

# WORSHIP AT HOME

## Call to Worship

Let us lift up our hearts!



Scripture says, “Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God.”

Let us lift up our minds!

**Tell us the Way to lift up our minds!**

Listen to scripture with all your thoughts, reason, discernment, and judgement.

Created in the image of God we are a soul, empowered by a spirit, living life in a physical body.

Scripture says, Set your minds on things above, where Christ is seated at the right hand of God. He died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in heaven.

Let us be lifted up with Christ

Tell us why we want to be lifted up with Christ

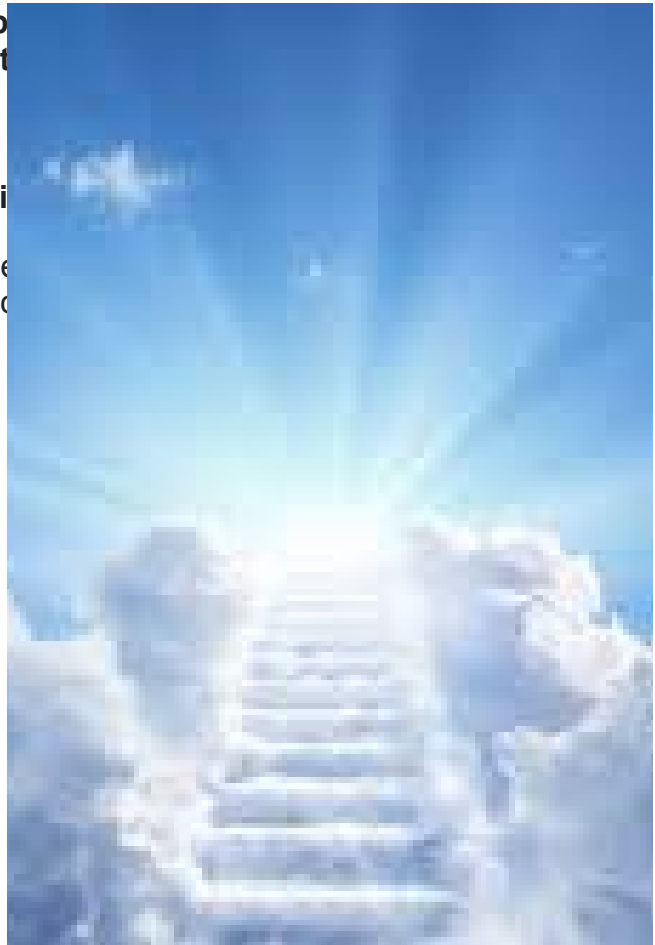
When Jesus was lifted up on the Cross he revealed his heart filled with mercy, and made Peace with his enemies. He lifted his spirit filled with Love, and made Peace with God.

Scripture says, "When Christ, who is our life, appears, then we also will appear with him in glory."

### Awake, O Sleeper

Awake, O sleeper, rise from death, and Christ shall give you light; so learn his love, its length and breadth, its fullness, depth, and height.

For Christ lived, for us he died, and conquered in the strife. Awake, arise, go forth in faith, and Christ shall give you life.



Let God's Will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Look for the Cross in this picture!

**Today is today.  
Tomorrow is a  
Promise. Faith  
is for Today.  
Today has  
enough worries.**

ROBERT

### Prayer

Where there is suffering! **Let me be light.**  
Let me be awake. Let me awaken to the Light of Mercy WHO shines in the darkness of Strife.  
*(Name the strife you see. Ask the Father to let you see Jesus suffering this strife on the Cross.)*

Let me rise with Christ. **Let me be the Light of Grace who blesses those who curse me.**  
*(Mercy frees you to be Peace in the strife. Ask the Father to deliver you from Satan's temptation to curse those who curse you. Ask the Father to teach you to be His Blessing.)*

Let me suffer with Christ. Let my Sin die in Christ! Let my life rise in Christ. **Let this Way be with me until we appear with him in glory. Amen**

## Affirmation of Faith: Psalm 145:8-21

The Lord is gracious and compassionate,  
slow to anger and rich in love.

**9**

**The Lord is good to all;  
he has compassion on all he has made.**

**10**

All your works praise you, Lord;  
your faithful people extol you.

**11**

**They tell of the glory of your kingdom  
and speak of your might,**

**12**

**so that all people may know of your mighty acts  
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.**

**13**

Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,  
and your dominion endures through all generations.

## Scripture Lesson: Colossians 1:21-23

**21** Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of your evil behavior. **22** But now he has reconciled you by Christ's physical body through death to present you holy in his sight, without blemish and free from accusation— **23** if you continue in your faith, established and firm, and do not move from the hope held out in the gospel. This is the gospel that you heard and that has been proclaimed to every creature under heaven, and of which I, Paul, have become a servant.

## Homily

Once you were alienated from God and were enemies in your minds because of [g] your evil behavior.

We are no longer alienated from God! Do you believe it? Do you have faith? From where then do the many debates, arguments, and divisions come? Don't they rise out of our beliefs. When we argue about our beliefs don't we take our eyes off of Christ?

Belief focuses on what I/You know and trust. Can't you see that our beliefs are spiritual tools with which we tend to the Tree of Knowledge of Good and Evil. Indeed, we shall tend the Tree all the days of our mortal lives. Satan will tempt us to eat the fruit.

Can't you see that we are in a spiritual battle. Hear the Good News: While we tend the Tree of Knowledge with our many beliefs, doctrines, values, morals, and ethics they no longer have power to alienate us from God. When we eat the forbidden fruit we have an advocate,

The Holy Spirit, who leads us out of judgement that creates shame, guilt, and blame into His Mercy.

The Advocate comforts us by leading us mercy by mercy to experience exactly what Jesus promised the thief; "Today you will be with me in paradise. And where is Paradise? Listen not with human ears. Look not at visible things. Listen with Faith that trust not self, mortal leaders, institutions, or politicians. We are not in a battle with Flesh and Blood. We are in the same spiritual battle Jesus faced as he suffered humanities forbidden judgement, condemnation, and death.

Listen to the Good News! "Since, then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. 2 Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things. 3 For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. 4 When Christ, who is your[a] life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory.

Do you not know the order of creation? Physical things perish. Spiritual things are above physical things. They do not rot, rust, or lose their luster. And yet Jesus is seated in a far more excellent realm far above the physical and spiritual. Now, yes today, your life and mine, even your neighbor's, is hidden with Christ in God.

Faith, then, sets the heart and mind on the life that "will appear with Him in Glory." Do you hear the PROMISE! To hear the promise we must get out of our heads. To see the Promise we must get out of our hearts! To let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus, be merciful as Jesus revealed Mercy while suffering humanity's judgement. To let the same heart be in you that was in Christ Jesus bless those who curse you.

Now belief is trust in worldly things doomed to perish. Faith is trust in the same spirit that was in Christ as he suffered and physically perished on the cross at the hands, heart, and mind of humanity, addicted to the forbidden fruit. Yet Jesus' promise for "Today's" Paradise is filled with a sure and certain Hope.

What is the promise of this superior Hope. The very nature of faith is facing all things, Good, Evil, or Human, by remembering you were with Christ as He Suffered, that you died to the power of Sin in Christ's death, that with Christ you rose to life in Him.

Can't you see that his suffering took place in the spiritual realm? Can't you see the CROSS suspend between the way of the world and the way of the Father. Can't you see that that the world is the Father's footstool. Can't you see Jesus lifted up above those who created His suffering.

Even "Today" many have-not bowed at His feet. Does their posture and stature change what Jesus has accomplished? Can't you see that in Jesus' suffering and death He had his heart and mind set on the Promise of a superior hope? Listen to the Promise, "Today, you will be with me in paradise! Listen to His Hope, "Father, I commit my spirit into your hands." Therefore, Faith is Today. Hope is for tomorrow. But as I learned while living on Edisto Beach; Today is today! Tomorrow is a promise. The Promise reached by faith alone says, "When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory. comes.

Therefore our faith in Jesus' equips us to offer mercy to those intent on making us suffer shame, guilt, and blame. Mercy shall never set the world free. Mercy sets the merciful free from the way of the World. Mercy is the sign of receiving Jesus' Peace.

Before Jesus ascended to sit at the RIGHT of the Father, He walked in the world. He entered his disciples fear and suffering. To cast out their fear he offered them his Peace. What peace did he offer. The very peace he make with sin! The peace he made between the Father and Humanity! The Peace he made with evil! Then he made the Disciples a Promise far superior to the one God made with Moses. "AS the Father sent me so I send you. Receive the Holy Spirit."

The mind of Christ is seated in Peace. The Heart of Christ is seated in Grace. The Life of Christ is seated in Love. See, nothing on earth, in all the world, or in the various spiritual places has the power or authority to alienate us from God.

## Benediction

Awake, O Sleeper

Then walk in love as Christ loved, whom died that He might save; with kind and gentle hearts forgive as God in Christ forgave.