

Clinging to God's Promises
INHERITANCE
in the Midst of Tragedy

New Utrecht Reformed Church at home
2nd Sunday of Easter, April 19, 2020

We pray:

Dear Lord, together in our separation we gather to worship you, to praise you, to thank you and to petition you for the many who are in need of healing. We have no God but you, and we are grateful that we are a family of faith united by you.

We sing:

O the deep, deep love of Jesus: vast, unmeasured, boundless, free!
Rolling as a mighty ocean in its fullness over me,
Underneath me, all around me, is the current of Thy love;
Leading onward, leading homeward to my glorious rest above.

We pray:

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge. The LORD is my chosen portion and my cup; you hold my lot.

The boundary lines have fallen for me in pleasant places; I have a goodly heritage. I bless the LORD who gives me counsel; in the night also my heart instructs me. I keep the LORD always before me; because he is at my right hand, I shall not be moved.

Therefore my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices; my body also rests secure.

(from Psalm 16)

We sing:

Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!
I once was lost but now I'm found, was blind but now I see.

'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear and grace my fears relieved;
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Our prayer of confession (from *Ministry Matters*):

We listen to the news, read the newspapers, and wonder if peace will ever reign in your world, Lord. Today we have been invited to be with the disciples in that hidden place where they also wondered about peace and hope. You broke through. You shattered the darkness and they were astonished again. Help us to

understand that you will bring peace to each one of us. Give us the courage to reach out to you to touch our hearts once again. Amen.

Words of Assurance:

Do not fear! Jesus is among us, offering us new life and hope. Nothing can prevent God's love for us. Rejoice, for you have been made new in Christ. Amen.

Our Scripture Readings (please consult your own Bible):

- 1 Peter 1:3-9
- John 20:19-31

Our sermon: Our Inheritance

*In thanks for God's Word and God's great work among us,
we will send our offering to Rita.*

We sing:

God of grace and God of glory, on Thy people pour Thy power;
Crown Thine ancient church's story, bring her bud to glorious flower.
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage, for the facing of this hour,
For the facing of this hour.

We pray:

Dear Lord, hear our prayers for the people we name who are in need of your healing hand and the inspiration of your Spirit; hear our prayers for our city, our state, our country and the world as we all fight against a common enemy; hear our prayers of gratitude for being our Lord and Savior; bless us all, we pray, this week until we gather again in the Spirit of worship. In your holy name, Amen.

We pray this Benediction together:

May we be held in the hand of God the Father Almighty
May we be filled to overflowing with the Light of the world, His Son, our Savior Jesus
And may we always be safely protected at home, and if we need to go out,
by the shalom-making Holy Spirit.
Amen.