

# expectation.

Sun May 31, 2020

## WORSHIP AT HOME WITH VICTORIA ALLIANCE CHURCH

### A note before we begin...

If you are worshipping on your own today, or even with a small group of family members or friends, there will be some things that just feel awkward about this experience. Still, we are encouraging you to lean in, and try it out anyway. Everything gets easier with familiarity.

As much as possible, read, pray, sing, and declare things out loud – for there is a spiritual power to the spoken word that we should never underestimate. You may find this strange at first – but again, the more you try, the easier it becomes.

If you have younger worshipers with you, please do your best to involve them in all aspects of this time of worship. Keen eyes are watching you and informing actions based on your lead. Your full participation will inspire them to jump in too.

If you plan to tune into our video teaching at the same time as others in our community (recommended) then you will want to begin your worship at home time at around **9:45 am**, as the Sermon Stream will begin at around **10:30am** (although the chat opens at 10:15am).

Before you start, we suggest that you skim through this Worship at Home Guide in advance, and set up your computer or phone with the link for our broadcast, easily found on our website, [victoriaalliance.ca](http://victoriaalliance.ca).

If you have any issues with “technical” aspects of what we are providing as resources, please reach out to us with an email ([office@victoriaalliance.ca](mailto:office@victoriaalliance.ca)). We will do our best to offer help as soon as we can.

Now, let's begin...

## ENTERING WORSHIP

### CALL TO WORSHIP

If you have one available, and feel safe doing so, light a candle and say these words aloud:

*"We light this candle to remind ourselves that Jesus is the Light of the world, and He is with us always."*

### PRAISE & ADORATION

- Sing an a cappella hymn (suggestion: To God Be the Glory, lyrics to the right)
- Take a moment to think back over the last week. What do you notice about how others around you are feeling? How do you find yourself reacting to others? Talk with God for a few moments about how you are feeling about that.
- Sing a song of praise along with our church Spotify List. Suggestions from **Spotify Worship Playlist A:**
  - **Desert Song**
  - **Great are you Lord**
  - **Because He Lives**
- Look outside your window. Speak these words aloud, completing the thought: God, I notice that you are active in our world. Thank you for \_\_\_\_\_.
- Find a photo in a magazine or from your photo albums that brings to mind images of peace. Bring it close to you during worship today.

### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Join others across the city in praying:

- For our families
- For our neighbours
- For our leaders
- For those who are living among the margins
- For those who experience inequality, discrimination, hatred

We will also be led in a prayerful reflection this morning, through the words of Sarah Bourns' *Exposed* video.

TO GOD BE THE GLORY  
GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE  
SO LOVED HE THE WORLD  
THAT HE GAVE US HIS SON  
WHO YIELDED HIS LIFE  
AN ATONEMENT FOR SIN  
AND OPENED THE LIFE-GATE  
THAT ALL MAY GO IN

PRAISE THE LORD, PRAISE THE LORD  
LET THE EARTH HEAR HIS VOICE  
PRAISE THE LORD, PRAISE THE LORD  
LET THE PEOPLE REJOICE  
COME TO THE FATHER  
THROUGH JESUS THE SON  
GIVE HIM THE GLORY  
GREAT THINGS HE HAS DONE

## THE WORD

### SCRIPTURE READING & MESSAGE

Open your Bible to Psalm 8 and read aloud. Or find the CEB translation below:

#### Psalm 8

*A psalm of David.*

Lord, our Lord, how majestic  
is your name throughout the earth!  
You made your glory higher than heaven!  
From the mouths of nursing babies  
you have laid a strong foundation  
because of your foes,  
in order to stop vengeful enemies  
When I look up at your skies,  
at what your fingers made—  
the moon and the stars  
that you set firmly in place—  
what are human beings  
that you think about them;  
what are human beings  
that you pay attention to them?

*continued...*

You've made them only slightly less than divine,  
crowning them with glory and grandeur.  
You've let them rule over your handiwork,  
putting everything under their feet—  
all sheep and all cattle,  
the wild animals too,  
the birds in the sky,  
the fish of the ocean,  
everything that travels the pathways of the sea.  
Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name throughout the earth!

Watch this week's message with others around the city at the link provided here:  
**[victoriaalliance.online.church](https://victoriaalliance.online.church)** (type this into any browser)

We are grateful to be led in our reflection this morning by **Scott Hemenway**, Executive Director of Camp Imadene. Camp Imadene is one of our partner missions and helps us as we live out our mission to make Jesus known among us, around us, beyond us.

The video will go live at **10:30am PT**. The chat will be open fifteen minutes before and thirty minutes after our live feed, so feel free to tune in a little earlier if you want to say hello!

If you're participating at another time, the video will remain accessible throughout the week via our church website (**[victoriaalliance.ca](https://victoriaalliance.ca)**), on **Facebook** or **Instagram**, or on our **[YouTube Channel](#)**.

## RESPONSE

### REFLECTION

- What stood out for you as you listened to the message today?
- Is there action arising for you out of that thought?
- Take a moment and ask God to guide your wondering.
- Ask the Holy Spirit to lead you to faithfully respond to His leading.

### OFFERING

- Continue in worship as you prepare to give generously to support the mission of making Jesus known among us, around us, beyond us.
- Options for giving at home here: <https://www.victoriaalliance.ca/pages/give>
- Pray, asking God to guide our leaders to make wise decisions and to carry out good stewardship of the gifts presented for God's glory.
- If you or someone you know needs assistance, or if you have a resource of time you would like to donate as we seek to connect people with resources, please get in touch with our office. (email [office@victoriaalliance.ca](mailto:office@victoriaalliance.ca))

## SENDING

### BENEDICTION - A GOOD WORD

Say aloud Psalm 48:14:

*"For this God is our God for ever and ever; he will be our guide even to the end."*

*Psalm 48:14 – May His name be ever praised. Amen.*

### LIGHT OF THE WORLD

As we extinguish the candle we lit at the beginning of our service, remember that we carry the light of Jesus into the world wherever we go.

### MAKING JESUS KNOWN

Take a moment to think about what it looks like today to live on mission, making Jesus known among us, around us, beyond us.

In what ways can we be extending our mission through the work and support of Camp Imadene? Be in prayer as you consider how God is leading.

### CHECKING IN

If you have the time, send us a quick email to let us know how your worship at home experience went. We rely heavily upon your feedback as we create new resources to support you through this season of social distancing. Email: [office@victoriaalliance.ca](mailto:office@victoriaalliance.ca).

If you are on Facebook or Instagram, tag us in a quick pic of your worship at home time and use the hashtag #VACeveryday to encourage our wider faith community.

See you (online) next week!