

August 2024 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 August 2024.

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

Back To School

Whether in school each day or home-school every child will face a variety of temptations and moments that can become defining moments. Below are prayers and Bible verses to speak over the children and students during as they return to school, or face their first day of school or college.

A Prayer For Courage:

Dear God, as the child walks into school, I pray that Your strength and peace will cover them each and every day. Remind them they can turn to You when they feel scared or discouraged, and You will give them exactly what they need. I humbly ask that You will remind them that they don't have to do this life alone because You are always with them. No matter what obstacles come their way, I pray they will find strength and courage in You alone. "This is my command—be strong and courageous! Do not be afraid or discouraged. For the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." (Joshua 1:9)

A Prayer For Kindness:

Please empower and remind the children to be kind to every single person they encounter at school. Lord, please clothe them with Your mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience so they will glorify You. I pray they will show kindness to their classmates and the staff. If a time comes when kindness is not shown to them, may they feel Your presence all around them enabling them to be a light for You even when it is difficult. "Since God chose you to be the holy people He loves, you must clothe yourselves with tenderhearted mercy, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience. Make allowance for each other's faults, and forgive anyone who offends you. Remember, the Lord forgave you, so you must forgive others. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds us all together in perfect harmony." (Colossians 3:12-14)

A Prayer For Protection:

Lord, I humbly ask You to protect each and every child, including those in my family, as they go to school every day. I won't be there to protect them, but I have peace knowing You are their refuge and ultimate protector. Therefore, I ask that their emotional, spiritual, mental, and physical health will be guarded and protected by Your mighty hand. Thank You for caring for them. "Don't be afraid, for I am with you. Don't be discouraged, for I am your God. I will strengthen you and help you. I will hold you up with my victorious right hand." (Isaiah 41:10) "For the angel of the Lord is a guard; He surrounds and defends all who fear Him." (Psalm 34:7)

A Prayer For Resilience:

School isn't always easy. You know this, God, but I praise You for You are an ever-present help in times of hardship. I am asking You to pour out Your strength and reminders of Your peace and power on the children each day. When they face a hard subject, have a problem with friends, get in trouble, or simply feel fatigued from school in general, I ask that You will uphold them with Your mighty hand and restore them. Please encourage them when times are tough. I pray they are able to rest well when they return home from school and that You will restore them for the next day. You are our sustainer; please sustain the children. Thank You, Jesus. "God is our refuge and strength, always ready to help in times of trouble." (Psalm 46:1)

Continued on page 4

August Worship

Aug 4, 2024

Scriptures to read and meditate on

2 Sam 11:26-12:13a; Ps 51:1-12; Eph 4:1-16; John 6:24-35

Call to Worship

All who Hunger, gather gladly; Holy Manna is our bread. We taste and see that God is good. All who hunger, sing together; Jesus Christ is living bread. We taste and see the grace eternal. Blessed are those who from this table live their lives in gratitude. We taste and see that God is good.

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. Too often we reject the life-giving Bread of Heaven for the crumbs of this world. We have not fed others with food, love, or your Word when you have called to do so. Bread of Heaven, forgive us and feed us, so that we can feed the world with your truth. Let us taste and see the grace eternal, let us taste and see that You are good.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Eternal God, we give you thanks for this holy mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Take everything that we offer this day, from our money to our hearts, and use us to feed the world with the Bread from Heaven. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Manna in the wilderness of life. Amen.

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Aug 11, 2024

Scriptures to read and meditate on

2 Sam 18:5-9, 15, 31-33; Ps 130; Eph 4:25-5:2; John 6:35, 41-51

## Call to Worship

"Come to me," Jesus invites. We come to you. "Come to me, if you are tired." We come to you. "Come to me, if you carry burdens." We come to you. "Come, and discover rest for your souls."

## Prayer of Confession

Loving God and Lord of all, the weight of the world and of Sin is heavy. Living fully into your holiness, O God, is impossible. But you have given to us an easier way. You have given to us not only a message of hope, but a burden that is light, and a yoke that is easy. Forgive us of trying to earn your love. Forgive us for trying to do life alone. Forgive us for not loving you and not loving our neighbor. Remove the shackles of Sin and Death that bears its heavy load, so that we may take upon ourselves Christ's yoke, as he offers to us rest for our souls. We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever.

## 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, bearing the burdens of others, as you bear our own burdens of life. Bless what we have offered this day, multiply our giving so that your Kingdom of Heaven may come on Earth. Through Christ our Savior and Lord we pray. Amen.

# August Worship

**Aug 18, 2024**

**Scriptures to read and meditate on**

1 Kings 2:10-12; 3:3-14; Ps 111; Eph 5:15-20; John 6:51-58

## **Call to Worship**

The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom; all those who practice it have a good understanding. Lord, give us wisdom! To those without sense wisdom says, "Come, eat of my bread and drink of the wine I have mixed. Lay aside immaturity, and live, and walk in the way of insight." Lord, help us to walk in the way of your wisdom! Be careful then how you live, not as unwise people but as wise. Sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, singing and making melody to the Lord in your hearts, and give thanks to God the Father at all times and for everything in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ. Lord, give us Your wisdom from on high!

## **Prayer of Confession**

Covenant keeping God, You must shake your head in wonder at our ways. How can we say we want wisdom, when we foolishly waste the knowledge we have of Your ways? How can we claim to follow you, when we walk the slippery roads of the world not caring where they lead us? How can we desire your great and steadfast love, when the simple seductions of our society are in full view every day? How can you have mercy on such unwise and unfaithful people? Forgive us for making unwise choices that cause harm. Forgive us for not seeking your wisdom in all things. And forgive us when we think we know your will when it's actually our pride and selfish desire we are after.

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Holy God, in this moment of offering, we stand before you, acknowledging your boundless wisdom and unending love. As we present our gifts, we also lift our prayers for guidance and understanding. Grant us the wisdom to discern your will and the courage to walk in your ways, following the example set before us by Solomon. Bless these offerings and our lives, so that we may continue to worship you in spirit and truth. Amen.

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Aug 25, 2024

Scriptures to read and meditate on

1 Kings 8:(1, 6, 10-11) 22-30, 41-43; Ps 84; Eph 6:10-20; John 6:56-69

Call to Worship

Come all of you who follow Christ and worship his name. Let us show forth that we are disciples of Jesus Christ with our lives: Come all of you who are hungering for life. Jesus is our living bread from Heaven. Come all of you who are lost and searching for meaning and purpose. There is no one else to whom we can go. Only Jesus has the words of eternal life as He is the Word of God come down on earth.

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 have not fully committed ourselves to you. We say we know you, but our hearts, and our actions, show we only know about you. We too often complain that your teachings are too hard for us to understand and to live out in our lives. But you have the words of eternal life. Forgive us and draw us closer to you so that we can know you more deeply and love you more earnestly.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious Lord, we give you thanks for drawing us into relationship with you. We give you thanks that you give to us the Word of eternal life, the bread from heaven by which nourishes us into eternal life. Draw us nearer to you and consecrate us now to your service Lord, by the power of grace divine. Take our financial gifts as a sign of our gratitude and trust in your true words of life. Use them to feed the world with your love. We commit our gifts, our hearts, and our lives to you, not because we are simply in awe of your power, but because we are your followers, committed to your work and love in this world.

A Prayer For Joy

Thank You, Father, that the children get to learn each and every day. As they go about their lessons and classes, I pray that You will provide them with endless happy moments and memories they can look back on when they get older. May the children wake up and be joyful about school. Please give them heavenly, lasting joy and encouragement as they grow and learn. Finally, I pray the joy they have will be evident to all and their joy will point others to Your goodness. "I pray that God, the Source of hope, will fill you completely with joy and peace because you trust in Him. Then you will overflow with confident hope through the power of the Holy Spirit." (Romans 15:13)

Let us also pray for the teachers, administrators, bus drivers, custodians, principals, and all school staff as they begin a new year.

Lord, we lift up school staff today. We pray for their peace and covering this day. We pray for all that You have in store for them. We pray that You would equip them in every way with the wisdom that they need to lead their classes and schools every single day.

God, we pray that Your strength would fill them and enable them to do all that they do with a heart of compassion, grace, and understanding that comes right from You. Give teachers, educators, administrators, bus drivers, custodians, principals, the ability to be effective in their job – to have an impact on these young lives and to create an atmosphere that's safe, fun, and fosters learning about important things.

We pray that you, God, would give them encouragement. Give them help when they're weary and lots of grace when they feel like they've reached the limit. And please give them peace even now as they prepare for this school year. God, may you guide them in every good work of preparation, impact, and resources for those who are paying out of pocket for school supplies. Everything that concerns them, God, we know that it's in Your hands today. We lift them up. In Jesus' name, Amen

"I pray that from His glorious, unlimited resources He will empower you with inner strength through His Spirit. Then Christ will make His home in your hearts as you trust in Him. Your roots will grow down into God's love and keep you strong. And may you have the power to understand, as all God's people should, how wide, how long, how high, and how deep His love is. May you experience the love of Christ, though it is too great to understand fully. Then you will be made complete with all the fullness of life and power that comes from God." – Ephesians 3:16-19 NLT



The graphic features the text "Cherryvale Fundraiser INDOOR YARD SALE" in large, bold, colorful letters. "SHOP NOW" is written in a blue, bubbly font with radiating lines above it. "YARD SALE" is written in red, bubbly letters with radiating lines above it. To the left is an illustration of a woman in a green shirt and black pants pushing a cart with a "YARD SALE" sign. To the right is an illustration of a cardboard box with a "SALE" sign and various items like a yellow bag and a red bag. Below the main text, "AUGUST 24TH - 8AM TO NOON" is written in green, bubbly letters with three orange arrows pointing down from the "INDOOR YARD SALE" text.

SHOP NOW

Cherryvale Fundraiser

INDOOR

YARD SALE

YARD SALE

SALE

AUGUST 24TH - 8AM TO NOON



The call to action consists of two stacked rectangular boxes. The top box is pink with a white border and contains the text "SPRING CLEANING?" in large, bold, black letters with a white outline. The bottom box is yellow with a black border and contains the text "DONATE QUALITY NEW AND USED ITEMS TO OUR SALE" in bold, black letters.

SPRING CLEANING?

DONATE QUALITY NEW AND USED ITEMS TO OUR SALE

Do You Understand What You're Reading? - mini bible study.

Legalese in paperwork, medical jargon on prescriptions, instructions for “easy-to-assemble” projects—our lives are filled with language we don't understand. But someone does. It's the job of lawyers, doctors, engineers, and other professionals to interpret technical information for us so we can use it to make good decisions and lead better lives. Often the real dilemma isn't how to make sense of what we're reading—that's impossible for the untrained—but where to find someone who can help us. This was exactly the case for an Ethiopian traveling home from Jerusalem.

With Saul ravaging the new church and imprisoning believers, Christians have scattered. Philip fled to Samaria, where his ministry was characterized by signs, miracles, and numerous converts. Hearing about his success, Peter and John traveled there to see what was happening. After a few days, the three headed back to Jerusalem, but along the way, Philip received special instructions from an angel.

When the angel redirected his route, Philip must have anticipated there would be a special ministry opportunity waiting for him.

Philip's work in Samaria (Acts 8:12-17) was an opportunity to minister to people who were not accepted in mainstream Jewish culture (John 4:9). Later, encountering a man from the royal court of the queen of Ethiopia, Philip found himself sharing the gospel with another outsider. The man was not only a foreigner but also a eunuch, which meant he'd never have been accepted into Judaism (Deuteronomy 23:1), even though he worshipped as a Jew. How do you think these two stories about Philip's ministry are related? What do these encounters teach us about the way the early church spread?

Philip overheard the Ethiopian reading from Isaiah and asked if he understood the passage. What does it say about the man that he admitted he did not? List the qualities found in this story that are important for us to emulate as we read Scripture. Whom do you ask when you have questions about God's Word?

How would you use Isaiah 53:7-8—the passage the man was reading and Philip used to explain Jesus—to present the gospel? What other Bible verses can you turn to?

Philip's gospel message to the Ethiopian isn't recorded in its entirety. Since the man eventually asked about baptism, it's possible Philip included an exhortation similar to Peter's after his sermon at Pentecost.

Read Acts 2:37-41. When you share the gospel with those around you, what appeal do you make? Is it hard to call others to repentance?

Rather than saying he wanted to be baptized, the Ethiopian man asked a question: “What prevents me from being baptized?” (Acts 8:36). Why do you think he asked Philip this question? What answer do you think he expected?

Philip was “snatched away” and “found himself” at Azotus (vv. 39-40). What do you make of these phrases—a description of supernatural “teleportation” or of blind faith and prompt obedience? Or something else? What can we learn from his sudden departure, however it happened?

When his story picks up years later, Philip is settled in Caesarea with four daughters (Acts 21:8-9). In some ways, a domestic life by the sea seems a dramatic departure from his Spirit-led ministry in Samaria and on the road to Gaza.

What advantages might Philip have gained by settling in Caesarea? What dangers would he have faced? How might Philip's experiences in both Samaria and Caesarea, and even earlier in Jerusalem, inspire us to a life of faithfulness?

John 6:35-40 Word Search

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

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

Find the **27** Words from John 6: 35-40

Jesus said to them,

“I am the **bread of life**.

Whoever comes to me will **never** be **hungry**, and whoever **believes** in me will never be **thirsty**.

But I said to you that you have **seen me** and yet **do not believe**.

Everything that the **Father** gives me **will come to me**, and **anyone** who comes to me I will **never drive away**, for I have **come down** from **heaven** not to do my own will but the **will of him** who **sent me**. And this is the will of him who sent me, that I should **lose nothing** of all that he has **given me** but **raise it up** on the **last day**. This is **indeed** the will of my Father, that all who **see the Son** and believe in him may have **eternal life**, and I will **raise them up** on the last day.”

The Songs & Stories of

BRENT VERNON

SINGER-SONGWRITER • VENTRILOQUIST
AUTHOR • ILLUSTRATOR

WITH A SPECIAL
APPEARANCE BY

Sam



A LIVE CONCERT EVENT
FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!

Every story, a story of redemption. Every song, a testament to Grace.

COMMUNITY CONCERT

PLUS: Backpack Blessing & Free Picnic Lunch

**FREE
ADMISSION**

SUNDAY AUGUST 11, 2024 @ 10:30AM

Hosted by: Cherryvale Church, 709 Cherry Hill Dr, Staunton VA

