

OCTOBER 2023 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 October 2023. 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



MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Sunday November 12th
at 4 pm

Join us for an afternoon
of worship
709 Cherry Hill Dr, Staunton VA

the
DUNNS
In Concert at Cherryvale Church



**CHERRY BERRY
CHRISTMAS SHOPPE
& CRAFT FAIR
DECEMBER 2, 2023**

**Drop off your donations
Wednesday mornings, 9-12**

more details online @ www.cherryvaleumc.com

Cherryvale is partnering with Ware Elementary School, to provide the students and teachers with tissues and disinfecting wipes for the classroom.

Each month we will collect items and deliver them to the school. Drop off items on Sunday morning, or note your donation 'school wipes.'

Any store or name brand is acceptable and wipes must be ready to use, not spray bottles.

October Worship

Worship Oct 1

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Ex 17:1-7; Ps 78:1-4, 12-16; Phil 2:1-13; Matt 21:23-32

Call To Worship

Come and worship God our Creator! We praise the One who spoke all things into being! Come and worship Christ Jesus whose authority reigns over heaven and earth. At the name of Jesus our knees shall bow to honor his name! Come and worship God's presence with us, the Holy Spirit, who helps us obey the law of love that gives life to all the world. We praise the One who is at work in us and who helps us follow through with our faith in Christ.

Prayer of Confession

God of compassion, your love is deeper than the valleys of the oceans, and as encompassing as the water that covers the earth. Have mercy upon us as we make our confession. How often we do not do what we intended! What we confess is not always how we act. We hear your word preached and we give our agreement, but faith is found missing when it comes time to obey. We would like to be transformed people, but our stubborn pride prevents us from bending a knee to you. We long to stand with those who are in need, but our selfishness keeps our backs rigid in judgment. Forgive us! Help us to follow through with our lives.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy God of infinite patience and grace, we bring our offerings today knowing that our actions too often don't live up to our intentions and aspirations. When calling ourselves Christians, we announce ourselves as followers of Christ, knowing how many times our choices have made us unrecognizable as his disciples. Yet you wait patiently for us to find our way back to the path. May our giving this day and our living reflect our desire to be on the path that would be recognized as faithful to the Savior, in whose blessed name we pray. Amen.

October Worship

Worship Oct 8

Scriptures to read and meditate on

Ex 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20; Ps 19; Phil 3:4b-14; Matt 21:33-46

Call To Worship

Come! Now is the time to worship! We come to worship God who guides us. After delivering the Israelites out of bondage, God continued to guide them, giving them commandments to shape and form their life with God and one another. God guides us as we learn to pattern our lives after the rhythms of God's grace. Jesus tells a story of a vineyard owner and his tenants who choose violence instead of giving the owner the fruits of the harvest, challenging us to choose, will we reject the Cornerstone or find in Jesus our sure foundation? God guides us as we learn to pattern our lives after the rhythm of God's grace. Too often we fall back into the pattern of rejecting what is good for us, forgetting that the life of faith is always about following God who provides for us and loves us. When we follow God's guidance, we learn to live God's pattern of life described in the commandments and demonstrated by Christ. Come! Now is the time to worship! We come to worship God who guides us for eternity.

Prayer of Confession

Generous and giving God, you have offered us a deep and soul-satisfying relationship with you, one that extends far beyond our earthly journey. But too often we have sought out a faith experience that fits what we want and desire, instead of what you want and desire for us. One day a week or a couple of times a month has been a better fit in our busy lives. We have rejected what you so generously offer us, even as we dwell in and are sustained by your vineyard. You give us commandments not as a burden to bear but as an invitation to live the life you have for us. Open our hearts to be ready to accept your invitation, that we might become a people who bear the fruit of the freedom and new life that is given to us only by your grace.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Almighty God, we thank you for your commandments that teach us to live according to your holy will. We thank you for your covenant with us, that by your grace, gives us life. In response to what you have already done for us, we offer ourselves as a holy and living sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Take what we give to you this day, multiply and use it for spreading your kingdom of love and grace into all the world.

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## Worship Oct 15

### Scriptures to read and meditate on

Ex 32:1-14; Ps 106:1-6, 19-23; Phil 4:1-9; Matt 22:1-14

### Call To Worship

You have been invited to a special feast. We need more details because our schedules are very busy. This is a celebration of commitment between God and God's people. Maybe next time, we have other plans. What is God going to do if we don't come? Your response is noted. There are many others who would be delighted to come, even on a last-minute notice. God looks forward to greeting them and celebrating with them. Will we get a second chance? God forgive us for placing our schedules and other plans before coming to your celebration. Let our praise and worship of you, be first in our lives.

### Prayer of Confession

Grace filled God, we received your invitation to the wedding banquet of our lives, but there are so many times that we refuse to show up. You show us great hospitality, but we want to come on our own terms. You keep giving the invitation, but we have busy lives outside of you. We want to live how we choose, and we fail at extending the invitation to others. Lord, forgive us. Help us to put on Christ as our wedding garment and enter the party with the boldness of your grace.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious God, you give to us so much. You spread a feast of life before us. You re-send the invitation even when we do not respond. Thank you for not giving up on us. Thank you for the wedding garment that is Christ. Thank you for the invitation to receive your love. Take what we bring today and use it to invite others to your party of love, joy, and peace. As you send us out to invite the world, help us to invite everyone we find.

# October Worship

## Worship Oct 22

### Scriptures to read and meditate on

Ex 33:12-23; Ps 99; 1 Thes. 1:1-10; Matt 22:15-22

### Call To Worship

We gather today to remember and proclaim that we are God's people. We are God's people! God's presence is among us! Like Moses, we seek an encounter with God's goodness. God, show us your goodness that we may glorify you in all that we do. God's goodness passes by us every day in the gracious gifts of creation and in the faces of our neighbors. God, help us notice your goodness in everything and everyone that we meet. When we notice God's goodness all around us, we recognize this truth: all things are God's. Let us give to God the worship and praise of our hearts and lives which belong to God alone!

### Prayer of Confession

God of presence, we place our trust in tangible things; things we can see and touch, and then we question whether you are really there. We ignore your goodness that is all around us. We do not recognize your holy touch in the world around us, and we neglect our responsibility to treat all things and all people as sacred. Forgive us, Holy One, when we fail to recognize that you are always nearby, patiently waiting for us to recognize your presence and your glory. Help us when we lose our way, and forgive us when we forget to whom we truly belong. Lover of justice, open our eyes to see you; open our ears to hear you; open our hearts to love you; and open our hands to serve you.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Holy God, source of every good gift, we thank you for your abiding presence. We thank you that we can see even a glimpse of your glory as we look behind. The tithes and offerings we bring to you are simply a token of our desire to walk more closely beside you. We give, knowing that all things belong to you, and we are but sharers in your kingdom. Bless what we give; may it speak words of compassion, mercy, and love as it empowers your mission and ministry. We pray this in the name of the One who became Your presence with us, Jesus the Christ. Amen.

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## Worship Oct 29

### Scriptures to read and meditate on

Deut 34:1-12; Ps 90:1-6, 13-17; 1 Thess 2:1-8; Matt 22:34-46

### Call To Worship

God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble. So we will not fear when earthquakes come and the mountains crumble into the sea. Let the oceans roar and foam. Let the mountains tremble as the waters surge! The Lord Almighty is with us, the God of Jacob is our fortress. Let us praise the Lord with our hearts and lives! As we worship, God reforms our hearts with His love, may that love flow out into our lives.

### Prayer of Confession

Majestic Lord, you indeed are our rock, our mighty fortress that will not fail. You keep us steadfast in times of trouble and protect us from the eternal plague of Sin and Death. Forgive us for the times that we have not trusted in your eternal power and wisdom. Forgive us for the times in which we have not lived into your kingdom, as you have taught us to live by loving you with our entire being and loving our neighbor as ourselves. Teach us to live in your unbounded grace and eternal love, each day, so that your love will flow in us, and through us to others.

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

Lord of Love, we thank you for having set us free to love you and to love our neighbor as ourselves. We thank you for the opportunity to share in life together both with you and with one another. As we offer to you our gifts on this day, take them and multiply them to be used to spread the Good News of our freedom to love, because of you. Empower each of us by your Holy Spirit, to use all that we have been given; our hearts, our souls, and our minds to love and serve you, and our neighbors all around the world.

## From Here to Heaven

*The details of our lives look different from God's point of view.*

The geography of our nation is an amazing collection of natural beauty—mountains of all shapes and sizes, lakes, rivers, wide deserts, and swaying grasslands. Some parts of the country metamorphose with each passing mile, but others—like the wide-open spaces of the Midwest—seem to go on forever, unchanging. As one once said, “Oklahoma is so flat you can watch your dog run away for three days.”

But how far can the human eye really see? Optometrist Robert Burke says that, accounting for the curvature of the earth, the horizon is roughly 3 miles away at sea level. So without any vision-enhancing tools like binoculars or telescopes, we can see up to three miles in any given direction. No more. Considering all that's going on around us, it's humbling to think about all we miss simply because we aren't designed to perceive it.

Now, if we can get off the ground to a higher vantage point, it changes the game. From the top of the Empire State Building, a person can see roughly 80 miles away, which means that, weather-permitting, New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, and Massachusetts could all be visible.

The view from the top of Mount Everest is even more impressive. A person bold enough to climb it would be treated to a view of 209 miles. But even this is not the longest sightline on earth. That distinction belongs in theory to the line between Dankova Peak in Kyrgyzstan and Hindu-Tagh in China. The distance between them is an astounding 334 miles! That would be like standing in Lansing, Michigan and being able to see all the way to Springfield, Illinois.

As amazing as that is, God's viewpoint is greater still, for He isn't limited by the mountains He made or even the curvature of the planet He crafted with a booming “Let there be...” For that reason and a thousand others, He alone declares, “My thoughts are not your thoughts, nor are your ways My ways. For as the heavens are higher than the earth, so are My ways higher than your ways and My thoughts than your thoughts” Isaiah 55:8-9. He is so far above us—beyond us—that it is sometimes frightening to think of His vastness, His power and absolute mastery of all things.

But we don't serve a fickle and domineering deity who cares nothing for the world and creatures He made. Instead, “For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is His lovingkindness toward those who fear Him. As far as the east is from the west, so far has He removed our transgressions from us” Psalm 103:11-12. We may only be able to see three miles away (on a good day) with our failing human eyes, but we serve a God whose vision is perfect and whose mercies are new every morning.

In his popular daily devotional *Every Day in His Presence*, Dr. Stanley writes, “When you mediate upon the Lord, you'll see life from a different perspective. The issues that worry you lose their grip; the burdens that weaken you, God will turn to strength. Your viewpoint of relationships, tasks, problems, your enemies, and even your own personhood changes because you learn to see them all with the Father's wisdom.”

Contemplating the Lord—everything He is and all He can do—helps us see the truth about Him and ourselves. Often, people fight this revelation because it shows them just how tiny and powerless they are. It's a truth many simply aren't willing to face. However, our smallness and limited vision contrasts sharply with our heavenly Father's. Situations that seem impossible at ground level are rightly understood from His perspective, and that's why we must allow Him to shape and inform our viewpoint. When we do, life as we know it will change for the good.

# My Hope is Built - Word Search

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

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

Find the **32 bold** words or phrases from the Hymn,  
My Hope Is Built

***My hope*** is ***built*** on nothing less  
than ***Jesus' blood*** and ***righteousness***.

I dare not ***trust*** the ***sweetest frame***,  
but ***wholly lean*** on ***Jesus' name***.

When ***darkness veils*** his ***lovely face***,  
***I rest*** on his ***unchanging grace***.

In every high and ***stormy gale***,  
my ***anchor*** holds within the veil.

***His oath***, his ***covenant***, his blood  
***supports*** me in the ***whelming flood***.

When all around ***my soul*** gives way,  
he then is all ***my hope*** and stay.

When he ***shall come*** with ***trumpet sound***,

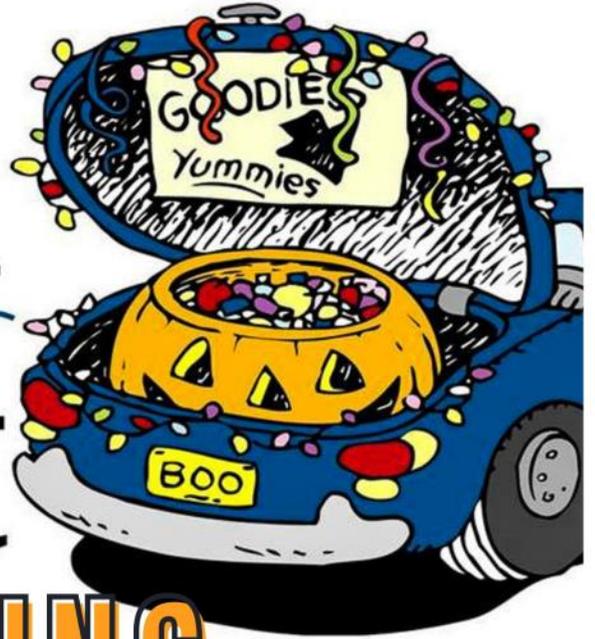
O may I then ***in him be found!***

***Dressed*** in his righteousness ***alone***,  
***faultless*** to ***stand*** before the ***throne!***

On ***Christ*** the ***solid rock*** I stand,  
all ***other ground*** is sinking sand;  
all other ground is ***sinking sand***.

**JOIN US @ CHERRYVALE**

**Trunk  
or  
Treat**  
**& FACE PAINTING**



**October 31st @ 5 p.m.**

**5TH SUNDAY LUNCH**

**Immediately following service OCT 29!**

**CROCK-POTS & CASSEROLES**

**SEE ALISON PAINTER FOR MORE DETAILS**