

## WORSHIP AT HOME 30 JUNE 2024

### OPENING SCRIPTURE SENTENCE

*Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name. Psalm 30:4*

### PREPARATION:

You might sit in a darkened room, light a candle, and invoke the Holy Three as you begin worship:

**IN THE NAME OF THE FATHER, SON AND HOLY SPIRIT. AMEN.**

**PRAYER:** Be pleased blessed Trinity of Loving Communion to grace us with your presence as we worship. Look upon us in your mercy, forgive all our sin for your mercy's sake, and lift us up to proclaim your glory as forgiven, and renewed people in Jesus' name for you are most worthy of all our praise. Amen.

### HOSANNA (PRAISE IS RISING);

<https://youtu.be/oAaQ5EExidc>; <https://youtu.be/6t53HBih1I>

Praise is rising, eyes are turning to You, we turn to You  
Hope is stirring, hearts are yearning for You, we long for You  
'Cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day  
In Your Presence all our fears are washed away, washed away...  
Hosanna, hosanna you are the God Who saves us,  
worthy of all our praises Hosanna, hosanna come have Your way among us we welcome You here, Lord Jesus

Hear the sound of hearts returning to You, we turn to You  
In Your Kingdom broken lives are made new, You make us new  
'Cause when we see You, we find strength to face the day  
In Your Presence all our fears are washed away, washed away...  
Hosanna, hosanna You are the God Who saves us,

worthy of all our praises Hosanna, hosanna come have Your way among us we welcome You here, Lord Jesus

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Hosanna, hosanna You are the God Who saves us, worthy of all our praises Hosanna, hosanna come have Your way among us we welcome You here, Lord Jesus  
Hosanna, hosanna Hosanna, hosanna.

**BLESS:** I/We continue to praise you Most Glorious One.

**PRAISE MY SOUL;** <https://youtu.be/rCRCZMmnwZQ>

Praise, my soul, the King of Heaven; To His feet thy tribute bring.  
Ransomed, healed, restored, forgiven, evermore His praises sing:  
Praise Him, praise Him, alleluia! Praise the everlasting King.  
Praise Him for His grace and favor To our fathers in distress;  
Praise Him still the same as ever, Slow to chide, and swift to bless.  
Praise Him, praise Him, alleluia! Glorious in His faithfulness.  
Father-like He tends and spares us, well our feeble frame He knows;  
In His hands He gently bears us, rescues us from all our foes.  
Praise Him, praise Him, alleluia! Widely yet His mercy flows.  
Frail as summer's flow'r we flourish, Blows the wind and it is gone;  
But while mortals rise and perish, our God lives unchanging on.  
Praise Him, praise Him, alleluia! Praise the high Eternal One!  
Angels, help us to adore Him, Ye behold Him face to face;  
sun and moon, bow down before Him;

dwellers all in time and space, Praise Him, praise Him, alleluia! Praise with us the God of grace.

????BUT WHAT IF I DON'T FEEL LIKE PRAISING???

SOMEONE once said, *It's amazing what praising can do.*'  
<https://youtu.be/4sFjube1IqM>; <https://youtu.be/uuqp5YPPoog>

It's true, believe me. You walk around with a song in your heart, you hum a tune, you whistle when you work, you hear this melody resonating in your soul. You are filled with joy of the Lord. Your heart keeps resounding in praise and thanksgiving because God in you has overcome. It's amazing what praising can do. You can face anything. If you don't believe me, try it, try praising...and keep trying.

STILL STRUGGLING? Praise with the Salvation Army friends  
<https://youtu.be/RkAuUnIkAc>

Now join the Psalmist rising from the deep:  
PSALM 30

<sup>1</sup>I will extol you, O Lord, for you have drawn me up, and did not let my foes rejoice over me. <sup>2</sup>O Lord my God, I cried to you for help, and you have healed me. <sup>3</sup>O Lord, you brought up my soul from Sheol, restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit. <sup>4</sup>Sing praises to the Lord, O you his faithful ones, and give thanks to his holy name. <sup>5</sup>For his anger is but for a moment; his favor is for a lifetime. Weeping may linger for the night, but joy comes with the morning. <sup>6</sup>As for me, I said in my prosperity, "I shall never be moved." <sup>7</sup>By your favor, O Lord, you had established me as a strong mountain; you hid your face; I was dismayed. <sup>8</sup>To you, O Lord, I cried, and to the Lord I made supplication: <sup>9</sup>"What profit is there in my death, if I go down to the Pit? Will the dust praise you? Will it tell of your faithfulness?" <sup>10</sup>Hear, O Lord, and be gracious to me! O Lord,

be my helper!" <sup>11</sup>You have turned my mourning into dancing; you have taken off my sackcloth and clothed me with joy, <sup>12</sup>so that my soul may praise you and not be silent. O Lord my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

MOURNING INTO DANCING; <https://youtu.be/G4-it3mYk>  
He's turned my mourning Into dancing again He's lifted my sorrows I can't stay silent I must sing For His joy has come

Where there once was only hurt He gave His healing hand  
Where there once was only pain He brought comfort  
Like a friend I feel the sweetness of His love piercing my darkness I see the bright and morning sun as it ushers in His joyful gladness (repeat...)

He's turned my mourning into dancing again He's lifted my sorrows I can't stay silent I must sing for His joy has come  
Your anger lasts for a moment in time but Your favour is here And will be on me for all my life time

#### REFLECTION

Friends, difficult times come, it's true. It is all part of our human predicament, but what a blessed predicament when faced through faith. The Psalmist has known dreadful times of sorrow and weeping, but finds strength in God through it all. God is always there in good and the bad, from the pit of despair to the mountain top of slippery slope/hope, turning the bad into good because this present predicament is passing away, but God's favour lasts forever. Come what may joy comes in the morning. God is all about restoration. Friend, when life is faced together with God—whoopee! A new perspective of God's eternal presence and faithfulness dawns again. What's more: **Arguably, God is known best in the darkness.** We need darkness. We must come to the end of ourselves apart from God. We need to just rest in

God alone together. God is always more than enough. Even Jesus was not exempt from trials, tribulation, darkness. Think of the darkness of the cross of sin and shame. Yes, life lived in the light needs the darkness of night to appreciate the light. The Psalmist found that with seemingly self-sufficient mountaintop prosperity came dismay, but when in the pits of death, one's life is renewed, because God is there waiting to lift us up, and God won't ever leave even though we may feel forsaken. Thank God for the darkness, and keep praising. Why does incessant praise work? Perhaps because focus is turned from self to God. When focus is on God praise comes quite naturally. Darkness gives us new perspective. You have to focus to see the light. This is where faith is strongest. If you lit a candle at the outset, you might look at it again. Think about it flickering amid the darkness, and consider more praise. Amen.

SONG: How can I keep from singing;

[https://youtu.be/yIkjMzAFy\\_Q](https://youtu.be/yIkjMzAFy_Q); <https://youtu.be/AH72dgNSAsw>

My life flows on in endless song above earth's lamentation. I hear the real, thought far off hymn That hails the new creation. Above the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing; It sounds an echo in my soul how can I keep from singing? What through the tempest loudly roars, I hear the truth, it live'th. What through the darkness round me close, songs in the night it give'th. No storm can shake my inmost calm while to that rock I'm clinging. Since love is lord of Heaven and earth How can I keep from singing? When tyrants tremble, sick with fear, and hear their death-knell ringing, when friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing? In prison cell and dungeon vile our thoughts to them are winging. When friends by shame are undefiled, how can I keep from singing?

#### PRAYER

We beseech thee, Master, to be helper and protector. Save the afflicted among us; have mercy on the lowly; raise up the fallen; appear to the needy; heal the ungodly; restore the wanderers of thy people; feed the hungry; ransom our prisoners; raise up the sick; comfort the faint-hearted. Amen. (Clement of Rome, 1st century; SPCK Book of Christian prayer)

THE LORD'S PRAYER: Our Father..

CLOSING PRAYER: Lord let us live with you, and you with us now and always. Amen.

CLOSING SONG, O When the Saints;

<https://youtu.be/KeuXtDKKzfm>

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