

May 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 May 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

Knowing God's Will For Your Life

Read Samuel 7-9

Although Samuel was the undisputed spiritual leader of Israel, the people rejected his leadership. One reason was because Samuel committed the same mistake as Eli, the former high priest.

Just like Eli, Samuel appointed his sons to top leadership although they were ungodly and dishonest. And he failed to discipline them and remove them from the office when they took bribes and perverted justice in the temple.

If change doesn't come top down by **revelation**, it will eventually come bottom up by **revolution**. In the end, the people of Israel used the failure of Samuel's two sons as an excuse to force him out of leadership.

They could have gone the spiritual way and prayed for a God-given solution to their nation. Instead, they wanted a charismatic king just like the heathens around them. But God wanted Israel to be led by spiritual leaders--His prophets and priests--not by a king mandated by popular demand. So they were in effect rejecting God Himself!

You must be very careful when you want something very badly from the Lord. Because when you want it badly enough, God may give you. However, you must be ready to face the consequences of your requests. That is why prayer must always be according to the will of the Lord.

Sometimes your prayers may not come to pass immediately, it may be because it is not God's best for your life. But if you stubbornly insist on it, God may grant your wish, even when He knows it is bad for you. Psalm 106:15 says, "And He gave them their request, but sent leanness into their soul."

You must make sure that the desires of your heart are in alignment with the will of God, that your heart is in tune with the Holy Spirit's. Knowing God's will and what you are seeking is also what the Holy Spirit desires for your life. Otherwise, you may live with regrets later on.

Despite the repeated warnings Samuel gave about the danger of having a king, Israel refused to listen. Eventually, God granted them their wish. Saul became their king ... and what a terrible leader he was for the nation.

Take the time to think about God's will for your life. Ask the Holy Spirit for His will. Know His heart, know His mind, be in tune with Him.

Blessings Pastor Jonathan

MAY WORSHIP

Worship May 1

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Acts 9:1-6; Ps 30; Rev 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19

Call to Worship

“What will you gain if I die, if I sink into the grave? Can my dust praise you? Can it tell of your faithfulness? Hear me, Lord, and have mercy on me. Help me, O Lord.” You have turned my mourning into joyful dancing. You have taken away my clothes of mourning and clothed me with joy, so that I might sing praises to you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give you thanks forever!

Prayer of Confession

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart and we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We fail to listen to your voice calling us to follow you and feed your sheep. We fail to recognize the grace you give to us each new day, giving us the opportunity to not only tell you that we love you, but to show it. Help us to not become so comfortable that we fail to listen and obey your call on our lives. Help us to respond to the gift of another day as an opportunity to change, to grow, and to respond deeper to Jesus Christ.

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 follow you, by giving ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Worship May 8

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Acts 9:36-43; Ps 23; Rev 7:9-17; Jn 10:22-30

Call to Worship

We flock together to worship God The God who is the Shepherd of our souls. Jesus says, I am the Good Shepherd We are the sheep of Jesus' flock Let us listen closely today as we worship Speak to us Lord, you have called us here, we know your voice

Prayer of Confession

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. Good Shepherd, we take your care for granted. In the midst of your many blessings, we complain of not having enough. In the presence of danger, we fail to trust your abiding love. When you set a table before us, we turn aside from you. Call us back into your care and help us trust your caring presence, that our actions may proclaim your truth. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

God of comfort and compassion, through Jesus, your Son, you lead us to the water of life and table of your bounty. May we who have received the tender love of our Good Shepherd be strengthened by your grace to care for your flock Good Shepherd, we are the sheep of your pasture, you know us by name. We offer grateful thanks for your loving care. Open our hearts and minds to the guiding of your Spirit in our lives. Lead us in right paths, that we may serve you in truth and service. Amen.

MAY WORSHIP

Worship May 15

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Acts 11:1-18; Ps 148; Rev 21:1-6; Jn 13:31-35

Call to Worship

Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD from the heavens; praise him in the heights! Praise him, all his angels; praise him, all his host! Praise him, sun and moon; praise him, all you shining stars! Praise him, you highest heavens, and you waters above the heavens! Let them praise the name of the LORD, for he commanded, and they were created.

Prayer of Confession

Most merciful God, we confess that we have not loved you with our whole heart; nor have we loved our neighbors as ourselves. Our hearts are too narrow, our perspectives are too small. We reject those who are not like us—those with different political opinions, those who struggle with mental illness, those who disagree with us. We forget that all are your beloved children and neglect your call to love one another. Forgive us, O God, for the many ways we have failed to be a people known by our love. Show us how to be more caring. Teach us how to love one another, as we follow you.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Loving God, you have given us the task to love one another. May the gifts we offer bring love and life to others. May the love we share bring hope to a world that has forgotten how to love. We offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a vessel that serves your Kingdom of perfect love. Through Christ our Lord we pray, Amen..

Worship May 22

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Acts 16:9-15; Ps 67; Rev 21:10, 22-22:5; Jn 14:23-29

Call to Worship

May God be gracious to us and bless us and make his face to shine upon us, that your way may be known upon earth, your saving power among all nations. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you. Let the nations be glad and sing for joy, for you judge the peoples with equity and guide the nations upon earth. Let the peoples praise you, O God; let all the peoples praise you.

Prayer of Confession

Peace giving God, we often chain ourselves to darkness and fear. We get bound up by chains of mistrust. We dare not to hope, for so many times before we have been disappointed. So, we sit here and wonder where you are. We are not unlike the disciples who also wondered and who feared. Lord, come to us in our darkness. Flood us with your powerful light of love and mercy. Help open our eyes to the good news of your eternal glory. Give to us visions of the place in which love, and hope will reign eternally. Forgive our stubborn resistance to your mercy and your love to receive and then offer to others. Transform us by your peace so that our hearts may be unafraid.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, you are a loving parent imparting wisdom to those who love and follow you. As Jesus demonstrated to his disciples, you offer the immeasurable peace of an eternal home. We praise your name in the comfort of this peace and place these tithes and offerings before you. Multiply these gifts so that those seeking to establish peace in this world will feel your guiding hand. We pray in the name of the Prince of Peace, who is Christ our Lord. Amen.

MAY WORSHIP

Worship May 29 - Ascension of the Lord

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Acts 16:16-34; Ps 97; Rev 22:12-14, 16-17, 20-21; Jn 17:20-26 Acts 1:1-11; Ps 47; Eph 1:15-23; Lk 24:44-53

Call to Worship

Clap your hands, all you peoples; shout to God with loud songs of joy. For the LORD, the Most High, is awesome, a great king over all the earth. He subdued peoples under us, and nations under our feet. He chose our heritage for us, the pride of Jacob whom he loves. God has gone up with a shout, the LORD with the sound of a trumpet. Sing praises to God, sing praises; sing praises to our King, sing praises. For God is the king of all the earth; sing praises with a psalm.

Prayer of Confession

Ascended Lord, in you we see awesome power. You triumph over death and bring forth new life. You stand over all earthly powers. You are the head of the church. Yet, we often fail to acknowledge this power in our lives. Forgive our hesitance to call upon you. Forgive our propensity to rely upon ourselves. Forgive our reluctance to acknowledge your power. Speak your words of power again. May your will may be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord Almighty, you are the supreme ruler of the Earth! You can make nations bow down to your will. You shine your luminescent light on the righteous and spread gladness of heart to those who are good. You have the omnipotent power to move majestic mountains and to calm the stormy seas. You rescue us from wickedness when we praise and worship your works. We acknowledge the strength of your spirit in our lives by giving these tithes and offerings. May you enrich these gifts with your blessing. In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Cherryvale youth went on a hike Apr 24, up the mountain outside of Churchville. A great time was had by all. Thanks to the 'chaperones' who made it all the way to the top, huffing and puffing 😊



You Matter More Than You Know

“For we are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.” Ephesians 2:10

Isn’t it funny how time passes by quickly, but a lot of our days sometimes end up looking the same?

We go to the grocery store to get food for our family just to have to go again next week. We sit at the table for an hour, helping our grandkids put together a puzzle, and then have to break it apart and put it back in the box. We hear about other people’s accomplishments that seem so significant and compare them to our lives and wonder if we’re making any kind of difference at all.

In the middle of all that seems so ordinary about our everyday tasks, it can feel like we’re missing out on fulfilling a much bigger purpose or assignment. With a desperate sigh at the dailiness of life, we get to the end of these days, and we think, Is this all there is to my one life? Or does God have something more for me?

Scripture tells us that hearts set on eternity are inside of us. (Ecclesiastes 3:11) We know it. We feel it.

It’s a sacred stirring — we sense it so deeply that we know it’s not an inkling of our imagination but rather an igniting of God’s revelation. God is pointing us in the direction of something. A blurry vision of how our seemingly ordinary lives could change the world.

The ordinary can be so very, very holy. If we are obedient to God in the midst of our ordinary lives, extraordinary impact is always possible.

When we get to heaven, I think we will be surprised by what actually mattered the most. What actually changed the world. What actually fulfilled the purpose for which we were created.

And the small places we showed up and served in obedience will actually be what prompts Jesus to say, “Well done. Remember when you took the time to share encouraging words with someone who needed them? That’s the day you helped change the world.”

It should be your firm belief, you have a calling, a unique and wondrous calling from God, every day of your life. We find this truth spelled out clearly in Ephesians 2:10: “We are God’s handiwork, created in Christ Jesus to do good works, which God prepared in advance for us to do.”

Today it could be in the line at the grocery store; tomorrow it could be a phone conversation with a friend. Wherever it is, whatever it is, remember: You were created to participate in God’s divine activity.

We don’t know how our lives could impact eternity. How our stories could unfold, how our talents could be used and how God could redeem what feels purposeless in the everyday to bring hope to a world that desperately needs it.

God will not only use your life for extraordinary impact, God made the very DNA of your being to carry His hope and bless the world with it. Your life has never been and will never be wasted in the hands of our Creator. Every aspect has purpose, and every moment has potential impact ... even when you cannot see it.

So today take what feels very ordinary and place it into God’s hands. Ask Him how He would like to use it. Ask Him to reveal who needs the extra dose of encouragement today, and ask Him to help you to really see others’ needs as you journey along the path He has called you to.

Pray this prayer: Dear Lord, thank You for using me today. Even if my everyday moments feel insignificant, I know You will use them for great impact. I need Your help as I learn to say “yes” to Your calling on my life to participate in Your divine activity. In Jesus’ Name, Amen.

Psalm 65 Word Search

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

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

Find the **42 bold** words or phrases from Psalm 65

Praise awaits you, our God, in **Zion**; to you our vows will be **fulfilled**. You who answer **prayer**, to you all people will come. When we were **overwhelmed** by sins, you **forgave** our **transgressions**. **Blessed** are those you choose and bring near to live in your **courts**! We are filled with the good things of your house, of your **holy temple**. You answer us with **awesome** and **righteous** deeds, God our **Savior**, the hope of all the ends of the earth and of the **farthest seas**, who formed the **mountains** by your power, having armed yourself with **strength**, who stilled the **roaring** of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the **turmoil** of the nations. The whole earth is filled with awe at your **wonders**; where **morning dawns**, where evening fades, you call forth **songs of joy**.

You care for the **land** and **water** it; you enrich it **abundantly**. The **streams** of God are filled with water to **provide** the people with **grain**, for so you have **ordained** it. You **drench** its **furrows** and level its **ridges**; you soften it with **showers** and bless its crops.

You **crown** the year with your **bounty**, and your **carts overflow** with abundance. The **grasslands** of the **wilderness** overflow; the hills are clothed with **gladness**. The meadows are covered with **flocks** and the **valleys** are **mantled** with grain; they **shout for joy** and sing.

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 following list was shared by a food bank volunteer.

There are some excellent suggestions if you are ever unsure what to give, or if you see these items on sale. Fresh items should be taken directly to the food pantry.

1. Everyone donates Kraft Mac & Cheese in the box, but it needs milk & butter which is hard to get from food banks.
2. Boxed Milk is a treasure. Kids need it for cereal, which they get a lot of.
3. Everyone donates pasta sauce & spaghetti noodles.
4. Canned Foods should be Pop Tops OR donate Can Openers.
5. Oil is a luxury needed for Rice a Roni which they get a lot of.
6. Spices, Salt & Pepper are a real gift.
7. Tea bags & Coffee are caring gifts.
8. Sugar & Flour are treats.
9. Important are fresh produce donated by farmers & grocery stores.
10. Seeds are great in spring & summer because growing can be easy for some.
11. Rarely is there fresh meat.
12. Tuna & Crackers make a good lunch.
13. Hamburger Helper goes nowhere without ground beef.
14. They get lots of peanut butter and jelly but NEED sandwich bread.
15. Butter or Margarine are good.
16. Eggs are a commodity!
17. Cake mix & Frosting makes it possible to make a child's birthday cake.
18. Dishwashing Detergent is very expensive & is always appreciated.
19. Feminine hygiene products are a luxury & women will cry over them.
20. Everyone loves Stove Top Stuffing.

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.