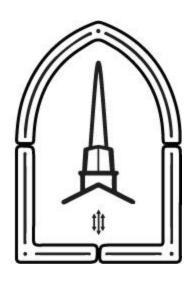
# FIRST BAPTIST A L C O A



Home Worship Guide

January 21, 2024

# Dear Church Family,

I don't know that I ever expected to see the kind of snow that we had this week in Blount County. I've heard several people say they think this is the worst snow storm since the blizzard of '93. Out of an abundance of caution, the elders have decided to cancel our worship gathering for January 21, 2024.

We aren't eager to cancel our service, but we have decided that this is the best course of action based on the difficulty for many of our members to exit their homes and safely drive to our building. Even for those who can safely make it to the building, there are many spots on our campus that will likely be completely frozen tomorrow morning with the low temperatures that we are forecasted to have. The good news is that things should warm up this week, so we will, Lord willing, gather next Sunday.

Of course, the church is more than a performance that we watch, but it is a gathering. Remember the Greek term for church is *ekklesia* meaning "gathering" or "assembly." It is not the building that we meet in, but it is the people gathered together. For this reason, we will not livestream a "service," but instead we want to give you this worship guide to follow in your home on your own or with your family. We encourage you to read the Scripture readings and sing the hymns aloud even if you are on your own, and we encourage fathers to lead their wives and children through this guide. (Recordings for the first hymn can be found on Youtube <a href="here">here</a> and Spotify <a href="here">here</a>. Recordings for the second hymn can be found on Youtube <a href="here">here</a>—with an introduction—or Spotify <a href="here">here</a>.)

We hope this helps you praise God in your homes this Sunday.

With love, Chandler

# Call to Worship – Psalm 100:

## Read aloud together.

- 1 Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth!
- 2 Serve the Lord with gladness!

Come into his presence with singing!

- 3 Know that the Lord, he is God!
  - It is he who made us, and we are his; we are his people, and the sheep of his pasture.
- 4 Enter his gates with thanksgiving,
  - and his courts with praise!

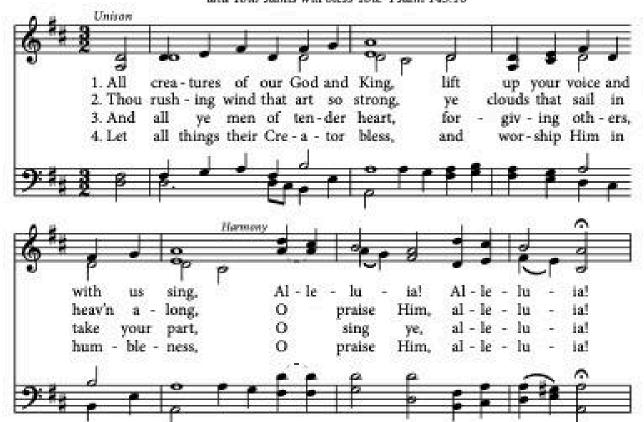
Give thanks to him; bless his name!

5 For the Lord is good;

his steadfast love endures forever, and his faithfulness to all generations.

# All Creatures of Our God and King

All Your works shall give thanks to You, O LORD, and Your saints will bless You. Psalm 145:10





## Prayer:

Read together aloud.

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

Pray for the needs of your household, church, and world.

Pray for God to give you understanding as you read his word.

Reading of Scripture – Matthew 4:1-11

# **Discussion Questions:**

- 1. What might be significant about the Spirit leading Jesus into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil?
- 2. Why was Jesus fasting for forty days and forty nights?
- 3. What were the specific temptations that the devil presented to Jesus?
- 4. How did Jesus respond to each of these temptations?
- 5. What does this passage reveal about the nature and identity of Jesus?
- 6. Why is it important that Jesus was tempted?
- 7. Why is it important that Jesus never sinned?
- 8. How does Jesus' victory over temptation and the devil change how we face temptation now?
- 9. How could you encourage a Christian brother or sister with this passage or use it to witness to a non-Christian friend, neighbor, or family member?

# I Asked the Lord

It is good for me that I was afflicted, that I may learn Your statutes. Psalm 119:71



- 4. Instead of this, He made me feel the hidden evils of my heart and let the angry powers of hell assault my soul in every part.
- Yea more, with His own hand He seemed intent to aggravate my woe, crossed all the fair designs I schemed, humbled my pride, and laid me low.
- 6. "Lord, why is this?" I trembling cried; "Wilt Thou pursue my soul to death?" "Tis in this way," the Lord replied, "I answer prayer for grace and faith."
- 7. "These inward trials I employ, from self and pride to set thee free, to break thy schemes of worldly joy, that thou may'st seek thy all in Me."

TEXT: John Newton, 1791 MUSIC: Herbert Stanley Oakeley, 1874; alt. Dan Kreider 1.34 Pray to God, thanking and praising him.

Benediction – 2 Corinthians 13:14

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.