

February 2022 Worship Guide

CHERRYVALE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH - 709 CHERRY HILL DR, STAUNTON VA - 540 885 0098

This booklet contains the outline for each worship service during the month of February 2022.

As of the time of going to print, Sunday worship is in person, online and broadcast on the radio (you can listen in your car on FM 87.9, in the church parking lot). If you are not able to attend in person, you can watch online on our website and YouTube channel. Even if we are not worshipping in the same building, we are still one body, one family, we are brothers and sisters in Christ Jesus. Look up the scriptures referenced in the following pages; pray the words, and claim the promises for you and your family. - Pastor Jonathan

A solemn way to say goodbye to a very joyous word until it is said again at Easter.

This year, the season of Lent starts at the beginning of March. At the conclusion of our worship service on Feb 27th, we will symbolically 'bury' the Alleluia. If you are unfamiliar with this tradition, what follows is a brief teaching on the origins and meaning of 'Burying the Alleluia.'

During the entire 40 days of Lent the word "Alleluia" is completely absent from the liturgy of the Church. It is never said once, even on Sundays. However, it is an important word, one that deserves an appropriate send off before resuming its use at the Easter Vigil.

First of all, the word "Alleluia" is rooted in a Hebrew expression that means "praise the Lord." It is frequently found in the Psalms and has always been associated with joy and exultation. This is why we refrain from using the expression during Lent; a somber liturgical season focused on the sacrifice of Jesus Christ on the cross. To put it simply, Lent is like one long Good Friday.

With this in mind the Alleluia never fit in the Lenten season, but Christians over the centuries didn't think it was right to simply stop saying it. Instead they "buried" it in a solemn ceremony. It was a way to put the Alleluia into the "tomb," only to discover it again at Easter when the stone is removed and the Alleluia is "resurrected."

Various traditions arose in the middle ages to "bury" the Alleluia before the beginning of Lent. It is said that many were inspired by the words of Bishop William Duranti in the 13th century when he wrote, "We part from the Alleluia as from a beloved friend, whom we embrace many times and kiss on the mouth, head and hand, before we leave him."

Some United Methodist churches refrain from singing "alleluia," "hallelujah" and/or "gloria" during Lent. "Burying the Alleluia," is a way of recognizing the solemnity of the season and anticipating the glorious praise to be sung in celebration of Jesus' Resurrection on Easter Sunday!

You may ask, should praise and prayer and the tone of worship be the same during Lent and on the Sundays of Lent as they are in the rest of the year. The answer can be both "yes" and "no."

Lent is not a season where we pretend that Jesus is crucified and dead so we make our worship funereal. The Sundays in Lent are not counted in the 40 days of Easter; rather, they are "little Easters." Yet there is a sense in which – as with Christmas decorations – things become more meaningful when they are not used constantly. After Christmas, we put the lights, crèche, and star away. When we retire something familiar for a season, recovering its use has a way of making it "new" for us. It has a way of giving emphasis to what precedes and follows it. Taking a rest from something gives shape and rhythm to life, to worship, to relationships – even to our relationship with God.

While the UMC worship resources do not call for this tradition as part of the worship service, such a practice can be a kind of fasting from joy and ecstatic praise, as the alleluias lie dormant for six weeks before we again burst out in joyful and ecstatic affirmation of the Resurrection. Blessings Pastor Jonathan

FEBRUARY WORSHIP

Worship February 6

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Isa 6:1-13; Ps 138; 1 Cor 15:1-11; Lk 5:1-11

Call To Worship

Greeting and Call to Worship

We stand in the very presence of God, Sovereign of the Universe, Lord of Hosts! The whole earth is full of God's glory! God's voice peals like thunder over the waters, the deserts, the forests! The whole earth is full of God's glory! Do you hear the angels' loud praise and feel the shaking of the very foundations of this place? God's presence surrounds us, fills this very place! Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts the whole earth is full of his glory! Let us stand and lift our song of praise, as we join with the praise of all creation around the throne of grace and mercy.

Prayer of Confession

O Holy God, like Isaiah the prophet, we stand in awe of Your glory, feeling tremendously small and polluted by our own sin, and the sin of our society. Even so, You touch us with Your burning presence, and we are made clean and whole. Forgive us when our worship is self-focused. Forgive us when we think our worship stops here. O God, our Creator, continue to build this household of faith into what You want us to be. O Christ, our Savior, lead us to do as You will. O Spirit, our Power, strengthen us for the work of the Kingdom, a worship and a service which is ours today, as well as tomorrow. O Blessed Trinity, fill this place and us, your disciples, with Your presence. For yours is the Power, and the Salvation, and the Creation, now and always.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy Lord, we praise you and give you thanks for calling us by name and sending us forth transformed and empowered by your Spirit to worship you in this place, and in the world, by serving others. Trusting you, we offer our gifts and our lives for your work and blessing. Let us never be afraid to say, "Here I am, Lord, send me!" Amen..

Worship February 13

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Jer 17:5-10; Ps 1; 1 Cor 15:12-20; Lk 6:17-26

Call To Worship

Lost wandering without purpose, meaning, value, acceptance, or place. We wander lost. But the Spirit of God Blessed are those who trust God, whose trust is the Lord. They are like trees planted by water, sending out roots by the stream. They have no fear of summer's heat, nor do they wither in the sun. In the year of drought, they are not anxious, for their lives bear the fruit of righteousness. Come to the waters of life all you who trust in the Lord. We have come to worship and to send forth our roots into streams of God's living water!

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we have failed to be obedient to your Word, we have not done your will, and we have broken your law. We confess that sometimes we listen to the advice of the ungodly. We know better; but for some reason, we listen anyway. Forgive us. The lure of a quick fix, easy money, or pleasure turned our heads away from you Lord. Forgive us. We knew it was wrong as soon as we did it, but pride kept us from backing out of our decision. Forgive us. Teach us the joy of being righteous. Show us how to delight in being holy. Remind us, that new life in Christ means new thoughts, new ways, new decisions, and a new way of life.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, we give you thanks that we have enough; enough to live, enough to share, enough to love, and enough to serve you by serving others. Help us to realize that we can never find happiness in the things that this world has to offer. You alone are the source of true happiness. Bless our gifts that we give to you now so that they may be enough to bless others in the name of Christ Jesus. Amen.

FEBRUARY WORSHIP

Worship February 20

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Gen 45:3-11, 15; Ps 37:1-11, 39-40; 1 Cor 15:35-38, 42-50; Lk 6:27-38

Call To Worship

Don't worry about the wicked or envy those who do wrong. For like grass, they soon fade away. Like spring flowers, they soon wither. Trust in the Lord and do good. Then you will live safely in the land and prosper. Take delight in the Lord, and he will give you your heart's desires. Commit everything you do to the Lord. Trust him, and he will help you. He will make your innocence radiate like the dawn, and the justice of your cause will shine like the noonday sun. Be still in the presence of the Lord, and wait patiently for him to act. Don't worry about evil people who prosper or fret about their wicked schemes. Stop being angry! Turn from your rage! Do not lose your temper— it only leads to harm. For the wicked will be destroyed, but those who trust in the Lord will possess the land.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, we have failed to be obedient to your Word, we have not done your will, and we have broken your law. We confess that we are more ready to receive forgiveness, than to give it. We are more ready to love those who love us, than those who hate us. We are more ready to do good towards those who do good towards us, than those who do evil things towards us. Forgive us and teach us how to love, forgive, and be merciful as you are towards us.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord of Love and Compassion: How easy the road of discipleship would be if all you asked from us were the gifts we bring to your altar. How convenient would it be if we could write a check or drop cash and leave here to live like so many do, focused exclusively on our own wants, needs, and passions. Remind us again, as we present our tithes and offerings, that the real challenge of discipleship comes when we leave this place, as you send us into the world to respond in radical love to those who would judge us, hurt us, and threaten us. Thank you for your compassionate love for us, as you have forgiven us and restored what we destroyed. We pray this in the name of Jesus, who loved and forgave, even as he was tortured and nailed to a cross. Amen.

Worship February 27

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Ex 34:29-35; Ps 99; 2 Cor 3:12-4:2; Lk 9:28-43

Call To Worship

The LORD is king; let the peoples tremble! He sits enthroned upon the cherubim; let the earth quake! The LORD is great in Zion; he is exalted over all the peoples. Let them praise your great and awesome name. Holy is he! Mighty King, lover of justice, you have established equity; you have executed justice and righteousness in Jacob. Extol the LORD our God; worship at his footstool. Holy is he!

Prayer of Confession

We sing our alleluia on our mountain tops but fail to be an alleluia for others in the valley. We praise you with our lips but fail to live as you taught us. Forgive us. Lord, as your Son was transfigured on the mountain top, transfigure our hearts and lives, so that we may live according to your Word, as we listen to him. Mold us and shape us into the image of Christ, so that our alleluia's may flow from the mountain tops into the valleys of despair and brokenness.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

When Jesus came down from the mount of Transfiguration, he began to tell his disciples that he would be betrayed and crucified. SOMETIMES WE LOSE OUR ALLELUIA. Jesus did not enter into glory before he stretched out his arms on the hardwood of the cross. SOMETIMES WE LOSE OUR ALLELUIA. Jesus told his disciples, "If you want to become my followers, deny yourselves and take up your cross and follow me." SOMETIMES WE MUST LET GO OF OUR ALLELUIA. At Easter we will again celebrate the Resurrection and sing "Christ is risen." IN GOD'S TIME, WE WILL FIND OUR ALLELUIA! For the days of Lent, we discontinue singing and saying, "Alleluia." SOMETIMES WE LET GO OF OUR ALLELUIA.

The Love of God in the Light of Valentine's Day

"Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love." – 1 John 4:8

We often think of Valentine's Day as the day for couples to show their love to one another, but rarely do we use the day to remind us of God's unmatched love for us, His children. For many single people, Valentine's Day can be a bitter reminder of their singleness and desire for a relationship. Luckily, God doesn't leave anyone, single or in a relationship, out of His unending love and grace.

In 1 John 4:8, the author says, "Whoever does not love does not know God, because God is love."

God is love itself. We wouldn't have any conception of "love" at all if it weren't for God, the definition of love.

God further defines love in the classic 1 Corinthians 13:4-8 passage that reads, "Love is patient, love is kind. It does not envy, it does not boast, it is not proud. It does not dishonor others, it is not self-seeking, it is not easily angered, it keeps no record of wrongs. Love does not delight in evil but rejoices with the truth. It always protects, always trusts, always hopes, always perseveres. Love never fails."

God describes love in this way, and then tells us that He is love. This further emphasizes that God himself is all of these things.

God is patient and kind. He keeps no record of wrongs. He always protects, always trusts, always hopes and always perseveres. God's love is a perfect love that no one on earth could ever emulate.

We often read this 1 Corinthians passage near Valentine's Day or at weddings to remind us what love should look like, but God is the perfect demonstration of it.

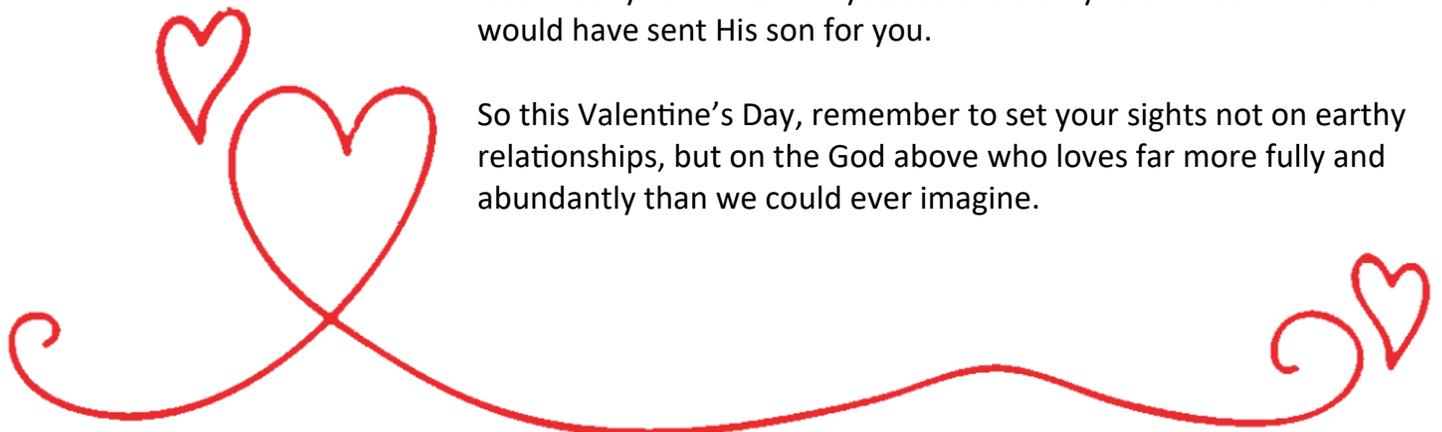
John 3:16 says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish but have eternal life."

He gave up His only son for us. He gave us eternal life because of His great and unmatched love for each of us.

The theologian C.S. Lewis once said, *"He died not for men, but for each man. If each man had been the only man made, He would have done no less."*

God loves you so much. If you were the only one on earth He still would have sent His son for you.

So this Valentine's Day, remember to set your sights not on earthy relationships, but on the God above who loves far more fully and abundantly than we could ever imagine.



Gleaning for The Society of St Andrew

Thank you Cherryvale family, you gleaned \$557.00 for the Society of St Andrew. This gift alone, provides over 21,000 healthy food servings to families in need.

One Faithful Promise - Lenten Bible Study

Wesley's covenant renewal is a faithful promise to love God and neighbor.

A covenant is an agreement, a pledge, a contract. A covenant with God is a faithful promise of renewal, and none is more central to the Methodist identity than The Wesley Covenant Prayer, which John Wesley first shared in a renewal service in 1755. Its central theme, "the means of increasing serious religion," focuses on the way we can have a closer relationship with God and others through a heightened dedication to a serious faith.

Starting March 9 at 6pm, the bible study is 6 weekly sessions through April 13.

Sign up is required so we can order workbooks. Sign up in church or call the office.

Verona Food Pantry

This list is a guide line, any item you can give is welcomed.

Drop off at the office before the end of the month.

January - Cereal

February - peanut butter

March - canned fruit

April - mac 'n' cheese

May - canned meat / fish

June - canned veggies

July - staples, rice, beans, pasta

August - cereal

September - peanut butter

October - canned veggies

November - canned 'thanksgiving'

December - Pot Luck

The food pantry is always looking for paper products; household, babies, ladies etc
These items can be donated any time, we will get them to the food pantry for you.

Sunday Service is now available on a DVD. If you would like a copy delivered to your home, please call the church office and we will take care of getting one to you.

Luke 5: 1-11 Word Search

Just for fun, or use as a teaching aide with your younger family members.

ELEPBGGPDRFEKWIQJPKUSXOOJWLEVA
EHYMLENOEGBRJRNRIJTDOGNLQAOTSL
DUPOQEGTWLUMLWLCCLCFBMI ZTSKGV L
EYHVXFAKFOIKOXBOXTVFNCSDKHBRCN
BNRWOWLLVITNSZKBZLT XJKTOIIIAAI
EIVDPFQNETSFORACATCHLIDJBNUODG
ZHRESQMABL IHNKYFILLE DWEEKGKHLT
POEMIPJFQHMCETYBFCAPKILVHTDQGH
WDMGCXHBMHSA SREKETUBROATSHBZPL
PGMBWLKOQSJDSDMRCGSUNKNUXEMDSO
EKALEHTEDI SEBTWEA IAGGOGNDIDRFN
CATCHINGPEOPLEEONSINTMIXTREKOG
CSWBZTOPUHKPTDRRRNEHTNSDMNWNLL
IZATUETWOBOATS ENGCINIOPSTEKELM
OVBXXMNEMQYEHATUHNEVNC SRYTEEOE
HSIFYNAMACBGOOELGOCHHEA IOSQSWM
JHEPANMCBKPMGF PFEKJQTPGFNWTQEX
FMKAVJJHXPPQNUNTKFDDPTLXHKQADH
IEPXCFTYXRJYISOAMRTINQH SWMQKHN
CLGBZONRVONOSOMZIEKEOAZGITVDIP
DEZAMADEGPFKSBIRSYRKVHSRUUIFMJ
QABPQOMZBYEPEGSIEAHHA EZEQA IORN
AWGLATGKJOJHRZNAFTGZKERZMCTYGL
WZUGPYCBCPCRPFEPPQJPYGRYZAVNUH
YAWELTTILAEMUSTTGHZHH CUBTBJJMK
SYBNZXJMI XJLMCMCJGVPPSPVRHEYVV
LDVZAXDTZUMOETNIBEG IOWZJRSIFXW
FEKGLVWYYAYCBGIPZOGSDLXTUYRNPM
ESKLN DI ZNSMYWZLHEWTEEEUSOZBOGN
FKAZZXPXHCHFHEAREHZCEJHDFCOSDW

Find the **31 bold** words or phrases from Luke 5

¹ Once while **Jesus** was standing **beside the lake** of **Gennesaret**, and the crowd was **pressing** in on him to hear the **word of God**, ² he saw **two boats** there at the shore of the lake; the **fishermen** had gone out of them and were **washing their nets**. ³ He got into one of the boats, the one **belonging** to Simon, and asked him to put out **a little way** from the shore. Then he sat down and **taught the crowds** from the boat. ⁴ When he had finished speaking, he said to Simon, “Put out into the **deep water** and let down your **nets for a catch**.” ⁵ Simon answered, “**Master**, we have worked **all night long** but have **caught nothing**. Yet if you say so, I will let down the nets.” ⁶ When they had done this, they caught so **many fish** that their nets were beginning to **break**. ⁷ So they **signaled** their **partners** in the other boat to come and help them. And they came and **filled** both boats, so that they **began to sink**. ⁸ But when **Simon Peter** saw it, he fell down at Jesus’ **knees**, saying, “Go away from me, Lord, for I am a **sinful man!**” ⁹ For he and all who were with him were **amazed** at the catch of fish that they had taken; ¹⁰ and so also were **James and John**, sons of **Zebedee**, who were partners with Simon. Then Jesus said to Simon, “Do not be afraid; from now on you will be **catching people**.” ¹¹ When they had brought their boats to shore, they **left everything** and **followed him**.



Cherryvale CHURCH

LOVING GOD | GROWING TOGETHER | SERVING THE WORLD

Cherryvale family, after our first Leadership Team meeting of the year, we are setting out in the right direction with missions and ministries to make disciples of Jesus Christ by “Loving God, Growing Together, and Serving the World.” (*Cherryvale’s mission statement*).

First, let me commend the work of our Leadership Team as they have their own busy lives, they are serving Christ at Cherryvale Church in an important way to lead this Body in deeper witness, faith, and ministry to bring transformation to the world around us. We will be sending out a congregational survey in the next several weeks to gain feedback from you in different areas of our life together here at Cherryvale UMC.

My question to our leadership team this past week was, “Where have we been and where are we going?” In our first six months together, we have accomplished good work. From hosting a very well attended neighborhood block party, and trunk or treat, to collecting winter coats, shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child, money for the Society of St. Andrews, to starting back up our children’s ministries. We paid 100% of our apportionment tithe to the district and the conference and because of that our mission and ministry goes beyond just our local church and area. Through our apportionment giving you support your clergy healthcare and retirement, alongside numerous opportunities for the Church to be a light, around the entire world, for Jesus Christ.

Our biggest focus this year is on community outreach, especially our surrounding neighborhood. Our plan for this year is to have more involvement from you, the Body of Christ, to be active participants in using your gifts and encouraging your call to serve in whatever capacity the Lord calls or leads you in. Many times, leaders become the doers because we think sometimes it is easier to do it ourselves, but we are setting out to empower everyone to do the work of Christ. We will be asking for your help, and we want you to respond however you are able. Our goal is not to become a busy church, but an effective church. Meaning, we recognize we cannot do everything we would like to do, but what needs focusing on is that which is of substance that grows the Kingdom of God.

We have children’s ministry up and going and are looking to start our youth group up this year. We will have a planning meeting for VBS to take place this summer. We are working on starting visitation teams that enables you to easily visit our homebound members. We will host another neighborhood block party. We are going to build and start a blessing box, where anyone in our area will have easy 24/7 access to needed items such as food and hygiene products. And we are working on making our space more welcoming to visitors with directional signs and a welcome center.

There are many other ministries that are happening alongside what we are looking to do already, and more in the making. If you have laid on your own heart to start or be involved with the Church in a deeper way, please come talk with your pastor, or anyone on Leadership Team, as each of us has gifts intended to build up the Body of Christ called the Church.

Pastor Jonathan Greer