growth.</p> <p>-Pray for those who lead us on local, state, national, and global levels. Pray for wisdom, compassion, and the ability to work together for the good of their citizens.</p> <p>-Pray that the Holy Spirit would give us new priorities that reflect His priorities, new ideas that follow His will, and new growth in ways we could never imagine on our own. Pray for gospel change, renewal, and transformation in our hearts, in our church, and in our community.</p> <p>-Pray for those struggling with cancer and the difficulties of cancer treatments. Pray for hope, endurance, and strength.</p> <p>-Pray for neighborhoods to band together and help each other. Pray for seniors who are staying home and need supplies. Pray for acts of compassion and love. Pray for service opportunities to pop up in your life.</p> <p>-Pray for those who develop vaccines, treatments, and medicines. Pray for accessibility to healthcare to all communities and classes.</p> <p>-Pray for anyone and anything that the Holy Spirit puts in your mind at this time.</p> <p><a href="#">Click here to begin the Lord's Prayer Video.</a></p>	<p><i>changing us – our attitudes, desires, and will; and through us, God changing His world.</i></p> <p><i>Once again, if you are worshiping together with others this morning, please encourage different members to pray specifically for these different items.</i></p> <p>❖ <b>TRY SOMETHING NEW!</b>  <i>Have each family member write down one or two of these prayer prompts and commit to praying for them every morning this week. In this way, we will continue this prayer until we worship again next Sunday.</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 style="text-align: center;"><b>Offering of Our Tithes</b></p> <p>To give to God's ministry through First Reformed Church online, <a href="#">click here</a>. 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.</p> <p>Join Chicagoland Prison Outreach this Tuesday, April 28 at 7:00pm for their virtual banquet. To RSVP for the banquet, click <a href="#">here</a>. To watch the banquet (beginning at 7:00pm on Tuesday), click <a href="#">here</a>. If you are unable to attend but would like to support the mission and ministry of CPO, click <a href="#">here</a>.</p>	<p><i>The giving of our tithes and offerings is not the same as paying a utility bill online. Neither is it simply the taking care of the church's financial obligations. It is an act of worship – a gesture of grateful response to God's self-revelation.</i></p> <p><i>When you have concluded the offering of yourself and your gifts, please sing the Doxology together.</i></p>

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>“Doxology”</b></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 style="text-align: center;">❖ <b>TRY SOMETHING NEW!</b></p> <p><i>Can you list <b>one</b> way God’s blessings have flowed into your life today? Can you list one way <b>per day</b> for the next six days? If so, create a day-by-day list of God’s blessings in your life. Consider rendering these blessings through some form of artistic expression as a daily act of worship this week.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Prayer Over Our Gifts</b></p>	<p><i>How amazing is it that God chooses to use our fleeting, human gifts for His eternal purposes? May we not be like buckets, seeking to hoard God’s blessings, but like conduits, seeking to distribute them.</i></p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Benediction &amp; Charge</b></p>	<p><i>God calls us to worship, and God sends us from worship. Mission is the natural orientation of the worshiping church. Go, then, and be the missional hands and feet of Jesus to those you encounter this week!</i></p> <p><i>Our service today concludes with a little musical gift from several of our church members. As you listen, please let the blessing of these lyrics rain down in your heart and mind.</i></p>