



# Formation Devotional

June 2, 2020 Evening

Forming Worship, Life, and Ministry Together at Christ Covenant Church

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*Come into this time just as you are, like a child who runs to his father's arms. Use this email as you are able, in whole or in part.*

## Call to Prayer

Yes, Lord, walking in the way of your laws, we wait for you; your name and renown are the desire of our hearts. My soul yearns for you in the night; in the morning my spirit longs for you. (Isaiah 26:8-9)

## Opening Prayer

O God, grant us, in all our doubts and uncertainties, the grace to ask what you would have us to do, that the Spirit of wisdom may save us from all false choices, and that in your light we may see light, and in your straight path may not stumble; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. (BCP 832)

## Prayer of Examine

Turn your attention to Christ who is present with you now. With him, review the ordinary events and emotions of your day with gratitude.

1. Where did you move with or feel close to Jesus today?
2. Where did you resist or feel far from Jesus today?
3. Where is Jesus leading you tomorrow? Ask for joy as you follow him.

## Praying the Psalms

*Prayerfully read the psalm back to God through faith in Jesus Christ.*

### Psalm 64

#### Hide Me from the Wicked

*To the choirmaster. A Psalm of David.*

Hear my voice, O God, in my complaint;

preserve my life from dread of the enemy.

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<sup>2</sup>Hide me from the secret plots of the wicked,  
from the throng of evildoers,  
<sup>3</sup>who whet their tongues like swords,  
who aim bitter words like arrows,  
<sup>4</sup>shooting from ambush at the blameless,  
shooting at him suddenly and without fear.  
<sup>5</sup>They hold fast to their evil purpose;  
they talk of laying snares secretly,  
thinking, "Who can see them?"  
<sup>6</sup> They search out injustice,  
saying, "We have accomplished a diligent search."  
For the inward mind and heart of a man are deep.  
<sup>7</sup>But God shoots his arrow at them;  
they are wounded suddenly.  
<sup>8</sup>They are brought to ruin, with their own tongues turned against them;  
all who see them will wag their heads.  
<sup>9</sup>Then all mankind fears;  
they tell what God has brought about  
and ponder what he has done.  
<sup>10</sup>Let the righteous one rejoice in the LORD  
and take refuge in him!  
Let all the upright in heart exult!

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## Old Testament Reading

Leviticus establishes Jewish identity through the priesthood and festivals. With the number of commands concerning cleanliness and dedication to God, living a life that is pleasing to God becomes a daunting task. Yet Leviticus is filled with gems of wisdom when seen through the work of Christ.

*As you read and reflect on this passage, prayerfully consider how God might be revealing himself to you this evening.*

### Leviticus 20

#### Punishment for Child Sacrifice

The LORD spoke to Moses, saying, <sup>2</sup>“Say to the people of Israel, Any one of the people of Israel or of the strangers who sojourn in Israel who gives any of his children to Molech shall surely be put to death. The people of the land shall stone him with stones. <sup>3</sup>I myself will set my face against that man and will cut him off from among his people, because he has given one of his children to Molech, to make my sanctuary unclean and to profane my holy name. <sup>4</sup>And if the people of the land do at all close their eyes to that man when he gives one of his children to Molech, and do not put him to death, <sup>5</sup>then I will set my face against that man and against his clan and will cut them off from among their people, him and all who follow him in whoring after Molech.

<sup>6</sup>“If a person turns to mediums and necromancers, whoring after them, I will set my face against that person and will cut him off from among his people. <sup>7</sup>Consecrate yourselves, therefore, and be holy, for I am the LORD your God. <sup>8</sup>Keep my statutes and do them; I am the LORD who sanctifies you. <sup>9</sup>For anyone who curses his father or his mother shall surely be put to death; he has cursed his father or his mother; his blood is upon him.

#### Punishments for Sexual Immorality

<sup>10</sup>“If a man commits adultery with the wife of his neighbor, both the adulterer and the adulteress shall surely be put to death. <sup>11</sup>If a man lies with his father's wife, he has uncovered his father's nakedness; both of them shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them. <sup>12</sup>If a man lies with his daughter-in-law, both of them shall surely be put to death; they have committed perversion; their blood is upon them. <sup>13</sup>If a man lies with a male as with a woman, both of them have committed an abomination; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them. <sup>14</sup>If a man takes a woman and her mother also, it is depravity; he and they shall be burned with fire, that there may be no depravity among you. <sup>15</sup>If a man lies with an animal, he shall surely be put to death, and you shall kill the animal. <sup>16</sup>If a woman approaches any animal and lies with it, you shall kill the woman and the animal; they shall surely be put to death; their blood is upon them.

<sup>17</sup>“If a man takes his sister, a daughter of his father or a daughter of his mother, and sees her nakedness, and she sees his nakedness, it is a disgrace, and they shall be cut off in the sight of the children of their people. He has uncovered his sister's nakedness, and he shall bear his iniquity. <sup>18</sup>If a man lies with a woman during her menstrual period and uncovers her nakedness, he has made naked

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her fountain, and she has uncovered the fountain of her blood. Both of them shall be cut off from among their people. <sup>19</sup>You shall not uncover the nakedness of your mother's sister or of your father's sister, for that is to make naked one's relative; they shall bear their iniquity. <sup>20</sup>If a man lies with his uncle's wife, he has uncovered his uncle's nakedness; they shall bear their sin; they shall die childless. <sup>21</sup>If a man takes his brother's wife, it is impurity. He has uncovered his brother's nakedness; they shall be childless.

## **You Shall Be Holy**

<sup>22</sup>“You shall therefore keep all my statutes and all my rules and do them, that the land where I am bringing you to live may not vomit you out. <sup>23</sup>And you shall not walk in the customs of the nation that I am driving out before you, for they did all these things, and therefore I detested them. <sup>24</sup>But I have said to you, ‘You shall inherit their land, and I will give it to you to possess, a land flowing with milk and honey.’ I am the LORD your God, who has separated you from the peoples. <sup>25</sup>You shall therefore separate the clean beast from the unclean, and the unclean bird from the clean. You shall not make yourselves detestable by beast or by bird or by anything with which the ground crawls, which I have set apart for you to hold unclean. <sup>26</sup>You shall be holy to me, for I the LORD am holy and have separated you from the peoples, that you should be mine.

<sup>27</sup>“A man or a woman who is a medium or a necromancer shall surely be put to death. They shall be stoned with stones; their blood shall be upon them.”

## **Prayers of Thanksgiving**

### **Gospel Identity**

- Thank God that he cares about us and listens to our worry, fear, sadness, and anger.
- Thank God that we can cast all of our cares on him and experience Christ’s love that sustains us even in the midst of our trials.

Lord Jesus, stay with us, for evening is at hand and the day is past; be our companion in the way, kindle our hearts, and awaken hope, that we may know you as you are revealed in Scripture and the breaking of bread. Grant this for the sake of your love. Amen. (BCP 70)

### **Benediction**

Sovereign Lord, as you have promised, you may now dismiss your servant in peace. For my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the sight of all nations: a light for revelation to the Gentiles, and the glory of your people Israel. (Luke 2:29-32)

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*Wonder what your next step in spiritual formation is? Consider getting involved in a Growth Group.*

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