



New Utrecht Reformed Church at home
6th Sunday of Easter, May 17, 2020

We pray:

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

We sing:

Love divine, all loves excelling, joy of heav'n to earth come down;
Fix in us Thy humble dwelling, all Thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, Thou art all compassion; pure, unbounded love Thou art.
Visit us with Thy salvation, enter ev'ry trembling heart.

Come, Almighty, to deliver, let us all Thy life receive;
Suddenly return, and never, nevermore Thy temples leave.
Thee we would be always blessing, serve Thee as Thy hosts above,
Pray and praise Thee without ceasing, glory in Thy perfect love.

We pray:

Bless our God, O peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard,
who has kept us among the living, and has not let our feet slip.
Come and hear, all you who fear God, and I will tell what he has done for me.
I cried aloud to him, and he was extolled with my tongue.
If I had cherished iniquity in my heart, the Lord would not have listened.
But truly God has listened; he has given heed to the words of my prayer.
Blessed be God, because he has not rejected my prayer or removed his steadfast
love from me.

(from Psalm 66)

We sing:

Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father,
there is no shadow of turning with Thee;
Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not;
As Thou hast been Thou forever wilt be.
Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!
Morning by morning new mercies I see;

All I have needed Thy hand hath provided:
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, until me!

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

Lord of mercy, there are so many times in our lives when we feel alone. We wonder where you are. We cry out to you in our confusion, pain, and hurt. And when you do not immediately grant the prayers of our cries, we begin to doubt that you even care or exist. Stop us from going down this path of self-destruction. Help us look around and find the many ways in which you have blessed our lives. Forgive us when we are so quick to doubt and so arrogant in our demands of your responses. Give us a spirit of patience and willingness to be ready to hear your voice. Strengthen us for the ministries of love and hope that you have placed before us. We ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Words of Assurance:

When Jesus left the disciples, he gave us a promise:
"I will not leave you orphaned!"
For we, his disciples, live in him and he in us—
the presence of God within and around all.
What a promise! Take courage! Take comfort!
Blessed be God!

Our Scripture Readings (please consult your own Bible):

- Acts 17:22-31
- John 14:15-21

Our sermon: HIS STEADFAST LOVE

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

We sing:

O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home!

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
From everlasting Thou art God, to endless years the same.

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 families, friends and neighbors; 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 all who serve, putting themselves at risk. Thank you for being our Lord and Savior; bless us all this day and this week, we pray, 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.