

July 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 July 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

Real Freedom

Today, citizens of the United States of America celebrate freedom. The Fourth of July is Independence Day—the day which marks the signing of the Declaration of Independence. Freedom is a blessing we hold dear and defend boldly. Our nation's armed forces are of one mind, that protecting our freedom is worth dying for. We are what our national anthem proudly proclaims: "the land of the free and the home of the brave!"

But are we really free? Whoever we are and wherever we live, are we free from what really matters? On our own we are not free; all people are very much slaves. We find ourselves to be slaves to sin, and on our own, we cannot break its shackles. We are slaves to our sinful nature and cannot live a day, an hour, even a minute without our sinful nature rearing its ugly head. Thoughts that pass through our heads, words that come flowing from our mouths, self-serving deeds that we scheme to carry out—they all show our true nature. They all show just how much we are slaves to sin.

Thankfully, Jesus broke the shackles of sin and Satan. Jesus has forgiven those sinful thoughts of our minds, the devious actions from our hearts, the careless and hate-filled words that we speak. He forgives us because he lived up to God's sinless standard for us. Then Jesus willingly and lovingly allowed the punishment we deserved to be placed on him. On the cross, Jesus endured our death and hell. When he burst forth from Easter's tomb, he shattered the chains of sin and death.

In Jesus, we have eternal life with God. That's something that no power on earth or scheme of man can ever take away. That's real freedom!

Prayer:

Lord God, thank you for the real and true freedom that you give me in Jesus. Thank you for the blessings that I enjoy and the freedom to worship you. Keep safe those who celebrate the July 4th weekend and help me to never forget that real, lasting, eternal freedom is mine in your name. Amen.

.....Blessings Pastor

JULY WORSHIP

Worship July 3

Scriptures to read and meditate on

2 Kings 5:1-14; Ps 30; Gal 6:1-16; Lk 10:1-11, 16-20

Call to Worship

I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me. O LORD my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit. Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name.

Prayer of Confession

O God, we know that Jesus sent out his disciples without purse, luggage, or sandals. All too often, we find ourselves clinging to possessions we don't need, looking for safety by avoiding risk, and bearing heavy burdens that slow us down. You tell us to leave these things behind and simply go to work your fields. Often, we are lazy, often we are forgetful of what you do for us every day, often your call on our lives goes unnoticed. Forgive us Lord, and fill us once more with the living waters of Christ Jesus, so that we may grow in the harvest of eternal life.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, being laborers in your field, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord and Savior. Amen.

Worship July 10

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Amos 7:7-17; Ps 82; Col 1:1-14; Lk 10:25-37

Call to Worship

Give justice to the weak and the orphan; maintain the right of the lowly and the destitute. Rescue the weak and the needy; deliver them from the hand of the wicked." They have neither knowledge nor understanding, they walk around in darkness; all the foundations of the earth are shaken. I say, "You are gods, children of the Most High, all of you; nevertheless, you shall die like mortals, and fall like any prince." Rise up, O God, judge the earth; for all the nations belong to you!

Prayer of Confession

Holy God, often our lives do not measure up to your standards. We build lives that seem straight but when you hold your plumb line against it we see that our lives are crooked, and unlevelled. We pray for our enemy's destruction, but not their salvation. We allow the outcast to remain exiled, instead of inviting them in. We accept those who look and act like us, but reject those who do not. We take what is not ours, and keep what is ours; instead of saying what's mine is yours and I'll share it. Free us from our selfish ways, so that You may prosper Your Kingdom on Earth.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Great God in Heaven, you remind us to focus our ability on first loving you. Then, you urge us to reflect that love toward our neighbor. We desire to be the modern day "Good Samaritan." Create anew in our hearts a burning desire to care for your children. Encourage us to follow the caring ways that Jesus taught. Multiply our tithes and offerings, so that acts of tolerance and hospitality are extended through our ministry, to all of your children. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

JULY WORSHIP

Worship July 17

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Amos 8:1-12; Ps 52 or Ps 82; Col 1:15-28; Lk 10:38-42

Call to Worship

Prophets, what do you see? We see the many ways we distract ourselves. What else do you see? We see the good and the bad fruits we have produced. What do you see today? We witness and worship God today, grateful for love and forgiveness.

Prayer of Confession

Most merciful God we confess that we have sinned against you and our neighbor. We confess that we have trampled on the needy, choosing greed. We confess that we have brought ruin to the poor of the land, neglecting many parts of your creation. We confess that we have practiced deceit, fearful of being exposed. We confess that far too often, we choose busyness over the gift of your loving presence. We have taken great benefits with little thanks, and we have been more ready to insist upon our rights than to see the needs of others. We serve our own glory rather than Your glory. Have mercy and forgive us, so that we may further your Kingdom on Earth for the glory and sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord of abundant blessings, we give you thanks for all you have gifted us with. We ask that you take our tithes and offerings and multiply these gifts for your service and your glory. Through these gifts and the offering of ourselves, make kindness, mercy, and justice the rule of life. Help us to always give out of a heart that is centered on Christ to bring him glory. We pray in the name of the One who gave his whole self for our redemption. Amen.

Worship July 24

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Hos 1:2-10; Ps 85; Col 2:6-19; Lk 11:1-13

Call to Worship

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for he will speak peace to his people, to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts. Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him, that his glory may dwell in our land. Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet; righteousness and peace will kiss each other. Faithfulness will spring up from the ground, and righteousness will look down from the sky. The LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase. Righteousness will go before him, and will make a path for his steps.

Prayer of Confession

Our Father in Heaven, you teach us to pray but we confess we often turn away from your truth. You teach us to honor your name, but we confess we have abused and misused it for our selfish desires. You teach us to trust in your provisions of life, but we confess that we worry about tomorrow. You teach us to forgive as you have forgiven us, but we confess that we fail to give what you offer. You teach us that you deliver us from evil, but we confess that we cling tight to the evil in our hearts. Teach us again, O Lord, how to pray your Kingdom come, your will be done.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Our Father who art in Heaven, you nourish our famished souls by listening to our humble prayers. We come asking, seeking, and knocking with the full knowledge that you are ready to respond to our supplications. You deliver us from evil by nourishing our hearts with forgiveness and our minds with understanding. You prepare a heavenly table for all who believe in the mighty acts of your Holy Son. Bless these gifts so that your children will feast at the banquet which awaits in your eternal home. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

JULY WORSHIP

Worship July 24

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Hos 11:1-11; Ps 107:1-9, 43; Col 3:1-11; Lk 12:13-21

Call to Worship

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; for his steadfast love endures forever. Let the redeemed of the LORD say so. Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town; hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them. Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress; he led them by a straight way. Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind. For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.

Prayer of Confession

Generous Father, We find it hard to resist the lie that life consists in the abundance of possessions. We are conditioned to believe that bigger is better. An insatiable desire for security and social status breeds greed in our hearts. We tend to become consumed with ourselves and overlook the needs of others. Frequently, we plan for the future with no regard for You and Your will. We ask Your forgiveness for our sins and offer our thanks that You are a Father who promises to meet the needs of Your children. Banish from our hearts an anxious, unbelieving tendency, and give us a new resolve to trust You as we find our security in whose we are rather than in what we have.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, we have become numb to the amount of greed surrounding our everyday lives. Our identities often seem defined by our possessions and lifestyle. Yet, we are stripped bare of our worldly possessions and seen equally in your holy sight. Release those temporal bonds preventing us from living and giving in ways that honor your name. We prayerfully dedicate these gifts to the work of your eternal home, a place of faith where our souls will truly rest. Amen.

WHAT PREVENTS GOD FROM HEARING OUR PRAYERS?

Psalm 102:1–2 - Hear my prayer, Lord; let my cry for help come to you. Do not hide your face from me when I am in distress. Turn your ear to me; when I call, answer me quickly.

God's hearing is never impaired (*Does he who fashioned the ear not hear? Does he who formed the eye not see? Ps 94:9*). But the language of Biblical poetry sometimes pictures God as though he were deaf (*You came back and wept before the Lord, but he paid no attention to your weeping and turned a deaf ear to you Dt 1:45*). This was simply a figurative way to say that God does not always respond to requests as people might want. Sometimes answers come only after long delays; other times answers may come in an unrecognized form or in a manner the petitioner would not have wanted.

Effective prayer requires that the one praying have the right attitudes: reverence, humility, proper motivation and purity. Ineffectual prayer—that which God seems to ignore—often results from the lack of such qualities. Here are a few examples:

Irreverence: God may ignore those who are irreverent (*When you did these things and I kept silent, you thought I was exactly like you. But I now arraign you and set my accusations before you. Ps 50:21*).

Pride: God wants to help those who are humble in spirit, not those who are proud (*But he gives us more grace. That is why Scripture says: "God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble. Jas 4:6*).

Self-seeking: When people pray for selfish reasons, God may refuse their requests (When you ask, you do not receive, because you ask with wrong motives, that you may spend what you get on your pleasures. Jas 4:3).

WHAT PREVENTS GOD FROM HEARING OUR PRAYERS?

Sin: Disobeying God can separate someone from God and cause prayers to go unanswered (*Surely the arm of the Lord is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. But your iniquities have separated you from your God; your sins have hidden his face from you, so that he will not hear. Isa 59:1–2*).

Unbelief: Spiritual instability can undermine prayers (*But when you ask, you must believe and not doubt, because the one who doubts is like a wave of the sea, blown and tossed by the wind. That person should not expect to receive anything from the Lord. Jas 1:6–7*).

Broken relationships: A husband's prayers may be hindered if he has treated his wife disrespectfully (*Husbands, in the same way be considerate as you live with your wives, and treat them with respect as the weaker partner and as heirs with you of the gracious gift of life, so that nothing will hinder your prayers. 1Pe 3:7*).

WHEN DOES GOD REFUSE TO HEAR OUR PRAYERS?

Jeremiah 11:11 - Therefore this is what the Lord says: 'I will bring on them a disaster they cannot escape. Although they cry out to me, I will not listen to them.

God sees, hears and knows everything—including our prayers. Nothing escapes his attention. Why then did God say he would not listen to the people's cries for help? There are several possible reasons.

In this case, God did not respond because judgment was unavoidable. Judah had disobeyed God's laws and ignored his pleas for so long that judgment was, in effect, already on the way. Their cries were too little, too late. God even told Jeremiah not to pray for the people (*All your pomp has been brought down to the grave, along with the noise of your harps; maggots are spread out beneath you and worms cover you. How you have fallen from heaven, morning star, son of the dawn! You have been cast down to the earth, you who once laid low the nations! Isa 14:11–12*)—that not even Moses and Samuel could have persuaded him to offer further compassion to them (*A prophecy against Moab: Ar in Moab is ruined, destroyed in a night! Kir in Moab is ruined, destroyed in a night! Isa 15:1*).

It's also possible that people sometimes sabotage their own prayers. The Bible mentions several attitudes and actions that can short-circuit our prayers:

Sin (*If I had cherished sin in my heart, the Lord would not have listened; Ps 66:18; see also Isa 59:2; Jer 14:10–12*),

Disobedience (*If anyone turns a deaf ear to my instruction, even their prayers are detestable. Pr 28:9*)

Hypocrisy and insincerity (The Lord says: "These people come near to me with their mouth and honor me with their lips, but their hearts are far from me. Their worship of me is based on merely human rules they have been taught. Isa 29:13; see also Mal 1:7–9)

Wrong motives (*"And when you pray, do not be like the hypocrites, for they love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners to be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward in full. But when you pray, go into your room, close the door and pray to your Father, who is unseen. Then your Father, who sees what is done in secret, will reward you. Mt 6:5–6; see also Lk 18:11–14; Jas 4:3*),

Lack of faith (*And without faith it is impossible to please God, because anyone who comes to him must believe that he exists and that he rewards those who earnestly seek him. Heb 11:6; see also Jas 1:6*)

What sometimes appears to be no answer to prayer may actually be a delayed answer (*Then he continued, "Do not be afraid, Daniel. Since the first day that you set your mind to gain understanding and to humble yourself before your God, your words were heard, and I have come in response to them. But the prince of the Persian kingdom resisted me twenty-one days. Then Michael, one of the chief princes, came to help me, because I was detained there with the king of Persia. Da 10:12–13*).

Finally, consider the times God may deny our request in order to give us something better than what we knew to ask for. In these instances you should thank God for unanswered prayer.

Amos 7: 1-9 Word Search

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

Z N E X N F U F N D M R X U P H S C J P F Z W W O D E S T T
L G L H E O M R L A T L D R V H W M Z R Y U C W R Q L A U T
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U E U O L J E R O B O A M P S X R Z C K E G C G T H R L T H
L N M T M Y J S S U R V I V E N A Z W C D K K H H A B B A D
F O R Y R A J N G O L Q W V Q Y Y U A R P R A F P R P I M M
O U C T W N X W P R E P A R I N G L L I S A A C K V V S V E
E G D U O A K Z X F I X S O I B P K J Y X J E F Y E F F D G
Y W O R S T R Q N U P J X V F H X R J E M T D B A S L N E G
B P A D O T N I R J B X K N G W N C D D M Q P P C T T O R C
V P V G R W S T U E R Y J I N E F Z O U E O C Y Z E S T U A
J L V S W R S D E P L P H L X N I V A I M S B R S D N H O D
F H H J E Q G E V Y O E A Z N P D E P P I R T S V O I A V F
D E G A I E H W L P E T N Q K X R Z O P L G L R W T A P E J
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P Y G E E D E M I C R Y K U E Y N K Y O P S S U G Y A E S H
G T N S M Q G G R I K B P G T D W F S M I P M G Q H E N L O
X T U G I Y R O A V V W E T Y S X N U Q S U Y N D M S D Y J
U O M S O O P E N I L B M U L P M Z Q N P P P D O W I I F K
H O E O F S V R F P L W H W R N U E P V W W X U H V R N P T

Find the **34 bold** words or phrases from Amos 7: 1-9

This is what the **Sovereign Lord** showed me: He was **preparing** swarms of **locusts** after the king's share had been **harvested** and just as the **late crops** were coming up. When they had **stripped** the **land clean**, I **cried out**, "Sovereign Lord, **forgive!** How can **Jacob** survive? He is so small!" So the Lord **relented**. "This will **not happen**," the Lord said. This is what the Sovereign Lord showed me: The Sovereign Lord was calling for **judgment** by **fire**; it dried up the **great deep** and **devoured** the land. Then I cried out, "Sovereign Lord, **I beg you**, stop! How can Jacob **survive**? He is so **small!**" So the Lord relented. "This will not happen either," the Sovereign Lord said. This is what he showed me: The Lord was **standing** by a wall that had been **built true** to plumb, with a **plumb line** in his hand. And the Lord asked me, "What do you see, **Amos?**" "A plumb line," I replied. Then the Lord said, "Look, I am setting a plumb line **among my people** Israel; I will spare them no longer. "The **high places** of **Isaac** will be **destroyed** and the **sanctuaries** of **Israel** will be **ruined**; with my **sword** I will **rise against** the **house** of **Jeroboam.**"

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.

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.

If you would like to make a monetary donation to the food pantry, note your check 'food pantry' and we will take care of getting it to them for you.

You can now manage your membership account details in our Engage' portal.

Use this QR code to be directed to our site, and follow the online prompts.

Or visit <https://engage.suran.com/cherryvaleumc>



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.