

# TCC Takeout

## An Order of Service for Worship at Home

*God's Extravagant Welcome*  
*"No matter who you are or where*  
*you are on life's journey, YOU are*  
*welcome here!"*

**Fourth Sunday of Lent**  
**March 22, 2020**

### **Announcements:**

From Ted Thornton

*TCC Takeout* is an experiment in liturgy for these times when we find ourselves apart from one another physically. Links will take you to materials appointed for this Sunday in the Lectionary. TCC uses the Revised Common Lectionary as archived at [Vanderbilt.edu](http://Vanderbilt.edu).

The UCC has a wonderful website with resources for use during our struggle with coronavirus:

**United Church of Christ, National Setting**  
**A Faithful Response, with Worship, to the Coronavirus**

*Compiled by Justice and Local Church Ministries, United Church of Christ*

[Click here](#)

Please send me your suggestions, ideas, links to music and texts you find inspiring, and, of course, your joys and concerns. For announcements and Joys and Concerns especially, please get them to me as soon as possible, and no later than Wednesday for inclusion in the following Sunday's Order of Service (we need material early in the week in order to get it printed and distributed to members who aren't online). Thanks for your prayers and support.

Announcements will continue to be found in weekly *The Trumpet Blast*, which will be sent via separate emailing with printed versions for members who do not use computers.

### From Chris Harris

This week I'm enjoying playing some new music which I look forward to sharing in church soon: "Hard Times, Come Again No More," the traditional Stephen Foster song, in a lush harmonization by Gerald Custer. I'm looking for someone to sing it as the words are very moving and apropos to our times. Any takers? I also have a new arrangement of the familiar hymn tune, HYFRODOL, in a sweet setting by Dan Chadburn. Many hymns have been set to this tune, including "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling" and "Alleluia! Sing to Jesus!" I'm sure you'll recognize it. I'm providing links you can click on to listen to both at home. I miss you all! — Chris

<https://bit.ly/2WqloIN>

<https://bit.ly/2xRWuCy>

## Suggested Hymns for this Sunday from the Lectionary

### **Call to Worship:**

Leader: Be glad in our GOD and rejoice, O righteous ones.  
Shout for joy, all you upright in heart.

All: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven,  
whose sin is covered.

Therefore, we worship our God, and rejoice.

Leader: In Christ, we become a new creation.  
Everything old has passed away.

See how God makes things new.

All: Happy are those whose transgression is forgiven and  
whose lives become new. Through our worship,  
we praise God who makes us new. Amen.

### **Unison Prayer**

O God, with gladness and expectation, we gather in this space today.

For you are the one who makes all things new.

You are the one who satisfies our hunger and restores our soul.

In this holy space, help us, your daughters and sons,  
to know that you always love us.

Through our worship today,

help us to know that if we stray away from you,

you are always ready to receive us with open arms.

Prepare our hearts as we worship you

to welcome and embrace all of your children as you do us.

With gladness and expectation we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

### **Gloria Patri**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost  
As it was in the beginning,  
Is now and ever shall be,  
World without end,  
Amen, Amen

**Special Music:** < here's where we welcome links to inspirational music: videos, texts, etc. >

### **[Readings from Scripture from the Lectionary:](#)**

The full lectionary for each Sunday contains readings from the Old Testament (Psalms, too) and the New Testament. I hope that during these times of increased solitude and isolation, you'll find all the excerpts inspirational.

***“For the word of God in Scripture, For the Word of God Among Us, For the Word of God Within Us, Thanks Be to God”***

### **Reflection: Ted**

Notice the interplay of darkness, blindness, and light in today's readings, especially in Ephesians and the Gospel of John. I'm also struck with verse 4 from the 23rd Psalm (though I must admit I prefer the traditional phrase “valley of the shadow of death” to “the darkest valley”). In these anxious and perilous times, the Psalmist (usually assumed to have been David) reminds us that we need not live in fear. God is with us, like the good shepherd, whose rod and staff comfort us. God is a lot bigger than disease. Take heart!

### **Joys and Concerns**

#### **[Prayers from the Lectionary for this Day](#)**

### **A Prayer for a Time of Coronavirus**

Jesus Christ, you traveled through towns and villages “curing every disease and illness.” At your command, the sick were made well. Come to our aid now, in the midst of the global spread of the coronavirus, that we may experience your healing love.

Heal those who are sick with the virus. May they regain their strength and health through quality medical care.

Heal us from our fear, which prevents nations from working together and neighbors from helping one another.

Heal us from our pride, which can make us claim invulnerability to a disease that knows no borders.

<https://www.americamagazine.org/faith/2020/03/02/coronavirus-prayer>

### **Prayers from and for Members of TCC:**

Hear O Lord, we pray, our petitions of intercession. We pray for the lonely, for the bereaved, for the sick, for the aged, for those who feel overwhelmed by personal problems. We ask, on their behalf, for the comfort of your presence.

We pray especially for those in need who are on our hearts and minds and lips this morning:

**In hard times for their family, Joann and Tom ask our prayers.**

**We pray for all who are ill or who suffer from any affliction: physical, mental, or spiritual.**

Bring comfort healing and comfort to them, their families, and to those who care for them and to others who love them.

We ask these things in the Name of Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.  
Amen

Now praying together as Jesus taught us, we say,

Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy Kingdom come,  
Thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven

Give us this day our daily bread.  
and Forgive us our sins,  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom,  
and the power and the glory forever.  
Amen.

### **Prayer Response**

NCH 769 - *Hear Our Prayer, O God* -- [Audio version](#)  
Hear Our Prayer, O God,  
Hear our prayer, O God,  
Incline Thine ear to us,  
And Grant us your peace.

### **Pastoral Benediction**

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
and the love of God,  
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
be with us all,  
now and evermore.  
Amen.**

#### **Church Staff**

**Choral Director.....Heather Tower**  
**Pianist.....Chris Harris**  
**Administrative Assistant.....Marilyn Gabriel**  
**Sexton.....Tammy Pelletier**

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